

## COURSE OUTLINE

### **Japanese 101 Beginning Japanese I**

#### **Catalog Statement**

JAPAN 101 presents the fundamentals of Japanese grammar within a cultural context. The students are trained to pronounce correctly, to acquire a small working vocabulary for conversation and writing, and to read and write hiragana, katakana, and some kanji (native Japanese alphabets).

Total Lecture Units: 5.0

Total Laboratory Units: 0.0

**Total Course Units: 5.0**

Total Lecture Hours: 80.0

Total Laboratory Hours: 0.0

Total Laboratory Hours To Be Arranged: 0.0

**Total Faculty Contact Hours: 80.0**

Recommended preparation: Eligibility for ENGL 120 or ESL 151

Note: This course is not intended for students with oral proficiency or who have attended schools where Japanese was the language of instruction.

#### **Course Entry Expectations**

Prior to enrolling in the course, the student should be able to:

- analyze short essays (at least five paragraphs in length) to identify thesis, topic development and concluding sentences, as well as traditional expressions used to increase coherence;
- evaluate compositions for unity, sufficiency of development, and coherence, as well as variety of sentence structure which:
  - a. addresses the topic and is directed by a thesis statement;
  - b. has an introduction, body, and conclusion and demonstrates a basic understanding of composition organization;
  - c. shows some awareness of critical thinking and linkage of evidence with assertion;
  - d. develops ideas, moving from general to specific;
  - e. is easy to read and follow, though some errors in grammar, mechanics, spelling, or diction may exist;

- organize and write a thesis-driven, organized essay which is at least three paragraphs in length (paragraphs should have a topic sentence and at least five additional sentences which further develop that topic sentence with explanations or examples. These sentences must be in logical order and be connected by transitional expressions, where appropriate. Paragraphs must be tied together by appropriate transitions or other devices which provide cohesion);
- use in their essays a variety of sentence types with minimal errors in such basics of the sentence as subject-verb agreement, subordination, and complementation.

### **Course Exit Standards**

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

- demonstrate understanding and communicate in simple spoken Japanese;
- demonstrate comprehension and reply to classroom directions and for expressing basic needs and simple opinions;
- demonstrate the ability to read and comprehend words and sentences written in hiragana and katakana along with some kanji (about 50 characters);
- write hiragana and katakana syllables, words, and some sentences;
- demonstrate knowledge of fundamental grammatical structures such as basic sentence patterns, non-past and past forms, and affirmative forms;
- use idioms in appropriate context;
- identify basic geography and customs of Japan and important aspects of its culture.

### **Course Content**

**Total Faculty Contact Hours = 80.0**

#### **Introduction (5 hours)**

Sounds of Japanese  
Presentation of kana  
Basic useful expressions and idioms

#### **Basic Sentence Structure (15 hours)**

The *masu* form of verbs  
Negative, present and past  
Forming questions  
Relational *de* and *o*  
Culture: age and gender reflection in the language

#### **Predicates (15 hours)**

Noun subjects + *ga* + predicate  
*Dare, donata*  
*Arimasu* and *imasu*  
Culture: age and social status reflection in the language

***Katakana and Hiragana (10 hours)***

Reading and writing *hiragana*

Reading and writing *katagana*

Transcribing *romaji* to both

Culture: Japanese calligraphy

**Relationals (2 hours)**

Ga, o, wa

To, o

De and ni

**Adjectives (10 hours)**

Use of *no*

*I* and *na* adjectives, affirmative and negative, present and past

*Kono, sono, ano, dono*

*Kore, sore, are, dore*

**Probability and Wish Forms of Verbs (10 hours)**

Tai, takatta desu forms

Taku arimasen, taku arimasen deshita forms

Takunai, taku nakatta forms

Mashoo, deshoo forms

**Numbers, Telling Time, and Counting (5 hours)**

Telling time

Counter *mai, nin, sai, satsu, ji*

Chinese vs. Japanese numbers

Culture: Japanese holidays

**Expressions of Giving and Receiving (3 hours)**

Honorifics *o, go, sama*

*Yarimasu* vs. *agemasu* and *sashiagemasu*

*Kuremasu, kudasaimasu*

*Moraimasu*

Culture: Japanese gift giving tradition

**Review (5 hours)**

Relation between Japanese society and language

Preparation for final examination

**Methods of Instruction**

The following methods of instruction may be used in the course:

- class lecture and discussion;
- group learning;
- Japanese films and popular songs;
- native speakers giving short talks or demonstrations;
- instructional technologies (e.g. Internet, grammar tutorials, online components associated with the textbook).

**Out of Class Assignments**

The following out of class assignments may be used in the course:

- homework and laboratory assignments;
- writing exercises and assignments (e.g. write food names using hiragana).

### **Methods of Evaluation**

The following methods of evaluation may be used in the course:

- short quizzes after lessons;
- a midterm examination consisting of a written grammar-oriented test and an oral conversational ability test;
- a final examination consisting of a written grammar-oriented test and an oral conversational ability test.

### **Textbook(s)**

Han, Mieko. *Modern Japanese*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Los Angeles: Sannean, 2005. Print.  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN 1-878463-09-8

Banno, Eri, et al. *GENKI I: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.  
Tokyo: The Japan Times 2011. Print.  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN 978-4-78901-440-3

Mitamura, Yasuko K. *Let's Learn Hiragana: First Book of Basic Japanese Writing*. New York:  
Kodansha 2012. Print.  
12<sup>th</sup> Grade Textbook Reading Level. ISBN 978-1-56836-389-9

### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon successful completion of the required coursework, the student will be able to:

- pronounce the Japanese language correctly at an introductory level;
- comprehend oral and written Japanese at a beginning level;
- use grammatically correct Japanese to communicate orally and write about simple topics;
- compare and contrast the Japanese language and culture with his/her own.