

LC2930: JAPANESE 1

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Japanese 1

Subject Code

LC - CFML CSL Language Centre

Course Number

2930

Academic Unit

CFML CSL Language Centre (LC)

College/School

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (CH)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

Other Languages

Other Languages for Medium of Instruction

Japanese supplemented by English

Medium of Assessment

Other Languages

Other Languages for Medium of Assessment

Japanese supplemented by English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

CTL2930 Elementary Japanese I; &
AIS2930 Japanese Language - Level 1

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

The course aims to introduce students with no previous knowledge of the language to the pronunciation, writing systems, basic grammar and conversation of Japanese. This course and LC2931 Japanese 2 form a foundation level Japanese language course unit. By the end of the course, students should have reached a proficiency level roughly equivalent to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) Level N5 (Part 1).

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if DEC-A1 app.)		DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Demonstrate a knowledge of, and ability to use, Japanese grammar at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) Level N5 (Part 1).			x	
2	Employ 100 Japanese characters (Kanji) and 500 words to write simple sentences.			x	
3	Demonstrate listening comprehension of spoken Japanese at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the JLPT Level N5 (Part 1).				x
4	Engage effectively in simple conversation in Japanese at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the JLPT Level N5 (Part 1).		x		x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)
1	Students will complete exercises to acquire and put into use basic Japanese grammar to form sentences in oral practice and written exercises.	1	

2		Students will engage in activities to acquire the Japanese writing system (Kana and Kanji) and key vocabulary for sentence-formation and writing tasks.	2	
3		Students will complete listening comprehension exercises based upon everyday contexts.	3	
4		Students will develop speaking skills by engaging in simple conversations, role play and Q&A.	4	

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Test 1 (Mid-term – Multiple-choice, Listening Dictation, Speaking)	1, 2, 3, 4	30	-	No
2	Test 2 (Multiple-choice, Listening, Speaking)	1, 2, 3, 4	40	-	No
3	Quizzes (Vocabulary, Fill in the Blanks, Sentence Writing, Listening)	1, 2, 3	10	-	No
4	Participation/In-class activities	4	20	Refer to assessment task instructions to be provided by the course instructor for parameters of use	Yes

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

1a. Test 1 (Mid-term - Multiple-choice – 10% of overall course mark)

Criterion

Demonstrating understanding of basic elements of the Japanese language (including grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions commonly used in daily activities) at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) Level N5 (Part 1).

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with few mistakes.

Good (B+, B, B-)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with some mistakes.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with somewhat frequent mistakes.

Marginal (D)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with frequent mistakes.

Failure (F)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with extremely frequent mistakes.

Assessment Task

1b. Test 1 (Mid-term - Listening Dictation – 10% of overall course mark)

Criterion

Demonstrating i) understanding of, and ii) ability to use the Japanese writing system to transcribe, simple spoken utterances in Japanese at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the JLPT Level N5 (Part 1).

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

The student transcribes Japanese sentences with few mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.

Good (B+, B, B-)

The student transcribes Japanese sentences with some mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

The student transcribes Japanese sentences with somewhat frequent mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.

Marginal (D)

The student transcribes Japanese sentences with frequent mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.

Failure (F)

The student transcribes Japanese sentences with extremely frequent mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.

Assessment Task

1c. Test 1 (Mid-term - Speaking – 10% of overall course mark)

Criterion

Applying basic Japanese grammar and vocabulary covered in the course for self-introduction; speaking fluently with appropriate intonation and accent; presenting with appropriate eye-contact.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

- The student uses a wide range of language elements covered in the course and no grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions.
- The student speaks very fluently and very clearly with appropriate eye contact and almost no mistakes; mistakes never impede comprehension.

Good (B+, B, B-)

- The student uses a fairly wide range of language elements covered in the course but also a few grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions.
- The student speaks fluently and clearly with fairly appropriate eye contact and occasional mistakes; mistakes may occasionally impede comprehension.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

- The student uses a range of language elements covered in the course but also a few grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions.
- The student speaks generally fluently and clearly with somewhat inadequate eye contact and some mistakes; mistakes occasionally impede comprehension.

Marginal (D)

- The student uses a limited range of language elements covered in the course but also several grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions.
- The student speaks occasionally fluently and clearly with inadequate eye contact and frequent mistakes; mistakes often impede comprehension.

Failure (F)

- The student uses a very limited range of language elements covered in the course but also many grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions.
- The student speaks without fluency and unclearly with no eye contact and extremely frequent mistakes; mistakes very frequently impede comprehension.

Assessment Task

2a. Test 2 (Multiple-choice – 20% of overall course mark)

Criterion

Demonstrating understanding of basic elements of the Japanese language (including grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions commonly used in daily activities) at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the JLPT Level N5 (Part 1).

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with few mistakes.

Good (B+, B, B-)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with some mistakes.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with somewhat frequent mistakes.

Marginal (D)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with frequent mistakes.

