

JAPN 2020: Intermediate Japanese II
Fall 2019
Course Syllabus

I. Course Objectives:

This course is designed for students who have completed JAPN 2010 or equivalent and is aimed at further training of the four basic language skills (speaking, listening, reading, and writing). By the end of the semester, students should be able to handle practical conversational situations (such as apologies, job interviews, transactions of goods and services) in both polite and casual speech styles. Through various classroom activities and reading essays, students will familiarize themselves with some complex aspects of Japanese culture and society. 79 new kanji characters will be introduced on top of 145 characters that have already been learned.

II. Instructor: Section 001 Hironori Nishi hnishi1@memphis.edu, Jones Hall 230B
Office Hours: MW 1:00-2:30pm

III. Meeting Time and Classroom:

Section 001 MWF 10:20am - 11:15pm, Jones Hall 237

IV. Course Materials:

Required Textbooks

(1) Genki: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese II (second edition): The Japan Times, ISBN-10: 4789014436

(2) Genki: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese II, workbook (second edition): The Japan Times, ISBN-10: 4789014444

The Japanese program will make event and program announcements via our Facebook page. Please like us to receive updates quickly:

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

Our webpage is: <http://www.memphis.edu/fl/japanese/>

V. Expectations:

You are expected to study (both preparation and review) a minimum of one hour per day for this course. Try to use Japanese as much as possible-- both in and outside the classroom. Remember that you must use the language for communicative purposes in order to be a fluent speaker. The class is conducted in Japanese in order to maximize your exposure to Japanese. You should also try to ask questions in Japanese. Relax and try to grasp the main idea of what the instructor or your fellow students saying even if you do not understand some of the words being used.

VI. Components of Course Grade

(1) Class Participation/Performance (Important!)	20%
(2) Unit Quizzes	15%
(3) Oral Quizzes	15%
(4) Kanji Quizzes	10%
(5) Project	15%
(6) Homework	10%
(7) Final Exam	15%

A+ (96%~) A (93%~) A- (90%~) B+ (86%~) B(83%~) B- (80%~)
C+ (76%~) C (73%~) C- (70%~) D+ (66%~) D (60%~) F (less than 60%)

Participation/Performance: Due to the importance of exposure to a second language while learning that language, attendance is mandatory. You will not receive full participation credit simply by being physically present in class. It is based upon being an active and constructive participant in class. Students who are inactive or distracting other students (talking to others in English, using cell phones, inappropriate use of technology, etc.) will receive a zero for participation for the day even if they are physically present. No food is allowed during the class.

Quizzes: Unit/oral quizzes and kanji quizzes will be given to monitor your progress. See below for the make-up policy. The lowest quiz score will be dropped when your final grade is calculated.

Assignments: All homework will be graded. No late or incomplete/unsatisfactory homework will be fully evaluated.

Make-up Policy: There are no make-ups for quizzes. It is your responsibility to attend each class session, including the days when quizzes are given. The lowest unit/oral quiz score is dropped to allow for some flexibility and to accommodate emergencies and illnesses (i.e. one missed quiz will be dropped when calculating your grade). The only exception is for pre-arranged make-ups due to participation in official university events (official documentation will be required), not for personal reasons.

VI. How to Improve your Japanese

Here are some ideas and information for improving your Japanese!

(1) Use Japanese for communicative purposes! Learning a foreign language is not a matter of memorizing grammatical rules and vocabulary. You have to use Japanese for meaningful purposes. There will be many exchange students from Japanese universities on campus this fall. They are here to study English!

(2) Japanese Clubs and Organizations: Make Japanese friends, find a conversational partner, and watch Japanese movies, anime, etc. The Language Media Center (220 Jones Hall) has some Japanese movies on its server. Also, JCC (Japan Culture Club), Anime 101 (Japanese Anime Club), and Fans United organize various activities such as Japanese movie nights and weekly anime nights, so it is advisable to participate in these organizations/events. You should attend the weekly Japanese language table on campus. The first meeting for this semester will be announced soon. We have a cultural outreach center on campus called Japan-America Society of Tennessee, West Center (JAST West), which offers various outreach activities for the Memphis area. Participate in various events such as Japanese festivals, cooking events, and musical concerts. For more details, contact Akemi Sommer sensei, the program manager of Japan-America Society of Tennessee, West Center: asommer@memphis.edu.

(3) Writing: When you practice writing kanji for quizzes, make sure to check your memorization. It is always a good idea to make kanji cards or test sheets of your own. Remember to keep up with your memorization of new kanji and retain kanji you have previously learned. Simply gazing at kanji or copying them repeatedly from your textbook will not work! Genki textbooks have a website on which you can practice reading kanji : http://genki.japantimes.co.jp/self_en.

You must also learn kanji words in context because one kanji can have five to six different readings and meanings depending on the context. Therefore, try to learn kanji words as they appear in meaningful texts. Finally, in order to retain the kanji you have learned, you must use them for communicative purposes. Practicing Japanese calligraphy is an excellent way to learn and memorize kanji. Sign up for the calligraphy class that JAST West offers at the Memphis Botanic Garden. It is very relaxing too. Learning how to type in Japanese will also help. This will improve your kanji recognition skills. Send emails in Japanese and read Japanese websites.

(4) Grammar: Hate grammar? Well, grammar is the “tools” you will need to use Japanese effectively. Try to incorporate newly learned grammatical constructions to better communicate your ideas. You cannot always translate your thoughts in English directly into Japanese (that could sometimes make a hilarious sentence), so learn grammar to express your thoughts in Japanese.

(5) Study in Japan! Consider going to Japan to study through our exchange program. Our exchange partner schools include Nagoya Gakuin University (Nagoya), Osaka University of Economics (Osaka), Meiji University (Tokyo), and Obirin University (Tokyo). When you are in Japan, you can take Japan related course such as Japanese history, religion, art, business, communication, literature, and linguistics in English in addition to regular Japanese language courses. Please talk to the instructor to choose the best school for you.

(6) Major or minor in Japanese! You will greatly expand your career opportunities if you can speak Japanese. In addition to companies associated with Japan, City and County Schools are always looking for students who majored in Japanese to teach Japanese at elementary, middle, and high schools. Also, UM has an International MBA program and ESL certification program through which you can experience an internship in Japan. I hope you will continue using Japanese, whether it is for your job or personal enrichment, even after graduating from UofM! If you are interested in majoring in Japanese, please talk to the instructor.

今学期も こんがっき いっしょに がんばりましょう!

Fall 2019 Course Schedule (Tentative!)

(More detailed Lesson schedules will be provided later.)

月	水	金
8/26 Course Introduction Review	8/28 Review	8/30 L13
9/2 <u>No Class</u>	9/4 L13	9/6 L13
9/9 L13	9/11 L13	9/13 L13
9/16 L13	9/18 L14	9/20 L14
9/23 L14	9/25 L14	9/27 L14
9/30 L14	10/2 L14	10/4 L15
10/7 L15	10/9 L15	10/11 L15
10/14 <u>No Class</u>	10/16 L15	10/18 L15
10/21 L15	10/23 L16	10/25 L16
10/28 L16	10/30 L16	11/1 L16
11/4 L16	11/6 L16	11/8 L17
11/11 L17	11/13 L17	11/15 L17
11/18 L17	11/20 L17	11/22 L17
11/25 TBA	11/27 <u>No Class</u>	11/29 <u>No Class</u>
12/2 Final Project	12/4 Final Project	/
Final Exam: TBA		