

East Asian Studies EAST440D1/D2 (2023-2024)

THIRD LEVEL JAPANESE

Instructor

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Office Hours

Mondays and Wednesdays 2:30-3:30pm
(or by appointment)

Pre-requisite: EAST 340D or permission of the instructor

Course Description:

This course is for students who have acquired a solid foundation in Japanese grammar and the four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking, and want to improve their Japanese further. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

- read short and simple magazine/newspaper articles (slightly modified) with the aid of dictionaries, and express their opinions regarding the topic of the article in Japanese.
- read short and simple stories without using dictionaries, and understand the content such as the events and the psychology of the characters
- write a short, well-structured composition on a familiar social topic.
- give a presentation on the topic of a familiar social issue.
- understand speeches on various topics when spoken at slightly reduced speed and pronounced clearly.
- use different speech registers appropriate for the occasion and for the listener(s).

Primary Topics/Readings (*subject to change):

Fall

1. エコマークってなに? (Environment)
2. 教育—日本の子供— (Education)
3. 日本語のスピーチスタイル (Japanese speech styles)
4. 「うん、います」と言ってしまった私 (*Keigo* and Office Culture in Japan)
5. 若者のファッション (Views on Fashion)

Winter

6. 遺伝子検査 (Science, Technology, and Society)
7. 私も「移動する子供」だった (Language, Culture, and Migration)
8. 田中さんの奥さん (Language, Culture, and Gender Equality)
9. 気持ちを伝える (Expressing Feelings)

The Fall session (and to a much lesser extent, the Winter session) will also be interspersed throughout with *Keigo*-related dialogues and structural practice.

Both the Fall and Winter sessions will include listening practices on various topics.

There is no textbook or coursepack for this course. All required materials will be made available on MyCourses.

Evaluation:

Fall (36% of total)

- (3%) Attendance and Participation
- (10%) Homework/Preparation Activities
- (13%) Regular (almost every week) Quizzes (Kanji, Vocabulary, and/or Grammar)
- (5%) Written Test (may be divided into 2 parts given on different days)
- (5%) Skit (*Keigo*)

Winter (64% of total)

- (3%) Attendance and Participation
- (10%) Homework/Preparation Activities
- (13%) Regular (almost every week) Quizzes (Kanji, Vocabulary, and/or Grammar)
- (4%) Written Test (may be divided into 2 parts given on different days)
- (5%) Individual Presentation
- (4%) Interview Project
- (25%) Final Exam

A schedule for readings, quizzes, test, presentations and projects will be provided on MyCourses each semester.

Homework, Class Preparation and Course Materials:

Previewing materials is an essential part of this course. This means that you will need to study kanji, vocabulary, grammar points, and/or readings PRIOR to seeing them in class. The purpose of this is to ensure that class time can be used as effectively as possible for communicative practice, interactive/collaborative activities, and to check and/or go over any difficult points. As such, it is essential that you dedicate plenty of time to homework and preview activities every day. Your success, and the success of the class as a whole, depends on your coming to class prepared to engage with the materials that you have studied in advance.

You should plan on spending at least 2.5 hours in preparation for each class. If you are not able to dedicate the time required, this class may not be suitable for you.

Your study sessions between classes should include:

- 1) Previewing (grammar, vocabulary, readings, and/or kanji)
- 2) Completing any assigned exercises, readings, preview questions, and/or oral preparation (e.g. prepare a 1-minute talk), etc.
- 3) Checking and reviewing feedback received on assignments
- 4) Regularly reviewing prior material, and attempting to integrate it into new material (revisit, recycle, and make connections)
- 5) Daily kanji practice

For most classes, you will need to complete both homework and preparation activities. You must submit all homework and preparation activities before the beginning of class. Submission during or after class is considered late.

You will be informed each day what homework/preparation activities are due the following class, and how many points they will be worth.

Full points will be given for assignments that are completed thoroughly, with instructions followed, with only minor mistakes. Points will be deducted for lateness, incompleteness, failure to follow instructions, or work that has been extremely poorly done. In the case of composition assignments, some tasks may be assigned

points according to a rubric rather than simply for completion (you will always be informed in advance if this is the case). Assignments will not be accepted more than 24 hours late for written work or the following class for oral work (e.g. 1-minute talk) without the prior approval of the instructor.

Unless instructed otherwise, written assignments must be completed by hand, and you must use kanji for any words whose kanji you have learned.

