Japanese 101 Syllabus, Spring 2010

Course Description

Japanese 101 (4 credits) is the first half of an elementary course on spoken and written Japanese designed for beginning students. There are no pre-requisites for the course. Classes will meet regularly four times a week (M/T/W/F). Regular attendance and participation are expected. In addition, all students are required to engage in regular independent practice at the Language Learning Center (Moore 153) or with their personal CD copies of the recorded material. Classes will be conducted as much as possible in Japanese.

Course Goals and Objectives

The course goal is to provide a basic foundation that will enable students to acquire and develop language skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Japanese. Throughout the process of learning these skills, emphasis will be on the student's ability to perform in real-life situations through task-based practice. Specifically, students should be able to achieve the following objectives by the end of the course:

Listening: Able to understand short learned utterances and some sentence-length utterances, especially where context supports understanding and speech is clear. Comprehension is limited to vocabulary and some simple questions/statements related to everyday events, such as: greetings, introductions, and basic transactions at a post office, store, or restaurant.

Speaking: Able to make short statements and ask simple questions that are common to the situations mentioned above. This also includes the skill to ask questions that facilitate self-reliance in learning such as asking about meanings of unknown words and asking about locations. Students will be able to ask questions primarily by relying on memorized social formulae and set phrases, with occasional sentence-level expansion to meet the needs of contexts similar to those mentioned above.

Reading: Able to identify and understand written material in hiragana, katakana and frequently used kanji (about 50) without yomigana, with emphasis on survival and immediate needs, such as prices in stores, menus, dates on schedules, and short letters, messages, or memos relating information relevant to various aspects of student life.

Writing: Able to write hiragana, katakana, and about 50 kanji. Students should be able to compose short memo-type notes and diary entries in situations as described in the Reading section above.

In addition to the above language skills, students will develop a sense of culturally appropriate conduct such as gestures, greetings, backchannels, and body language.

Textbook and Supplementary Materials


Packet A may be purchased at BWI campus copy in the Campus Center, Room 104. When the first-run copies are sold out, however, students will have to place a special order with a one-day wait. The textbooks and kanji workbook may be purchased at the campus bookstore.
Grading

Final course grades will be based on the results of:

* A comprehensive final exam that includes a performance-based component...........................................25%
* End-of-lesson quizzes that contain some listening comprehension..........................................................30%
* Midterm Oral Test........................................................................................................................................10%
* Final Oral Test..............................................................................................................................................10%
* Daily performance defined by instructor (including in-class oral performance)..........................................25%

_Students taking the course on the Cr/NC option must achieve at least a "C" overall average to receive credit. A course grade of a "C" or better is a prerequisite for taking Japanese 102._

_NOTE: In the case of absences, as general policy, absolutely NO make-up work will be given without a valid, documented excuse. Moreover, students with _more than four_ unexcused absences in the semester can expect to have their course grades lowered one letter grade._

Listening and Oral Practice

Student copies of the recorded material in the Drills and Notes are available on CD (mp3 format) for purchase at $2.00 per copy through your instructor. Students may also listen to and practice the same material at the Language Learning Center in Moore Hall 153. During practice, students should memorize the assigned Conversation Drills using the recorded voices as a model and perform the Structure Drills out loud repeatedly to develop good pronunciation and fluency. The regular hours spent now on careful, diligent practice will surely contribute to your language achievement in this and future courses.

The recorded material is identified by the following code numbers.

JPA 501 = Lesson 1 of the SFJ Drills and Notes
JPA 501_1.mp3 = Structure Drills
_2.mp3 = Conversation Drills
_3.mp3 = Tasks and Activities (in the Drills)
_4.mp3 = Model Conversation (in the Notes)
_5.mp3 = Model Conversation Check
_6.mp3 = Report (in the Notes)

Additional Information

*Please visit the department website at http://www.hawaii.edu/eall/

_*If you have a disability with related academic access needs, you are warmly encouraged to contact the KOKUA Program, Student Services Center, Room 013, (V/T) 956-7511. KOKUA is our campus program serving students with disabilities._