

Japanese 11
Introduction to Different Genres of Japanese Writing and Film
Amherst College

Instructors

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Course Description

Japanese 11 (fall) and Japanese 12 (spring) will introduce different genres of writing: short novels, essays, newspaper and magazine articles, poems, expository prose, and others. Various genres of films will also be introduced. Development of higher speaking and writing proficiency levels will be focused upon as well. The class will be conducted entirely in Japanese. Attending two large classes and two practice sessions per week are normally required throughout the semester.

Required and recommended textbooks

1. *Japanese: The Stage-Step Method, Grammar-Reference Book (2008)* by Wako Tawa
2. *Japanese: The Stage-Step Method, Step Guide Book (Two & Three) (2008)* by Wako Tawa
3. Photocopied selected readings

The cost of copying and the book(s) will be charged to your account at the end of the semester. This is true for all students, including 5-college interchange students.

Course Objectives

General objectives for this course are:

- to be familiar with characteristics of different genres of readings and/or films;
- to know the difference between spoken and written Japanese;
- to be able to judge situations for appropriate speech and writing styles;
- to be able to discuss and support abstract ideas in sustained conversations and writings.

In order to achieve these objectives, every student must:

- attend every class
- do daily work, as directed and suggested by your instructor (it need not be long, but it is very

important to study everyday)

- communicate the problems he or she has with the material to the instructor as soon as and as often as possible

Policies on deadlines and quizzes

Being successful in a Japanese language class requires meeting deadlines for frequent assignments and preparing thoroughly for quizzes and classes. We understand, however, that keeping up with frequent requirements for a Japanese class may be difficult at times. We have therefore made the following policies to have a little more flexibility.

- We allow each student to submit two assignments late per semester, but the late assignments must be completed by the following Monday, 5:00 pm.
- No make-up test will be given under any circumstances, but the students will have an option of correcting any quiz; in this case, some points may be added to the original grade, and the number of point depends on the quality of corrections.
- No delays are allowed for the final written examination or oral tests.
- It is not possible to give a make-up class or practice session to a student who was absent. It is your responsibility to check the daily schedule and to know what you have missed with your classmate(s). Please do not ask your instructor if you have missed anything important when you were absent because the answer is always YES. If you have specific questions, we would be happy to meet with you at our offices.
- Other exceptions can be made only with the class Dean's or your doctor's note.

Grade Distribution

Class attendance and participation	10%
Practice sessions preparation and performance	10%
Assignments (quantity/quality)	20%
2 oral presentations and/or interviews	20%
2 written quizzes	20%(10% each)
Written final	15%
Kanji writing	5%

Final written examination

12/15 (Monday) ~12/19 (Friday): Self-scheduled examination (announced in the Registrar's website).

IMPORTANT: For five-college interchange students: Unfortunately the academic calendar of the five-colleges is not uniform. It is our expectation, however, that all students who take Japanese at Amherst will follow the Amherst calendar, including the final examination schedule as well as the daily schedule. To be fair to other students, we will NOT be able to make special arrangements for the final examinations for the five-college students.

Things to remember in practice sessions

- ✓ No English is allowed as soon as you enter your practice session.
- ✓ Japanese should be used among the students in the room as well as with the teacher.
- ✓ When you use English in the session, your teacher will remind you to say it in Japanese.
- ✓ It is required that the students study the material BEFORE coming to each practice session so that the practice sessions will move smoothly and meaningfully.
- ✓ There will be no new material introduced in class, so you should avoid any grammar questions in the practice sessions. If you must ask, wait until the session is over.
- ✓ When you have other questions (e.g. word meanings), ask in Japanese.
- ✓ Do not be afraid to make mistakes. It is natural to make more mistakes when you speak more. But this should not prevent you from speaking Japanese.
- ✓ Do not take it personally when corrected. Being corrected is one of the best ways to learn to speak. In fact, you must get used to being corrected all the time.
- ✓ Come to every practice session. This is probably the most important way to participate in class and learn.

- Tentative practice sessions (Tuesdays and Thursdays, Webster 101):

(1) 9:10-9:50; (2) 10:00-10:40; (3) 10:45-11:25; (4) 11:35-12:15; (5) 3:10-3:50; (6) 4:00-4:40

Daily Schedules (subject to change)

- Page numbers below are those in the *Step Guide Book*.
- Friday assignments: due 5:00 p.m. 108 Webster (in the box next to the office door)

Date	Topics	Focus	Task before class
Unit 1: メディア (Genre: Media language)			
9/3 (水)	オリンピック メディア	Skimming Discussion	
9/4 (木)	オリンピック スポーツ メディア	Discussion Beijing 2008 and/or sports	Read 4-7 (Grammar) Prepare vocabulary for discussion
9/5 (金)	Beijing 2008 and/ or sports	Writing news report	Write about Olympics 1 page (plain forms) Submit 5:00 pm
9/8 (月)	Stage 3-2	pp.199-202	Read Grammar
9/9 (火)	Stage 3-2	pp.199-202	Study vocab before class
9/10 (水)	Stage 3-2	pp.202-206	Read Grammar
9/11 (木)	Stage 3-2	pp.202-206	Study vocab before class
9/12 (金)	Kanji quiz #1 Script for oral (9/23)	Writing news	Write news report to be used for the oral (use polite forms) (e.g. campus news) Submit by 5:00 pm
9/15 (月)	Stage 3-2	pp.206-209	Read Grammar

