

# JLT100 Introduction to Japanese Language Studies

1st and 2nd quarters, Sophomore

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<b>Instructor</b>	SATO AYA
<b>Style of Class</b>	Lecture
<b>Number of Credits</b>	2
<b>Day and Period</b>	Thursday, period 3

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## Course Description

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Students will acquire the basic knowledge about the Japanese language needed for learning or teaching it. We will consider the features of the language in an effort to pin down its universality and individuality, with reference to the language use of learners of Japanese. The lectures will provide a comprehensive explanation of the linguistic theories related to the phonetics, phonology, characters and orthography, semantics, pragmatics, grammar, discourse, and sociolinguistics of Japanese.

## Course Objectives

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- (1) Acquiring the basic knowledge needed to analyze the Japanese language objectively
- (2) Gaining a grasp of the features of Japanese through observation of how learners of Japanese use the language
- (3) Developing the ability to explain the structure and usage of Japanese from the point of teaching Japanese as a foreign language.

## Prerequisites

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None in particular

## Class Materials

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- 1) Iori Isao; Hidaka Mizuho; Maeda Naoko; Yamada Toshihiro; and Yamato Shigemi, *Yasashii Nihongo no shikumi* (Easy Description of the Workings of Japanese), Kuroshio Shuppan.
- 2) Hino Sukenari, *Beeshikku gendai no Nihongogaku* (A Basic Guide to Contemporary Japanese Linguistics), Hitsuji Shobo.
- 3) Himeno Tomoko; Komori Kazuko; Yanagisawa Emi, *Nihongo kyouikugaku nyumon* (Introduction to Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language), Kenkyusha.
- 4) Yamada Toshihiro, *Nihongo no shikumi, shinpan* (The Workings of Japanese, new edition), Hakusuisha.

## Course Method

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The course will be conducted in a lecture format, but occasionally, group discussions or group work will be incorporated into the class sessions.

## Evaluation/Assessment

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### 1) Quizzes

A quiz will be administered every session to measure the students' understanding of the content of the previous lecture and the content that students have prepared.

### 2) In-class writing

At the end of each lecture, the students will be asked to write a brief summary of their opinions about what they have learned.

### 3) Assignments

On about three occasions between the lectures, the instructor will issue assignments to check the students understanding of what they have learned.

## Grading

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Quizzes: 30%, In-class writing: 30%, Assignments: 40%

## **Course Schedule**

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**Week 1:** What is the study of the Japanese language?

**Week 2:** Japanese phonetics and phonology

**Week 3:** Japanese orthography

**Week 4:** Japanese vocabulary (1)

**Week 5:** Japanese vocabulary (2)

**Week 6:** Semantics (1)

**Week 7:** Semantics (2)

**Week 8:** Pragmatics (1)

**Week 9:** Pragmatics (2)

**Week 10:** Japanese grammar (1)

**Week 11:** Japanese grammar (2)

**Week 12:** Japanese grammar (3)

**Week 13:** Japanese grammar (4)

**Week 14:** Japanese discourse

**Week 15:** Sociolinguistics

## **Preparation and Follow-up**

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**Preparation:** Read the necessary portions of the textbook and materials before the lecture. Your preparation will be checked in a quiz before the start of the lecture.

**Follow-up:** After the lecture, reread the portions of the textbook and materials dealt with in the lecture. The follow-up work will be covered along with the preparatory work for the next lecture at the start of the next class session.