

JAPN1010: Elementary Japanese

Fall 2019 Course Syllabus

Check the department website frequently:

<http://www.memphis.edu/fl/japanese/> (Japanese Program website)

<https://www.facebook.com/japanese.memphis> (Japanese Program Facebook)

<https://www.facebook.com/Japan-in-Memphis-475301099234534/> (Japan in Memphis)

This course is the first of a two-semester sequence of elementary Japanese. Students who have taken Japanese previously should meet with Professor Matsuda in order to be placed in the appropriate course.

I. Goal:

This course is designed for students who have had less than one year of Japanese at the college level. This course aims to develop students' communication skills around three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) in accordance with four language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing). Through various classroom activities, students will familiarize themselves with some basic aspects of Japanese culture and society. By the end of the semester, students will be able to handle basic conversational situations. Students will also be able to read and write simple passages with Hiragana, Katakana (Japanese syllabic characters) and a limited number of Kanji.

II. Objectives:

Students are expected to be able to do the following tasks by the end of the semester.

- to use appropriate greetings in different situations.
- to introduce themselves formally and informally depending on situations.
- to exchange some basic information with friends.
- to ask for the prices of items placed various locations in a store.
- to read a menu written in Japanese and order food at a restaurant.
- to talk about activities done on weekdays and weekends.
- to invite someone to do something.
- to accept/decline an invitation.

III. Instructors:

Section 001: Akemi Sommer asommer@memphis.edu Mitchell Hall 420 Office Hours: By appointment

Section 003: Shinobu Wananabe swatanab@memphis.edu

Office: Jones Hall 253 A

Office Hours: Wed (12:30-2:30) & Fri (2:00-3:00)

Phone: (901) 335-3434

Section 004: Yukiko Terada yterada@memphis.edu Office Hours: By appointment

IV. Meeting Time and Classroom:

Section 001 MWF..... 10:20am – 11:15am Mitchell Hall 421

Section 003 TR..... 9:40am – 11:05amFCB 360

Section 004 MWF..... 11:30am – 12:25pm Dunn Hall 249

V. Course Materials:

Required Texts

(1) GENKI 1: The Japan Times (2nd edition)

(2) GENKI 1 Workbook: The Japan Times (2nd edition)

Recommended Materials

(1) Furigana dictionary: Kenkyusha

(2) New College Japanese-English dictionary: Kenkyusha

VI. Expectations: Students are expected to study (both preparation and review) **a minimum of one hour per day** for the course. Along with doing assigned homework, it is imperative that students review what was covered in class by going over activities done in the classroom, studying vocabulary, and practicing conversation with classmates and native speakers of Japanese. Studying with a study partner is highly recommended. Use the terms you've learned when you speak to your instructor -- both in and outside the classroom. Remember that you must use the language in order to be a fluent speaker.

VII. Components of the Grades

(1) Class Participation/Performance	20%
(2) Unit Quiz - 3	10%
(3) Oral Quiz - 3	10%
(4) Project	20%
(5) Writing	10%
(6) Assignments (Workbook and others)	10%
(7) Final Exam	20%
A+ (96 ~ 100%) A (93 ~ 95%) A- (90 ~ 92%) B+ (86 ~ 89%) B (83 ~ 85%) B- (80 ~ 82%)	
C+ (76 ~ 79%) C (73 ~ 75%) C- (70 ~ 72%) D+ (66 ~ 69%) D (60 ~ 65%) F (0 ~ 59%)	

Participation/Performance: Because learning a language requires contact with that language, attendance is mandatory. According to the department policy, you may miss six classes (MWF) without documentation. After the fourth/sixth absent, a 1% will be deducted from your grade for each absence, unless you provide an appropriate documentation to the instructor. **If you are not in the class at the beginning of the class, you will be considered late, and leaving class early is also recorded. Three tardiness and/or leaving early will result in one absence.**

Be aware that your class participation/performance score will not add automatically by simply being in the class. It is based upon such factors as being active and constructive in group and pair work. Those inactive or distracting students receive zero performance score for the day even if they are in class.

Quizzes: Three unit quizzes and three oral quizzes will be given during the semester. These quizzes will be 15 to 20 minutes in length. See below for the make-up policy.

Assignments: You must turn in homework at the beginning of the class on the due date.

Project: Make a picture-story show or a skit in a various situation; in class/store/restaurant or your daily routine, or dream date, and so on by using in Japanese what you will learn in class.

Cell phones: You are not allowed to use the cell phone during the class. Please TURN OFF (no vibration or silent mode) your phone once you are in the class. If you need to use your device as a dictionary during the class, you need to ask the instructor and receive permission. If you are caught using a cell phone, 1% will be reduced from your performance points each time.

***Make-up Policy:** There are basically **no** make-ups for quizzes. It is your responsibility to attend each class, including days when quizzes are administered. The only exception is for pre-arranged make-ups due to participation in official university business (official documentation will be required), not for personal reasons.

VIII. How to Improve your Japanese

(1) Make Japanese friends, find a conversational partner, and watch Japanese movies and TV programs. Language Media Center (220 Jones Hall) has some Japanese movies. You should attend **the weekly language table** at Tiger Den/UC (TBA). The first meeting for this semester is Friday, September 7th, 12:45-1:45PM to practice your Japanese and learn more about Japanese culture. Join JCC (Japan Culture Club) and Anime 101 (Japanese Anime Club). Borrow manga (Japanese comic books) from our very own manga library (Jones Hall 2F).

(2) When you practice writing hiragana/katakana, make sure that you pronounce the letter out loud. When you practice Kanji, remember the meaning along with the stroke order and pronunciation. It is always a good idea to make flash cards or test sheets of your own. **Keep testing yourself until you can pass your own test with a perfect score.** Simply gazing at letters or copying them repeatedly from your text is not sufficient for you to memorize them. In order not to lose the letters you have learned, **you must use them in your writing.** Do not to use the English alphabet to write the Japanese words and sentences.

(3) **Don't be afraid of making mistakes or being misunderstood.** You can always correct later!

(4) Useful Website Resources

<http://genki.japantimes.co.jp/self/self.en.html> Self-study room of Genki website

<http://www.bigtrouble.com/kana/>: Japanese writing tutor

<http://www.kanachart.com/>: Japanese writing tutor

<http://www.sabotenweb.com/bookmarks/language.html>: Several links to Japanese learning sites

<http://web-japan.org/> : general information on Japan

<http://www.csse.monash.edu.au/~jwb/wwwjdic.html> Jim Breen's WWWJDIC Japanese-English Dictionary Server

<http://www.tufs.ac.jp/st/personal/99/kawatsu/gahoh/Japanese.html> The Japanese Penmanship Movies

Enjoy learning Japanese!