



JAPANESE LANGUAGE HIGH - INTERMEDIATE ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE NAME: Japanese Language High - Intermediate

COURSE CODE: 268940 (Session B) or 268942 (Session C)

CAMPUS LOCATION: JF Oberlin - Shinjuku Campus

CREDITS:

The course meets for a minimum of 45 hours per two week period. Students receive 4 Oberlin University credits with a passing grade.

DESCRIPTION:

This high-Intermediate Japanese course is an introduction to modern spoken Japanese through aural/oral drills and exercises, and introduction of the more complex grammatical structures. Emphasis on the spoken language of different types of speech styles (casual, formal, polite, etc.), although there will also be exposure to enough of the Japanese writing systems to meet practical needs. Practical use and observing of the language will be emphasized.

COURSE LEVELS:

Classes are taught and conducted in English and Japanese.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ OUTCOMES:

By the end of the session, students will be able to:

1. To successfully perform high-intermediate level communicative acts in daily situations.
2. To speak utilizing the proper social registers, with full understanding of Japanese cultural norms.
3. To further master Japanese written forms.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

- This course uses a communicative and interactive teaching approach that prioritizes active student participation and practical language use.
- Instruction will combine multiple methods to provide a balanced introduction to Japanese:
 - Aural-Oral Practice – Repetition drills, pronunciation exercises, and guided dialogues to build listening and speaking skills.
 - Structured Grammar and Vocabulary Instruction – Introduction and practice of essential structures through examples, exercises, and contextual use.
 - Writing System Training – Daily practice in hiragana, katakana, and selected kanji to support reading and writing competency.
 - Pair and Group Activities – Role-plays, games, and small-group exercises that encourage interaction and build confidence.
 - Cultural Integration - Inclusion of Japanese customs, social norms, and everyday life topics to contextualize language use.

TEXTBOOK(S) AND/OR CLASS MATERIALS:

Marugoto Pre-Intermediate (A2/B1)



GRADING:

Grading Scale:

- 100–90% = A (Excellent)
- 89–80% = B (Good)
- 79–70% = C (Satisfactory)
- 69–60% = D (Passing but Needs Improvement)
- 59% and below = F (Failing)

Grade Breakdown:

Participation – 33.3%
Active involvement in classroom drills, discussions, and activities.
Punctuality and consistent preparedness.

Attendance - 33.3%

Attendance policy applies:

- 5 minutes late = marked late (0.5 deduction)
- 30 minutes late or more = counted as absent (0)

Final Exam & Presentation - 33.3%

Comprehensive test covering writing, reading, and listening skills.

Designed to measure both accuracy and comprehension.

Short individual or group presentation, demonstrating practical use of learned vocabulary, grammar, and cultural expressions.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Due to the intensive 9-day structure, attendance is mandatory. Each class represents a significant portion of instruction, and missing even one session may impact overall progress.
- Punctuality is required. Arriving late disrupts the learning environment and diminishes student progress
- Arrivals 5 minutes or more after class begins will be marked as late (0.5 deduction)
- Arrivals 30 minutes or more after class begins will be considered an absence (0)
- Absences must be communicated to the instructor in advance whenever possible. Excused absences may be granted only in cases of illness or emergency, at the discretion of the instructor.
- Impact on Grades – Excessive lateness or absences will significantly lower the participation grade, which constitutes 30% of the final grade. More than two absences may place a student at risk of failing the course.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and responsible manner that contributes to a positive learning environment. This includes:

- Respect for Others – Listening attentively, not interrupting, and valuing diverse cultural perspectives in discussions.
- Classroom Etiquette – Refraining from disruptive behaviors such as side conversations, excessive phone use, or distracting activities.
- Preparedness and Participation – Bringing necessary materials, completing assignments, and actively engaging in class activities.
- Professionalism – Arriving on time, observing deadlines, and demonstrating commitment to the short yet intensive format of the course.

Failure to adhere to expected standards of conduct may affect participation grades and, in serious cases, may lead to disciplinary measures in accordance with university policies.



Course Schedule (Subject to Change)

CLASS DAY 1:

Course Guidance B1/A2 Lesson 1 (Sports)
-Invite a friend out/Accept an invitation
-Decline an invitation with reason
-Cheer your favorite team Kanji Basic1: Station

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B1/A2 Lesson 2 (Looking for a House)
-Talk about consideration when choosing a place to live
Interview Practice
Kanji Basic2: Signboard

CLASS DAY 3:

B1/A2 Lesson 3 (Food)
-Talk about your eating habits
-Metaphor
Group Work
Kanji Basic3: Restaurant

CLASS DAY 4:

B1/A2 Lesson 4 (Visiting Someone)
-Formal/informal speech style
Plain Form Review
Group Work

CLASS DAY 5:

B1/A2 Lesson 5 (Learning Languages)
-Talk about how to learn a foreign language
Group Work
JLPT N3/N4 Kanji & Vocabulary

CLASS DAY 6:

B1/A2 Lesson 7 (Worries)
-Things people do when they are worried
-Helping someone who is worried
Group Work
Japanese History

CLASS DAY 7:

FINAL TEST Guidance
FINAL TEST Preparation
Field Trip

CLASS DAY 8:

FINAL TEST (9:30-10:30)
-Forms: Plain Form, V-oo, V-ba, V-pot, Command form
-Grammar: ndesu, nara, Forming nouns, IA-kunai desu ka, node, mitai, V-pot yooni nari-mashita, V-oo to omo-tte imasu,-noni, kamo shiremasen, etc.
-Kanji Basic 1-3
Presentation Guidance
Presentation Preparation

CLASS DAY 9:

Presentation Preparation
Presentation - Using data to logically explain personal opinions on social issues
Presentation Feedback
Japanese in Advertising/Onomatopoeia