

2023-2024 SPRING SEMESTER COURSE OUTLINE

JSL JAPANESE FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

Compulsory for all students

2001 JSL 1 (Introductory Japanese)

This is a one semester course for those students who have no prior experience studying Japanese. Students will learn fundamental Japanese required for everyday life. The focus will be listening and speaking; however, the course will also aim to introduce fundamental reading and writing skills.

2002 JSL 2 (Beginner Japanese)

With this course, students will learn fundamental grammar structures and will be encouraged to speak actively in a variety of everyday situations. Once students have mastered reading and writing Hiragana and Katakana characters, they will be introduced to basic Kanji to help them take interest in everyday language around them. Students will also deepen their understanding of Japanese culture and customs through using their Japanese in various situations.

2023-2024 Spring Calendar

Orientation Jan. 18 ~ 19, 2024

Classes Jan. 22 ~ May 10, 2024
(Tentative)

*Elective classes start from Feb. 5, 2024

Contact Information

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2003 JSL 3 (Elementary Japanese)

This course is intended for students who have already learned some basic grammar (masu, te, ta, dictionary, negative and plain forms), and gives students a good balance of the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing in order to communicate accurately in Japanese in everyday life.

2004 JSL 4 (Intermediate Japanese)

This course is suitable for N2 level students. Students will learn intermediate grammar and build up solid grammar skills. Students will also be able to extend their speaking, listening, reading and writing abilities holistically through contact with media such as newspapers and videos.

2005 JSL 5 (Advanced Japanese)

This course is suitable for students who have passed level N1 of the Japanese language proficiency test or are of a similar level. Students will aim to acquire proficiency of advanced, natural Japanese through not just text books but also practical application such as compositions and oral presentations.

**Contact Hours: Total 160 hrs
10.5 hrs per week**

Japanese Studies Course (JSC) *Elective classes*

2037 Japanese Culture and Community

Y. Kanemura

In this class, students will learn about Japanese culture and society from various aspects such as Japanese manners and customs, annual events and festivals, and values - beauty, health and nature, philosophy, internationalization - through local activities.

2052 Buddhism and Film

J. Bartashius

This course aims to introduce basic tenets of Buddhism and cover contemporary issues pertaining to Japanese and Western Buddhist traditions—with an emphasis on those with roots in Japan. The medium of film will be used to demonstrate how the socio-religious is represented in film.

- Students may take part in "Shopping Week" from Feb. 5 ~ 9.
- Here they can take the first 1 or 2 lessons of any elective class they are interested in.
- Students must submit their final selection by 17:00 on Feb. 9 (Fri) via Google Forms.

2031 Japanese Labor Market and Employment

J. Kirihara

This course looks at the changing labor market and employment situation and raises the issues confronting the Japanese government. From the new guidelines proposed by Keidanren (the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations) for the 2020 job hunting process to various problems which the existing workforce face, students will come to understand the rapidly changing labor market and the environment surrounding workers. Towards the end of the course, up-to-date knowledge of the Japanese labor market and the related issues will be acquired. As a result, students will have a better understanding of the changing labor market and employment trends, as well as different views on the Japanese work ethic.

2051 Japanese Society and Culture

M. Mesropyan

This course offers an in-depth exploration of the intricate web of customs, etiquette, and social norms that shape the vibrant tapestry of Japanese society. Japan is a country renowned for its unique blend of tradition and modernity, and understanding its cultural nuances is crucial for anyone seeking to navigate its rich social landscape effectively. By the end of this course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of Japanese customs, etiquette, and social norms. They will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to engage with Japanese culture respectfully and effectively, whether in a personal or professional context.

2038 Japanese Technology Companies

K.Okada

This class introduces Japanese technology companies and looks at the basic principles of management that have been the immortal DNA of those enterprises by picking up two major famous companies, Panasonic, and KYOCERA. Those companies have their own original management philosophy in common, and students will come to understand the key points of these philosophies.

Contact Hours: Total 45.5 hrs

2 classes per week / 105 minutes each

- Students may take part in "Shopping Week" from Feb. 5 ~ 9.
- Here they can take the first 1 or 2 lessons of any elective class they are interested in.
- Students must submit their final selection by 17:00 on Feb. 9 (Fri) via Google Forms.

JSP

Japanese for Specific Purpose

Elective classes

2017 Understanding Japanese in Movies *intermediate* R. Masuda

Using the movie "Spirited Away" (directed by Hayao Miyazaki) as teaching material, we aim to improve our listening skills in Japanese and deepen our understanding of Japanese culture. Although the Japanese in "Spirited Away" is spoken at a speed close to that of everyday conversation, it is pronounced clearly and is relatively easy to understand. In class, along with listening practice, some important expressions will be picked up and practiced each time. Also, Spirited Away incorporates many of Japan's old views of nature and beliefs.

2018 Reading Contemporary Japanese Novels *advanced* M. Yuki

The goal of this class is to read contemporary Japanese literature in its original form in Japanese and to understand the content. Furthermore, through class discussions, students will consider various problems facing modern Japanese society from a broader perspective by comparing the various problems in the work with those of their own countries. The selected works are representative works in contemporary Japanese literature. Genres include novels, essays, mysteries, and science fiction.

2020 Speaking in Japanese *intermediate to upper intermediate* M. Fukui

Students will participate in roleplay and discuss various topics, while learning how to clearly express their opinions in Japanese and how to ask questions so that they accurately understand others' opinions. There will also be a focus on pronunciation, accent, and intonation in order to ensure that the students are trained in natural Japanese speech.

Contact Hours: Total 22.75 hrs
1 classes per week / 105 minutes each

- Students may take part in "Shopping Week" from Feb. 5 ~ 9.
- Here they can take the first 1 or 2 lessons of any elective class they are interested in.
- Students must submit their final selection by 17:00 on Feb. 9 (Fri) via Google Forms.