# 日本語 105 Japanese for Heritage Speakers ELJ105.9709 (85213) Syllabus

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#### Instructor's information

**Instructor:** Tomonori Nagano, Ph.D.

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Preferred communication: E-mail is preferred, with which you should expect my response within 24 hours.

Also, please talk to me after class if you have any question about the class.

Class Schedule: Monday 2:15pm-4:15pm (Room: B-234S)

#### Course goals and objectives

Catalog Course Description: This course is designed to help heritage speakers of Japanese to enhance their reading and writing competence of the target language in the formal and high-level register. The class especially focuses on Japanese grammar, usage, and students' critical reading and writing strategies in Japanese through project-based assignments.

Section Description: In this class, you will improve your literacy skills in Japanese, especially your knowledge in kanji and written Japanese (i.e., reading and writing). The target proficiency levels will vary depending on your previous knowledge in Japanese, but it is crucial that you demonstrate significant progress in the way you write and read in Japanese, and understand kanji characters by the end of the semester. More specifically, after completing this class, you will be able to

- demonstrate command of the kanji writing system;
- demonstrate command of frequently used vocabulary words, especially those in the formal register;
- communicate in Japanese with greater fluency in a wide range of registers;
- demonstrate your ability to read formal and informal texts of different genres in Japanese;
- write compositions using appropriate Japanese syntax and writing systems (hiragana, katakana, and kanji);
- make presentations about aspects of Japanese culture and tradition that students have researched.

#### Flexible Core Objectives: World Cultures and Global Issues

The course bears 3 credits that count as Flexible Core (World Cultures and Global Issues) of the CUNY's new general education curriculum (a.k.a. Pathways). Note that students can receive only up to 6 credits in one Flexible Core areas (a.k.a. buckets) and all elementary-level modern language courses are paired (i.e., you must take 102 in order to receive credits from 101). In other words, you may not be able to take any other World Culture and Global Issue class if you intend to receive Flexible Core credits from 102.

- Gather, interpret, and assess information from a variety of sources and points of view.
- Evaluate evidence and arguments critically or analytically.
- Produce well-reasoned written or oral arguments using evidence to support conclusions.
- Identify and apply the fundamental concepts and methods of a discipline or interdisciplinary field exploring world cultures or global issues.
- Analyze culture, globalization, or global cultural diversity, and describe an event or process from more than one point
  of view.

 Speak, read, and write a language other than English, and use that language to respond to cultures other than one's own.

## Textbook, grading, and other class logistics

**Textbooks:** Depending on the average proficiency level of the class, one of the following textbooks will be used for the semester.

- Required textbooks
  - Kamada, O. (2012). Authentic Japanese: Progressing from Intermediate to Advanced (新中級から上級への日本語). The Japan Times, Tokyo, Japan. ISBN: 9784789014625; Course: ELJ105; Price: 3,360 yen.
  - Oka, M. (2009). Tobira: Gateway to Advanced Japanese Learning Through Content and Multimedia (上級のとびら). Kuroshio Publishers, Tokyo, Japan. ISBN: 9784874244470; Course: ELJ105; Price: \$60.00.
  - Oka, M. (2010). Tobira: Power Up Your KANJI: 800 Basic KANJI as a Gateway to Advanced Japanese (上級のとびら: 漢字ワークブック). Kuroshio Publishers, Tokyo, Japan. ISBN: 9784874244876; Course: ELJ105; Price: \$42.00.
- Optional materials: see the reference list below.

**Grades:** The weekly homework will be posted on the course website. **No late submission of homework is allowed.** In terms of grade, your final grade will be determined based on the following evaluation points.

- Midterm project 20%
- Final exam 20%
- Quizzes (10 quizzes x 2.5) 25%
- Homework (10 HW x 1) 10%
- Essays (10 labs x 1) 10%
- Presentation 15%
- ► Grade distributions: A: 95-100%, A<sup>-</sup>: 90-94%, B<sup>+</sup>: 86-89%, B: 83-85%, B<sup>-</sup>: 80-82%, C<sup>+</sup>: 76-79%, C: 73-75%, C<sup>-</sup>: 70-72%, D<sup>+</sup>: 66-69%, D: 63-65%, D<sup>-</sup>: 60-62%, F: -59%, WU: Unofficial withdraw ( $\approx$  F), W: Withdraw

#### Weekly schedule (subject to change)

Week	Торіс
Week 1 [Mon, September 15th, 2014]	講義概要 / Course overview じこしょうかい 自己紹介 / Self-introduction にほんこのうりょくひょうか 日本語能力評価 / Diagnostics assessment
Week 2 [Mon, September 22nd, 2014]	日本の地理 / Japanese geography (Ch.1) - 名所 / famous places in Japan, 名物 / local specialty, 行事 / events, 祭り / festivals, 昔話 / folktales Quiz 1: 2.5% / Essay 1: 1% / HW 1: 1%
Week 3 [Mon, September 29th, 2014]	日本語のスピーチスタイル / Japanese speech styles (Ch.2)  ***********************************
Week 4 [Mon, October 6th, 2014]	日本語のビジネス文書 / Japanese business documents - 概要 / overview (社内文書, 社外文書, ビジネス e メール, ファックス送信状) - What is a business letter? - Basic format of a business letter

