

JPA 101  
INTRODUCTORY JAPANESE  
Spring Semester 2005



**University of Alabama at Birmingham**  
**Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures**

Course #: JPA 101-2D  
Time: 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, Tuesdays & Thursdays  
Room: 234 Humanities Bldg.  
Your Instructor: Mako Cook  
Office Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 3:15 – 4:15 P.M.  
Phone Number: 934-8795

**Course Description:**

JPA 101 teaches the essentials of Japanese language and culture needed for proficient communication, and includes basic exercises in listening comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading. 3 hours.

**Goals:**

The goals of this course include a beginning mastery of reading, writing, oral comprehension, oral communication, and knowledge of Japanese culture. You will be tested on all of these aspects of language learning through classroom participation and exams. At the end of the course the student should be able to

- Understand and appreciate everyday elements of the Japanese culture.
- Comprehend spoken Japanese based on chapter topics and vocabulary.
- Read and understand written Japanese passages based on chapter topics and vocabulary.
- Communicate in basic Japanese in a variety of common situations.

**Textbook:**

Tohsaku, Yasu-Hiko. *Yookoso! An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese* (Media Edition). New York: McGraw-Hill, 2004. ISBN 0072862130

**Attendance and classroom policies:**

Class participation, contribution and actual speaking in the target language is crucial in order to learn a language, therefore class attendance is mandatory. Any absence is going to affect students' class participation and final grade. Ten minutes late will be considered one absence. Likewise, leaving class early will count as an absence. If under special circumstances, students need to miss classes, the following attendance policy will be applied: 2% from the FINAL grade is deducted for EACH absence above 3. More than 7 absences will result in an AUTOMATIC "F." Along with the syllabus and this handout, you will be given our departmental attendance policy. Please read it carefully.

Class preparation and class participation:

You will be graded on the following factors daily:

- Being well-prepared for class
- Making positive contributions to the class
- Using Japanese in the classroom
- Progress in the “skill of communication”
- Volunteering to answer and ask questions
- Alertness
- Participating in exercises and activities
- Good attitude

Classroom policies:

- Class begins promptly. Ten minutes late will be considered one absence. On exam days, the oral part of the quiz will not be repeated for latecomers.
- Leaving early will be considered an absence.
- You must come to class prepared for each lesson and having studied the tape for each lesson.
- Exams are only taken on the dates and times assigned.
- Please turn off phones and pagers while in class.
- Please do not eat in class.

Homework assignments:

- Each student is required to visit the instructor in her office during her office hours once a week and converse in Japanese. Students may visit individually or in groups up to four. Each conversation will last approximately 5–15 minutes, depending on the number of students in a group. If the instructor’s office hours are not convenient for any student, the student may call the instructor at a time which the instructor and student mutually arrange.
- Each individual class session will have a written assignment to be completed by the next session.

Exams:

The midterm and final exams will be written.

Grades:

Class preparation and participation: 30%  
Conversation assignments: 20%  
Written assignments: 10%

Midterm exam: 20%  
Final exam: 20%

Schedule:

See attached

# JPA 101 – INTRODUCTORY JAPANESE I

## CALENDAR Spring 2005

All dates and assignments are tentative and may be altered in writing during the semester.

- 1/4 (Tu) Orientation
- 1/6 (Th) Introduction to Japanese writing system and pronunciation  
Basic greetings  
Grammar: affirmative form *desu*  
Hiragana: *a – o*
- 1/11 (Tu) Getting Started, Part One (pp. 2-6)  
Self-introductions  
Grammar: negative form *ja nai*; interrogative particle *ka*  
Hiragana: *ka – ko*
- 1/13 (Th) Part One (pp. 7-9)  
Self-introductions  
Common greetings  
Grammar: *nan* (“what”)  
Hiragana: *sa – so*
- 1/18 (Tu) Part One – Review (pp. 10-16)  
Numbers 1–10  
Grammar: topic particle *wa*  
Hiragana: *ta – to*
- 1/20 (Th) Part Two (pp. 17-19)  
Ask and tell telephone numbers  
Numbers up to 99  
Tell one’s age  
Hiragana: *na – no*
- 1/25 (Tu) Ask and tell school year and major  
Review numbers  
Review self-introduction  
Hiragana: *ha – ho*
- 1/27 (Th) Ask and tell dates  
Hiragana: *ma – mo*
- 2/1 (Tu) Part Two (pp. 20-22)  
Ask and tell the time  
Hiragana: *ya – yo*
- 2/3 (Th) Part Two (pp. 23-25)  
Talk about schedules  
Hiragana: *ra – ro*

- 2/8 (Tu) Part Two (pp. 26-29)  
Hiragana: small *ya-yu-yo* combinations  
Hiragana: *wa – n*, double consonants (small *tsu*)
- 2/10 (Th) Review Parts One and Two (pp. 30-33)  
Hiragana: long vowels  
Reading and writing practice
- 2/15 (Tu) Part Three (pp. 34-40)  
Daily activities  
Grammar: Verbs of daily actions in present affirmative and negative  
Direct object particle *o*  
Reading and writing practice
- 2/17 (Th) Part Three (pp. 34-40)  
Daily activities  
Reading and writing practice
- 2/22 (Tu) Part Three (pp. 34-40)  
Ask and tell what time one does a daily activity  
Grammar: time particle *ni*
- 2/24 (Th) Part Three (pp. 34-40)  
Ask and tell what time one does a daily activity
- 3/1 (Tu) Part Three (pp. 34-40)  
Ask and tell where one goes and at what time  
Grammar: destination particle *e*
- 3/3 (Th) Part Three (pp. 41-43)  
Talk about what you like and dislike  
Grammar: subject particle *ga*  
Katakana: *a – o*
- 3/8 (Tu) Part Three – Review (pp. 44-50)  
Katakana: *ka – ko*
- 3/10 (Th) Midterm exam
- 3/15 (Tu) Part Four (pp. 52-54)  
Talk about what one did  
Grammar: past affirmative and negative form of verbs  
Katakana: *sa – so*
- 3/17 (Th) Part Four (pp. 55-56)  
Days of the week  
Talk about when one did things  
Talk about weekly schedules  
Katakana: *ta – to*
- 3/22 (Tu) Part Four (p. 57)  
Talk about weather  
Katakana: *na – no*
- 3/24 (Th) Part Four – Review (pp. 58-62)  
Katakana: *ha – ho*

3/27 – 4/2 Spring Break

4/5 (Tu) Part Five (pp. 63-79)

Ask and tell location

Grammar: *doko* (“where”)

Katakana: *ma – mo*

4/7 (Th) Part Five (p. 63-79)

Numbers up to 9,999

Ask and tell prices

Grammar: *ikura* (“how much”)

Katakana: *ya – yo; ra – ro*

4/12 (Tu) Part Five (pp. 63-79)

Ask and tell what is available

Part Five – Review

Katakana: *wa, o, n*

4/14 (Th) Chapter 1, Section 1A (pp. 82-85)

Ask and tell nationalities and languages spoken

Katakana practice

4/19 (Tu) Chapter 1, Section 1A (pp. 86-91)

Grammar: possessive particle *no*; repetition particle *mo*

Katakana practice

4/21 (Th) Semester Review

5/3 (Tu) Final exam: Parts 1 – 5 & Chapter 1, Section 1A

10:45 AM – 1:15 PM