Failure (F)

The student identifies Japanese vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures with extremely frequent mistakes.

Assessment Task

2b. Test 2 (Listening – 10% of overall course grade)

Criterion

- Demonstrating understanding of spoken utterances in Japanese at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the JLPT Level N5 (Part 1).
- Demonstrating ability to use the Japanese writing system to write concise and coherent responses to spoken questions at an elementary level, roughly equivalent to JLPT Level N5 (Part 1) .

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

- The student demonstrates understanding of spoken input, and produces Japanese sentences with few mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.
- The student provides written answers to spoken input that are always accurate and coherent.

Good (B+, B, B-)

- The student demonstrates understanding of spoken input, and produces Japanese sentences with some mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.
- The student provides written answers to spoken input that are often accurate and coherent.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

- The student demonstrates understanding of spoken input, and produces Japanese sentences with somewhat frequent mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.
- The student provides written answers to spoken input that are occasionally accurate and coherent.

Marginal (D)

- The student demonstrates understanding of spoken input, and produces Japanese sentences with frequent mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.
- The student provides written answers to spoken input that are frequently inaccurate and incoherent.

Failure (F)

- The student demonstrates understanding of spoken input, and produces Japanese sentences with extremely frequent mistakes in grammar, Kanji, Kana characters, vocabulary, and basic expressions.
 - The student provides written answers to spoken input that are very frequently inaccurate and incoherent.
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Assessment Task

2c. Test 2 (Speaking – 10% of overall course grade)

Criterion

Understanding and answering short and simple questions; applying basic Japanese grammar and vocabulary covered in the course for spoken communication; speaking fluently with appropriate intonation and accent.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

The student demonstrates understanding of questions and provides answers with few mistakes and no grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions; mistakes never impede comprehension; the student speaks very fluently and clearly.

Good (B+, B, B-)

The student demonstrates understanding of questions and provides answers with some mistakes and/or some grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions; mistakes may occasionally impede comprehension; the student speaks fluently and clearly.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

The student demonstrates understanding of questions and provides answers with somewhat frequent mistakes and/or several grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions; mistakes occasionally impede comprehension; the student speaks generally fluently and clearly.

Marginal (D)

The student demonstrates understanding of questions and provides answers with frequent mistakes and/or many grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions; mistakes often impede comprehension; the student speaks occasionally fluently and clearly.

Failure (F)

The student demonstrates understanding of questions and provides answers with very frequent mistakes and/or very many grammatical elements beyond those laid out in the test instructions; mistakes very frequently impede comprehension; without fluency and unclearly.

Assessment Task

3. Quizzes (Vocabulary, Fill in the Blanks, Sentence Writing, Listening - 10% of overall course grade)

Criterion

Applying acquired knowledge of Japanese language (Kana, Kanji, vocabulary, grammar, and daily expressions) to read and write an elementary level, roughly equivalent to the JLPT Level N5 (Part 1).

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

The student demonstrates understanding of, and applies knowledge of, the Japanese language to read and write with few mistakes.

Good (B+, B, B-)

The student demonstrates understanding of, and applies knowledge of, the Japanese language to read and write with some mistakes.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

The student demonstrates understanding of, and applies knowledge of, the Japanese language to read and write with somewhat frequent mistakes.

Marginal (D)

The student demonstrates understanding of, and applies knowledge of, the Japanese language to read and write with frequent mistakes.

Failure (F)

The student demonstrates understanding of, and applies knowledge of, the Japanese language to read and write with extremely frequent mistakes.

Assessment Task

4. Participation/In-class activities (20% of overall course grade)

Criterion

Contributing to class activities; displaying collegiality and participation in pair work; being responsive and alert throughout classes; being prepared for lessons.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

The student participates extremely actively in discussion, activities, and asking questions; is highly responsive to the instructor's questions; leads peers to participate and always comes to class prepared.

Good (B+, B, B-)

The student participates actively in discussion, activities, and asking questions; is responsive to the instructor's questions; shows initiative to interact with peers and usually comes to class prepared.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

The student participates regularly in discussion, activities, and asking questions; offers answers mostly after being called upon; interacts with peers and occasionally comes to class prepared.

Marginal (D)

The student participates passively and shows almost no initiative to interact with peers and the instructor; barely responds when asked questions by the instructor; is absent from class frequently.

Failure (F)

The student participates extremely passively and shows no initiative to interact with peers and the instructor; always remains almost silent, ignores questions, activities, and discussions frequently; is absent from class very frequently.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Pronunciation, writing systems (Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji); vocabulary; basic grammar; Japanese language and culture; syllables, phrases, daily greetings; simple dialogues.

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	大新書局 (2020) 「大家的日本語（初級I）（改訂版）」

Additional Readings

Title	
1	大新書局 (2020) 「大家的日本語初級 I ・ II 標準問題集（改訂版）」
2	大新書局 (2020) 「大家的日本語（初級I）（改訂版）」（文法解説・参考詞彙・課文中譯）」