Written assignments may be submitted in the following formats:

1. Digitally on MyCourses "Assignments" (a good option if you have a device such as an iPad with Apple Pencil, etc.)
2. Printed out from MyCourses, completed on paper and submitted in class (or scanned and uploaded to MyCourses "Assignments")

***NOTE:** You are responsible for ensuring that your submissions do not have any missing pages, incomplete sections, etc. You will NOT be given a reminder or second chance to submit if you forget or miss parts. Be sure to check your materials carefully before submitting them. Be sure that any scans are clear and easy to read.

***NOTE:** Some homework will be given in the form of "preview quizzes" (予習クイズ) on MyCourses. These count as homework points, not real quizzes, but in order to receive full points, you should normally receive at least 65% on the quiz in order to receive full homework points. If you receive less than 65%, you can see me to discuss options to make up the homework score.

Quizzes and Tests

Quizzes and tests (excluding the final exam) are administered during class hours and must be taken at the scheduled time. Quizzes and tests always start at the beginning of class. Students who arrive late for the quiz/test will not be given extra time. Any time a quiz or test is missed (for any reason), you must contact the instructor on the same day as the quiz/test to discuss whether there is an option to write a make-up (there may be a penalty if no official documentation such as a doctor's note can be provided). Except in cases of extreme emergency (e.g. hospitalization), missing a quiz or test without contacting the instructor on the same day will result in a grade of zero.

Please be aware that there will be also be homework due on quiz days.

Classroom Expectations

Students are expected to be respectful and polite at all times. This includes greeting the teacher when you or she enters the classroom, as well as when you leave. You should also greet your classmates at the beginning and end of class. Emails should always include, at minimum, salutations and a brief message explaining the reason for your email (E.g. プレゼンテーションの PPT を送ります。よろしくお願ひします) . Do not simply send empty emails with files attached.

Language learning is an interactive and collaborative process; as such, all members of the group are expected to contribute to the construction and maintenance of a positive, productive, and supportive learning space. All students should feel free and comfortable to explore the language, to try out new material in class, and to make mistakes. Students are also expected to regularly switch up who they practice/work with in class.

Attendance and Punctuality

Regular attendance in class necessary to apply and practice what you are learning. In case of absence, students are still responsible for submitting homework on time (digitally) and for catching up on any missed material.

Late assignments will be accepted with full points only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. illness or emergency, supported by official written documentation such as a doctor's note).

Please arrive on time, as tardiness is disruptive to the class. If you are more than 10 minutes late, or leave 10 minutes prior to the ending time, you may participate in the class, but it will be considered an absence. Attendance marks will be calculated as follows:

Total number of missed classes per semester	Attendance points
0-2 classes	3%
3 classes	2%
4 classes	1%
5 or more classes	0%

Please note that absence in excess of 20% of the course (8 classes in one semester) may result in failure of the course.

Important Notes:

- Students do not have the option of doing extra work to make up or improve their marks.
- A grade of K ("incomplete") will be given only in cases of extreme emergency.

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](#). (Approved by Senate on 29 January 2003) (See McGill's [guide to academic honesty](#) for more information.)

In accord with McGill University's [Charter of Student Rights](#), students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French written work that is to be graded. This does not apply to courses in which acquiring proficiency in a language is one of the objectives. (Approved by Senate on 21 January 2009)

Conformément à [la Charte des droits de l'étudiant](#) de l'Université McGill, chaque étudiant a le droit de soumettre en français ou en anglais tout travail écrit devant être noté, sauf dans le cas des cours dont l'un des objets est la maîtrise d'une langue. (Énoncé approuvé par le Sénat le 21 janvier 2009)

The University is committed to maintaining teaching and learning spaces that are respectful and inclusive for all. To this end, offensive, violent, or harmful language arising in course contexts may be cause for disciplinary action.

As the instructor of this course, I endeavor to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me and/or the [Office for Student Accessibility & Achievement](#).

Many students may face mental health challenges that can impact not only their academic success but also their ability to thrive in our campus community. Please reach out for support when you need it; many resources are available on-campus, off-campus, and online.

McGill University is located on unceded Indigenous lands in Tiohtià:ke, a site that has long served as a gathering place for Indigenous peoples. The Kanien'kehà:ka of the Haudenosaunee Confederacy are recognized as the traditional custodians of these lands and waters. Today, this area is home to a diverse population of Indigenous and other peoples. We honour, recognize, and respect the continued connections

with the past, present and future in our ongoing relationships with Indigenous and other peoples within the Montreal community.

In the event of extraordinary circumstances beyond the University's control, the content and/or evaluation scheme in this course is subject to change.