

JAPAN1020: Elementary Japanese

Fall 2019 Course Syllabus

This course is the second of a two-semester sequence of elementary Japanese.

I. Course Objectives:

This course is a continuation of Japn1010 and aims at further development of communication skills. By the end of the semester, students should be able to handle further basic conversational situations, such as talking about their own experiences in various tenses, making requests, and talking about one's family, with polite and plain style of predicate endings. Students will be familiar with more basic aspects of Japanese culture and society. 57 new kanji characters will be introduced in this course.

II. Instructors:

Section 001 Yukiko Terada yterada@memphis.edu Office Hours: By appointment

Section 002: Akemi Sommer asommer@memphis.edu Mitchell Hall 420 Office Hours: By appointment

III. Meeting Time and Classroom:

Section 001 MWF..... 10:20am – 11:15am Dunn Hall 249

Section 002 MWF..... 11:30am – 12:25pm Mitchel Hall 421

IV. Course Materials:

Required Texts

- (1) GENKI 1: The Japan Times
- (2) GENKI 1: Workbook: The Japan Times

Recommended Materials

- (1) Furigana dictionary: Kenkyuusha
- (2) New College Japanese-English dictionary: Kenkyuusha

V. 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.

Important: You should attend **the weekly language table** at the Tiger Den cafeteria. Day and time will be announced in the second week of the semester. For more resources for your study, see the homepage of our Japanese program: <http://fl.memphis.edu/japanese/>

VI. Components of the Grades

(1) Class Participation/Performance	20%
(2) Unit Quiz -4	15%
(3) Oral Quiz -4	15%
(4) Final Project	10%
(5) Kanji Quiz -8	10%
(6) Assignments (lab 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 (if you have a class three times a week) or four classes (if you have a class twice a week) without documentation. After the sixth or fourth absent, 1% will be deducted from your grade for each absence, unless you provide appropriate documentation to the instructor. **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: Four unit quizzes, four oral quizzes, and ten Kanji quizzes will be given during the semester. These quizzes will be 10 to 15 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. No late homework and no

incomplete/unsatisfactory homework will be accepted.

Final Project: You will make your own bibliography. You need to choose a minimum of 7 pictures which depict your childhood, family, hometown, etc. This is an individual project, and there are several deadlines for each topic throughout the semester. For further details, read the handout for the final project. At the end of the semester, you will present it in the class.

Cell phones: You are not allowed to use cell phones 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 see 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), medical emergencies with doctor's note, not for personal reasons.

VI. How to Improve your Japanese

(1) Activities and Events

Make Japanese friends, find a conversation partner, and watch Japanese movies and TV programs. There are many exchange students from Japan on campus. The Language Media Center (220 Jones Hall) has some free Japanese movies. Come to the language table (Fridays 12:45-1:45 from September 2) to practice your Japanese and learn more about Japanese culture. Borrow manga (Japanese comic books) from our very own manga library (Jones Hall 2F). Also, the University of Memphis hosts an outreach center on campus. JAST West at UM works closely with Memphis Botanic Garden and the local Japanese business community to provide various seminars, events, and courses on Japanese culture. Please go to the website and the facebook about the updated Japanese event, volunteer information, and etc.

<http://www.memphis.edu/fl/japanese/>

<https://www.facebook.com/japanese.memphis>

(2) Studying Tips

When you practice writing kanji for quizzes, make sure that **you test yourself**. It is always a good idea to make kanji cards or test sheets of your own. **Remember to keep testing yourself until you can pass your own test with a perfect score. Simply gazing at kanji or copying them repeatedly from your text is not sufficient for you to memorize them (have you ever tried a word memorization game and failed?).** You must learn the words containing kanji in actual contexts. Try to make words using more than one kanji as they appear in meaningful texts. Finally, in order not to lose the kanji you have learned, **you must use them in your writing**. Writing is a very effective means to enhance your overall Japanese skills. Try to incorporate newly learned grammatical constructions, vocabulary, and kanji words into your writing to better communicate your ideas to your readers. You cannot always translate your thoughts in English directly into Japanese (that would make a hilarious sentence sometimes), and use grammar as a tool to express your thoughts in Japanese. Also learn to type in Japanese. This will improve your kanji recognition. Send email messages in Japanese and read Japanese websites.

(3) Study Abroad

Consider going to Japan to study through our exchange program. In the past, many students have gone to Japan through our program. They were in Nagoya Gakuin University (Nagoya), Oberlin University (Tokyo), Toyo University (Tokyo), Meiji University (Tokyo), and Seikei University (Tokyo). You can receive scholarships from various sources and credits for classes you take overseas are transferred to the U of M. When you are in Japan, you can take many related subjects such as Japanese history, religion, art, business, communication, literature, and linguistics in English in addition to Japanese language courses. Please talk to Ms. Rebecca Laumann, the director of study abroad, to discuss your options: rлаumann@memphis.edu (Phone: 678-2814).

(4) Japanese Major/ Minor

If you like Japanese, declare Japanese major or minor! After you're done with Japan 2020, you only need three more upper-division courses for a **minor** and eight upper-division courses (24 credits) for a **major**. If you are an International Business major, think about getting an International MBA degree at the U of M.

Check our website (<http://fl.memphis.edu/japanese/jmajor.htm>) and meet with Professor Matsuda: ymatsuda@memphis.edu (phone 678-3163) for more information.

今学期も いっしょに がんばりましょう!