

JPN 3955 Foreign Study: JAPAN

A Global Learning1 Foundations Course



Semester: Summer A, 2017 (5/15-6/17)	Instructor: Naoko Komura
Class Time: 1:00pm – 4:10pm	Office: TBA
Class Days: See the class schedule	Office hours: TBA
Room: Gakujikan(学而館) 302	E-mail: komuran@fiu.edu

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, a variety of Japanese traditional culture workshop, as well as understanding of generational, socioeconomic, and gender-related diversity within Japan through interviewing local people as a part of class 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

This is a discipline-specific GL course that counts toward your global learning graduation requirements.

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.

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RECOMMENDED TEXTBOOKS:

Sugimoto, Yoshio (2009). The Cambridge Companion to Modern Japanese Culture. Cambridge University Press.

Varley, Paul H. (2000). Japanese Culture, Fourth Edition. University of Hawaii Press.

Davies, Roger J., Ikeno, Osamu (2002). The Japanese Mind. Tuttle Publishing.

GRADING EVALUATION:

Grading Scale

100 – 95	A	86 – 83	B	76 – 70	C
94 – 90	A-	82 – 80	B-	69 – 60	D
89 – 87	B+	79 – 77	C+	59 & below	F

GRADES:

Class participation & attendance	20%
Worksheets about fieldwork activities (5%X3)	15%
Quizzes (5% X3)	15%
Kanji project	10%
Paired project	10%
Individual project presentation	10%
Individual final project presentation (10%) and writing submission (10%)	20%

ATTENDANCE:

You must attend every class session and arrive to class on time. There are not excused absences or late assignments except in the case of sickness in which you have notified me before the class you miss. 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 per week in the afternoon. In addition to lectures on Japanese culture held in 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 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, participating in Zen meditation at Tenryuji temple, making Kiyomizu pottery, attending a lecture and workshop on Japanese cuisine, meeting Maiko/Geisha, attending a Gold Kyo-Yuzen workshop, practicing Japanese calligraphy, attending a Japanese drum workshop, and taking a tea ceremony (Chado) workshop. The specific activities may change each year but the previous list are some likely possibilities.

WORKSHEET:

Each week you will fill out a worksheet that I will provide about that week’s fieldwork activities. The worksheet has several categories such as activity description, history, and your thoughts. **You must write at least 15 sentences in Japanese.** You will submit

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each worksheet in class the following week. **The due date for these assignments are, in class on 5/26(M), 6/2(F), and 6/12(M).** Late submissions are not allowed and will receive zero points.

QUIZZES:

You will have a total of three quizzes. Each quiz is worth 5% of your grade. Please see the schedule at the end of this syllabus.

Quiz 1: WH questions

Quiz 2: Conjunctions

Quiz 3: How to interview

KANJI PROJECT:

You will collect **30 kanji** that you often see in your daily life in Japan. You must take a picture of each kanji and find the meaning in English. You must create power point slides for this project. The format of the power point for the project is on Blackboard. You must submit your project power point **by 11:59pm on Sunday, June 11.** You will upload your power point on Blackboard. **Late submission is not allowed and will receive a zero.**

PAIRED INTERVIEW:

You will interview **in Japanese** three Japanese people each from a different generation, about a theme you and your partner choose from the list (**music, childhood, vacation, weekend activity, and school life**). You must complete the project with a partner. After the interview, you will write **in Japanese** a summary of your interview. The submission of the summary is due **by 11:59pm on Wednesday, June 6.**

Requirements:

- You must use **Microsoft Word**
- You must **upload the summary on Blackboard**

INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE PRESENTATION IN ENGLISH (on 6/5):

You must choose a topic related to Japanese culture and Japanese life and visit a place related to the topic. In your presentation, you will explain the reason why you chose the place, what your experience was like, what you learned and how you felt about it. Your presentation will be **in English** and will be between 3 and 5 minutes. Also, you need to prepare for one discussion question for your presentation. You must prepare a maximum of 10 slides.

INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW FINAL PRESENTATION (on 6/12):

This is an individual project. You must choose a theme related to Japanese culture and life. You will interview three Japanese people, each from a different generation, about a topic you choose.

Requirements:

- You must make **12 questions for Intermediate Japanese I, 14 questions for Intermediate Japanese II and 16 questions for Advanced Japanese I and II** and ask your buddies or sensei to correct them before interviewing people.
- You will prepare visual aids such as pictures of the people you interview or the setting. The maximum number of slides is 10. You are not allowed to put any words on the slides.

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- You will choose one of the three people you interviewed and **prepare a speech about that person in Japanese** before presenting (you can read your script).
- Your presentation will be in Japanese only.
- Your presentation will be no more than 10 minutes.
- You must upload the summary of your interviews (all three people) **by 11:59pm on June 13th**.

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 of the quiz/assignment.

JAPAN STUDY/ FIELD ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE:

5/16 (Tuesday) Visit the International Peace Museum
5/17 (Wednesday) Visit Kinkakuji Temple
5/18 (Thursday) Make a Japanese fan
5/19 (Friday) Make a Kiyomizu Pottery
5/23 or 24 (Tuesday or Wednesday) Learn and make a Japanese cuisine
5/25 (Thursday) Visit Kitanotenmanguu Shrine
5/30 (Tuesday) Learn Chado
6/1 (Thursday) Meet with Maiko/Geisha
6/6 (Tuesday) Learn Zen and see the Japanese garden
6/7 (Wednesday) Learn how to play Go
6/9 (Friday) Day on Yukata
6/14 (Wednesday) Make Japanese traditional paper

CLASS SCHEDULE:

5/22 (Monday) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Basic conversation<ol style="list-style-type: none">① WH questions② conjunctions③ aizuchi

<p><i>Activity:</i> Talk with RU students in the classroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food culture 1
<p>5/26 (Friday)</p> <p><i>Quiz 1:</i> WH questions しゅくだい : ジャーナナル1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How to interview people• Interview I (theme: Food) <i>Activity:</i> Interview people at the cafeteria• Food culture 2
<p>5/29 (Monday)</p> <p><i>Quiz 2:</i> Conjunctions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interview II (theme: Kyoto) <i>Activity:</i> Interview people on campus (different age groups)• Food culture 3
<p>6/2 (Friday)</p> <p><i>Quiz 3:</i> How to interview しゅくだい : ジャーナナル2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paired interview <i>Activity:</i> Prepare for the interview and go to Sanjo Shotengai to interview• Food culture 4
<p>6/5 (Monday)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual project presentation & discussion
<p>6/12 (Monday)</p> <p>しゅくだい : ジャーナナル3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Individual final presentation

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