

JPN 3955 Foreign Study: JAPAN

A Global Learning1 Foundations Course



Semester: Summer A, 2014	Instructor: Naoko Komura
Class Time: 1:00pm - 4:10pm	Office: TBA
Class Days: TBA	Office hours: TBA
Room: TBA	Tel: TBA
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This summer study abroad course is designed so that students acquire a higher level of communication in Japanese in authentic situations (a cafeteria, convenience store, on campus, etc.) with contextual differences such as setting, gender, and status. Also, this course gives students a well-rounded understanding of Japan, including through fieldwork activities such as visiting temples, making traditional Japanese crafts, variety of Japanese traditional culture workshops, as well as understanding of generational, socioeconomic, and gender-related diversity within Japan through interviewing with local people as parts of projects. Coursework will be reinforced and integrated with various fieldwork activities on and off campus.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. Students will develop basic conversation skills with Japanese people through inside and outside of class activities.
2. Students will be able to complete basic communicative tasks in different social contexts as required to complete their projects.
3. Students will learn aspects of Japanese culture and society through interviews with Japanese people and fieldwork activities.
4. Students will develop their speaking ability by presenting their project in Japanese.
5. Students will develop their writing ability through short journals.

GLOBAL LEARNING COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the interrelationship between various contextual factors (e.g. status, gender, setting) and basic oral and written communication tasks.
2. Produce a comparative description of a topic from every day life (e.g. cooking, music, housing) via multiple perspectives (e.g. generational, gender, cultural).

3. Demonstrate interest and comfort in communicating with native-speaking Japanese people in a variety of settings.

RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOK:

GRADING EVALUATION:

Grading Scale

100 – 93	A	82 – 80	B-	69 – 67	D+
93 – 90	A-	79 – 77	C+	66 – 63	D
89 – 87	B+	76 – 73	C	62 – 60	D-
86 – 83	B	72 – 70	C-	59 & below	F

GRADES:

Class participation & attendance	20%
Paired project	15%
Individual project and presentation	30%
Quizzes	20%
Worksheets about the fieldwork activities	15%

ATTENDANCE:

You must attend every class session and arrive to class on time. There are not excused absences or assignments except in the case of sickness that you will notify. If you are not present when materials are collected for points, you will forfeit those points.

JAPAN STUDIES / FIELDWORK ACTIVITIES:

“Japan Studies” classes are conducted by Ritsumeikan University and held two to three times a week in the afternoon. In addition to the lectures on Japanese culture held in the Japanese language classes, participants are given the opportunity to take part in various fieldwork excursions and receive special lectures on Japanese culture from masters who are well respected in their field in order to reinforce what they have learned. You are required to do the worksheet about these activities that I will provide (see below).

List of the activities:

Visiting temples, Zen meditation at Tenryuji temple, making Kiyomizu pottery, lecture and workshop on Japanese cuisine, meeting Maiko/Geisha, lecture on Japanese comedy “Rakugo”, Gold Kyo-Yuzen workshop, Japanese calligraphy, the Japanese drum workshop, Japanese sword battle “Tate” experience, and “Chado” tea ceremony workshop.

* It may change every year.

PAIRED PROJECT:

You will receive an assignment each class. There are two sections; the first section is to interview three Japanese people, each from a different generation, about a topic (you will be given three choices); and the second section is to visit to a place related to the

topic and research about it using questions I will provide and those of your own. You must complete the project with a partner.

Requirements:

1. You will prepare visual aids such as pictures of people you interview and the place you visit for research. The maximum number of slides is 10. You are not allowed to put any words on the slides.
2. You will prepare your speech in Japanese before presenting.
3. Your presentation will be in Japanese only.
4. Your presentation will be no more than 10 minutes.

FINAL PROJECT AND PRESENTATION:

This is an individual project. You must choose a topic related to Japanese culture and Japanese life. The process of this presentation will be same as the paired project. The presentation will be no more than 10 minutes. Please see the above requirements.

WORKSHEET:

Each week you will fill the worksheet that I will provide about one of fieldwork activities of the week. The worksheet has several categories such as activity description, history, and your thought. **You must write in Japanese.** You will submit each worksheet in class in the following week. **Late submissions are not allowed and will receive a zero.**

DISABILITY STATEMENT:

Students with documented special learning needs may want to inform the instructor.

ATTENTION:

1. **Check the class schedule on the syllabus before coming to class.** Be ready for each class.
2. **No cheating and plagiarizing.** Cheating/plagiarizing will lead to failure on the quiz/assignment.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

5/23 Thursday 明学館 Meigakukan 83	Topic: Basic conversation I ①self introduction ②WH questions ③conjugations Activity: Talk with RU students
5/30 Thursday 清心館 Seishinkan	Topic: Basic conversation II ①aizuchi ②sentence endings ③conjunctions

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<p>6/6 Thursday</p> <p>清心館 Seishinkan 547</p>	<p>Topic: How to interview people ①Project practice about FOOD (Section I)</p> <p><i>Activity: Interview people at the cafeteria</i> <i>Quiz 2: Aizuchi, sentence endings & conjunctions</i></p>
<p>6/10 Monday</p> <p>諒友館 Ryoyukan 821</p>	<p>Topic: How to do speech ①Project practice about FOOD (Section II)</p> <p><i>Activity: Go to the cafeteria to research</i> <i>Quiz 3: How to interview</i></p>
<p>6/17 Monday</p> <p>諒友館 Ryoyukan 821</p>	<p>Paired project presentation</p>
<p>6/20 Thursday</p> <p>明学館 Meigakukan 83</p>	<p>Individual final presentation</p>

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Project 2 (Fashion)

I. Interview (3 people in different generations —under 25, 26-40, 41-older)

- A. Information about the person
- name
 - age
 - occupation
 - where s/he lives
- B. Interview questions
- her/his favorite & least favorite fashion and the why
 - the typical fashion for weekdays and weekends
 - her/his favorite clothing store, the reason, frequency of visiting and the location
- C. Interview questions (you create your own)

II. Research (visiting a place related with the fashion)

- A. Research questions
- what the place have
 - the price range (the cheapest clothes and most expensive clothes)
 - average age of the main customers
 - most popular fashion there (you may have to ask someone at the place)
 - comparison between a similar place in the US and there
- B. Other things you noticed

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Project 3 (Music)

I. Interview (3 people in different generations—under 25, 26-40, 41-older)

- A. Information about the person
- name
 - age
 - occupation
 - where s/he lives
- B. Interview questions
- her/his favorite & least favorite music and why
 - the favorite singer/band and why
 - her/his favorite place to listen to the music, the reason, frequency of visiting and the location
 - her/his favorite songs and the reason
- C. Interview questions (you create your own)

II. Research (visiting a place related with the music)

- A. Research questions
- what music you can listen to there
 - average of main customers
 - most popular song and singer/band there
 - comparison between a similar place in the US and there
- B. Other things you noticed

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Project 4 (Housing)

- I. Interview (3 people in different generations—under 25, 26-40, 41-older)**
- A. Information about the person
- name
 - age
 - occupation
 - where s/he lives
- B. Interview questions
- if they like their houses or not and the reason
 - if they prefer house, condo or apartment and the reason
 - the area they would like to have a house in and the reason
 - the house they would like to have and the reason
- C. Interview questions (you create your own)
- II. Research (visiting a place related with the housing)**
- A. Research questions
- explaining the details about the house/building
 - the price range (if it is applicable)
 - comparison between the place in the US and there
- B. Other things you noticed

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