No class [Mon, October 13th, 2014] Midterm	- 社内文書 / Internal letters - 楽議書 / application, 報告書 / report, 議事録 / minutes, 企画書 / proposal, 始末書 / apology - 履歴書 / Japanese resume and カバーレター/ cover letter Quiz 3: 2.5% / Essay 3: 1% / HW 3: 1%  Columbus Day (College is closed)  Midterm project 20% (due on October 14)
Week 5 [Mon, October 20th, 2014]	日本語のビジネス文書 / Japanese business documents - 社外文書 / External letters - 依頼状 / letter of request, 詫び状 / letter of apology, 通知/案内状 / minutes, 回答文書 / letter of reply, and 請求督促状 / letter of request for payment or collection notice - ビジネス e メールの書き方 / Business e-mail Quiz 4: 2.5% / Essay 4: 1% / HW 4: 1%
Week 6 [Mon, October 27th, 2014]	Special event (TBD) Essay 5: 1% / HW 5: 1%
Week 7 [Mon, November 3rd, 2014]	ゲスト講演 / Guest speaker Quiz 5: 2.5% / Essay 5: 1%
Week 8 [Mon, November 10th, 2014]	日本と宗教 / Japanese and religions (Ch.6) - 宗教 / religion, 習慣 / customs, 行事 / religious events, 信仰 / believes, 神話 / myths Quiz 6: 2.5% / Essay 6: 1% / HW 6: 1%
Week 9 [Mon, November 17th, 2014]	日本の教育 / Japanese education system (Ch. 9)  - 日本の教育制度 / characteristics and problems of the Japanese education system  が(れましゃぎ)  - 学歴主義 / diplomaism, 受験戦争 / entrance exam hell  いっく  - 塾 / cram schools, いじめ / bullying, and 登校拒否 / school phobia  Quiz 7: 2.5% / Essay 7: 1% / HW 7: 1%
Week 10 [Mon, November 24th, 2014]	日本の歴史 / Japanese history (Ch. 11) - 輸入の歴史 / imported histories *** *** *** - 織田信長 / Oda Nobunaga, 豊臣秀吉 / Toyotomi Hideyoshi, 徳川家康 / Tokugawa Ieyasu Quiz 8: 2.5% / Essay 8: 1% / HW 8: 1%
Final week [December 9 - 15, 2014]	Final exam

### Policies

Classroom policies: The following policies have been instituted to ensure an optimal learning experience for all students:

- Please arrive on time.
- Please prepare for each class meeting by completing all writing/reading assignments beforehand.
- Please turn your cell phone to silence during class.
- Please turn off your cell phone during the exam and the quiz.

Valuing LaGuardia's Diversity: As a college community we represent a world of perspectives on race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, ability, religion, and nationality, to name a few. I concur with the College's Declaration of Pluralism, if you have any suggestions in helping me to create a welcoming classroom environment, please tell me.

**Rules for Personal Conduct:** You are expected to obey the rules and regulations of the College about conduct. Disorderly or indecent behavior is not appropriate in a college setting. It is a violation of college rules and is not acceptable.

The student attendance policy: As stated in the college catalog: "Attendance in class is a requirement and will be considered in the evaluation of student performance. Instructors are required to keep an official record of student attendance. The maximum number of unexcused absences is limited to 15% of the number of class hours. Note: Absences are counted from the first day of class even if they are a result of late registration or change of program" (117).

The academic dishonesty policy: As stated in the catalog: "Academic Dishonesty is prohibited in the City University of New York and is punishable by penalties ranging from a grade of 'F' on a given test, research paper or assignment, to an 'F' in the course or suspension or expulsion from the College. Academic Dishonesty includes:

- Cheating
- Plagiarism
- Internet Plagiarism

- Obtaining Unfair Advantages
- Falsification of Records and Official Documents
- Misconduct in Internships (117)

Policy on assigning the grade of Incomplete: As stated in the college catalogue: "The Incomplete grade may be awarded to students who have not completed all of the required course work but for whom there is a reasonable expectation of satisfactory completion. A student who is otherwise in good standing in a course defined as complying with the college attendance policy and maintaining a passing average but who has not completed at most two major assignments or examinations by the end of the course may request an incomplete grade. To be eligible, such a student must provide, before the instructor submits grades for the course, a documented reason, satisfactory to the instructor, for not having completed the assignment on time. Instructors giving IN grades must inform students in writing of the conditions under which they may receive passing grades. Departments may designate certain courses in which no incomplete grades may be awarded."(120).

Declaration of pluralism: The Education and Language Acquisition Department embraces diversity. We must respect each other regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, gender, religion, age, sexual orientation, disability and social class. For detailed information regarding the policy, please refer to Student Handbook 2011-2012 (p.89).