

East Asian Studies EAST 242
JAPANESE WRITING BEGINNERS 2
Winter 2021

Instructor:

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Virtual Office Hours:

Monday & Friday 10:30am-11:30am
or by appointment

Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 1:05pm~2:25pm

Location: Taught remotely on Zoom

Pre-requisite: EAST 240 or EAST 241 or equivalent.

Required Textbook and Materials:

- No textbook is required. Some lecture notes and homework sheets will be posted on MyCourses.
- Webcam, microphone, computer with stable Internet access (you must have a computer that allows you to have multiple programs or pages open at the same time – e.g. Zoom, MyCourses, and OneDrive) Please show your face during class, especially attendance-taking and to confirm your identity for quizzes.

Course Description:

This course is designed for students who have learned basic Japanese grammar and have acquired a strong command of *Hiragana* and *Katakana*. Also this is for students who can speak/understand Japanese but have never studied Japanese language officially. It is a ‘bridge-course’ between first level (EAST 240) and second level (EAST 340) Japanese. The goal of this course is to help students develop a solid base of knowledge for Japanese through writing practice, and to provide a smooth transition to the second level Japanese course. At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- write about familiar topics and experiences in a series of sentences using the first-level grammar and *Kanji* reviewed in the class
- read and write about 160 *Kanji*

Grading:

Final Take-home Exam (two essays)	30%	
Homework	25%	
Midterm (Take-Home Essay)	20%	*See the schedule.
Self-Study Project (Weekly Reports, Presentation)	15%	
Kanji Quiz	5%	
In-class Participation & Performance	5%	

Attendance and Quizzes:

Please note that **absences in excess of 20% of class meetings may result in failure in the course.** No attendance points will be given if you arrive on Zoom more than 10 minutes late without permission. Ideally, you will arrive a few minutes early and thus be prepared to start the lesson at the scheduled time. **If you are not able to attend Zoom meetings, please send email to the instructor. She will inform you of the necessary information to catch up the class.** Quizzes are always given at the beginning of class. No special make-up quizzes will be given unless you have a legitimate

reason, such as time zone issues, illness or family emergency. In these cases, you have to contact the instructor **within the day** when the quiz is scheduled.

Homework:

Since this course focuses on enhancing writing skills, you will have writing assignments (essay and discussion comments) every week. You also submit *Kanji* and grammar assignments. There are four (4) points given for each essay submission and two (2) points for all other assignments. Half of the marks will be deducted for each late submission. If the assignment is more than one week late without permission, no points or evaluations will be given.

Self-Study Project

Students set own goals and make plans for self-study. Weekly progress reports and the final presentation are evaluated. (Presentation will be presented in class time on Zoom)

Tentative schedule (writing topics):

Week	Topic
Week 1-2	Introduction /Planning for self-study 作文 ^{まくぶん} 1 「冬休 ^{ふゆやす} み」
Week 3-5	作文 2 「私の好きな x x」
Week 6-8	作文 3 「私の国のしゅうかん」
Week 9-11	作文 4 「私のしょうらい」 (*Midterm essay)
Week 12-13	ブックレポート、発表「私／友だちの勉強法」

This course includes 3 individual sessions of 30 minutes each instead of 3 class meetings. The schedule will be available in the monthly schedule on MyCourses.

Important Notes:

- Students do not have the option of doing extra work to make up or improve their marks.
- An unexplained absence from any quiz counts for zero, unless you have a legitimate reason such as illness. (Normally doctor's note is required.).

McGill Policy Statements

- *McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore, all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see <http://www.mcgill.ca/students/srr/honest/> for more information). (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003)*
- *In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.*