9/16 (火)	Stage 3-2	pp.206-209	Study vocab before class
9/17 (水)	Stage 3-2 Steps 2/3(1)~(2)	pp.209-211	Check vocab
9/18 (木)	Stage 3-2 Steps 2/3	pp.209-211	Study vocab before class
9/19 (金)	Kanji quiz #2 Listening	Listening comprehension	p.210 Submit by 5:00 pm
9/22 (月)	Test #1		materials 9/3~9/19
9/23 (火)	Oral test #1		report with visuals (may not read the script; memo OK)
Unit 2: 日本社会 (Genre: essay, film, and short story)			
9/24 (水)	Stage 3-2 Step 3	p. 212	Check vocab before class (post in Blogs)
9/25 (木)	Stage 3-2 Step 3	p. 212	Study vocab before class
9/26 (金)	Kanji quiz #3 Movie	Viewing film	Watch <i>Shall we dance?</i> (Streaming)
9/29 (月)	DVD: <i>Shall we dance?</i>	Content Vocabulary	Check vocab (discussion via Blogs)
9/30 (火)	DVD: <i>Shall we dance?</i>	Giving storylines	Study vocab before class
10/1 (水)	Essays	Skimming	Think of your responses for class discussion (worksheet)
10/2 (木)	Essays	Expressing opinions	Study vocab before class
10/3 (金)	Kanji quiz #4 Writing	Writing essays	Response paper to the film or essays 1~2 pages; 5:00 pm
10/6 (月)	Stage 3-3	pp.217-220	Read Grammar
10/7 (火)	Stage 3-3	pp.217-220	Study vocab before class
10/8 (水)	Stage 3-3	pp.220-223	Read Grammar
10/9 (木)	Stage 3-3	pp.220-223	Study vocab before class
10/10 (金)	Kanji quiz #5 (catch up time)	Rest!	Rest!
10/13 (月)	秋休み	Sleep!	Sleep!
10/14 (火)	秋休み	Sleep!	Sleep!
10/15 (水)	Stage 3-3	pp.223-227	Read Grammar
10/16 (木)	Stage 3-3	pp.223-227	Study vocab before class
10/17 (金)	Writing	Writing essays	Respond to 11.4 (p.227) Submit 5:00
10/20 (月)	Stage 3-3	pp.227-231	Read Grammar
10/21 (火)	Stage 3-3	pp.227-231	Study vocab

			before class
10/22 (水)	Short stories	Close reading	Check vocab before class
10/23 (木)	Short stories	Telling stories	Study vocab before class
10/24 (金)	Kanji quiz #6 Listening	Listening comprehension	p. 233-234 Submit by 5:00
10/27 (月)	Test #2		materials 9/24~10/24
10/28 (火)	Oral test #2		Debate (topics given)
Unit 3: 食文化 (Genre: expository)			
10/29 (水)	和食	Close reading	Check vocab before class
10/30 (木)	和食	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab before class
10/31 (金)	DVD (cooking) Streaming	Viewing and understanding instructions	Write what you found out from the two cooking instructions (1 page) Submit by 5:00
11/3 (月)	食文化	Close reading	Check vocab before class
11/4 (火)	食文化	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab before class
11/5 (水)	Stage 3-4	pp.239-242	Read Grammar
11/6 (木)	Stage 3-4	pp.239-242	Study vocab before class
11/7 (金)	Kanji #7 Writing	Writing instructions	Write two recipes of your favorite food Submit by 5:00
11/10 (月)	Stage 3-4	pp.242-244	Read Grammar
11/11 (火)	Stage 3-4	pp.242-244	Study vocab before class
11/12 (水)	Stage 3-4	pp.244-247	Read Grammar
11/13 (木)	Stage 3-4	pp.244-247	Study vocab before class
11/14 (金)	Kanji #8 Writing	Writing expository	Your thought on "Food and culture" (1 page) Submit 5:00 pm
11/17 (月)	Stage 3-4	pp.247-250	Read Grammar
11/18 (火)	Stage 3-4	pp.247-250	Study vocab before class
11/19 (水)	Reading instructions and manuals	Skimming and close reading	Complete worksheets
11/20 (木)	Reading instructions	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab before class
11/21 (金)	Kanji #9	giving instruction; explaining	Write an instruction of something in detail (e.g. how to make

			a certain thing; how to do something) Submit by 5:00
Thanksgiving break (11/22~11/30)			
Unit 4: 詩 (Genre: poetry reading and writing)			
12/1 (月)	詩	Poetry comprehension	Study the poems before class
12/2 (火)	詩	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab before class
12/3 (水)	詩の説明	Reading comprehension	Check vocab before class
12/4 (木)	詩の説明	Speaking in discourse	Study vocab before class
12/5 (金)	Kanji #10 writing poems	Writing poetry	Submit a poem with explanation Submit by 5:00
12/8 (月)	詩の種類	Close reading	Check vocab before class Post your corrected poem in CMS
12/9 (火)	詩の種類 友達の詩	Speaking in discourse	Read your friends' poems (Blogs)
12/10 (水)	年賀状 まとめ	Summary of the semester	Stage 3-8, Step 3 (for reference)

Final examination: Self-scheduled (12/15~12/19). See final examination schedules in the Registrar's website. The focus of the written final examination will be Units 3 and 4.