



Bridgewater State University

Syllabus Summer 2023

LAJA 101: Elementary Japanese I

May 29 – June 23

Instructor: TBA

Credits: 3

Prerequisite

Open to students with no previous training in Japanese and to others on assignment by placement test.

Textbooks

The course will primarily use

Marugoto: Japanese language and culture Starter A1 Coursebook for communicative language competences / まるごと 日本のことばと文化 入門 A1 りかい (JF Standard coursebook)独立行政法人国際交流基金(著) (ISBN 978-4384057539)

IRODORI: Japanese for Life in Japan A1/生活の日本語(JF Standard coursebook)独立行政法人国際交流基金(著) [入門 | いろどり 生活の日本語 \(ipf.go.jp\)](http://ipf.go.jp)

as textbook.

**Note: The course schedule below is tentative and subject to minor changes.*

Course Overview

This is an introductory course in modern spoken and written Japanese, designed for beginners to develop fundamental skills in areas of speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Students will study language and culture together and complete the elementary level study of Japanese in the 15 lessons.

The course helps students to develop both communicative and cultural competency through comprehensive contextualized instructions. On the communication level, students will be able to handle elementary daily conversations taking place in different scenarios, such as giving self-introduction, ordering food in restaurant and having conversations with shop assistant. On the cultural level, students will be exposed to key cultural topics such as Japanese traditional annual event, seasonal landscape, Japanese food and Japanese traditions such as tea ceremony.

All the contextual learning will consist of four key learning dimensions, including: conversation, grammar, reading and writing. The course will introduce the basic grammar and the sentence structure as well as the model conversations taking place in different scenarios. Student will master related knowledge through individual assignment or group projects. Meanwhile, the course will also systematically introduce the Japanese writing system, including Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji and assign several reading assignments to build-up students' reading and writing abilities. Reading assignments and short paragraph writing assignment should help students to foster their comprehension and writing ability on related course topics.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Read, write, and type Hiragana, Katakana, and Kanji.
- Understand the basic grammar and sentence patterns.
- Greet in different time and situation.
- Introduce yourself, family members and friends.
- Make a daily schedule, talk about your plans and arrangements.
- Shop at market and dine in a restaurant.
- Express your feelings, gratitude, and apologies.
- Write simple memos and e-mails.
- Read and understand simple essays and stories with the dictionaries.

Grading Scale and Notes

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

Assessment	Final Grade
Attendance and Class Participation	15%
Assignment	60%
Quiz	5%
Midterm exam	10%
Final Examination	10%

The following definitions will be used as a guide for the assignment of grades:

GRADE	DESCRIPTION	4-POINT EQUIVALENT	100-POINT
A	Superior	4.0	95-100
A-	Superior	3.7	90-94
B+	Good	3.3	87-89
B	Good	3.0	83-86
B-	Good	2.7	80-82
C+	Satisfactory	2.3	77-79
C	Satisfactory	2.0	73-76
C-	Satisfactory	1.7	70-72
D	Poor	1.0	65-69
F	Failure	0.0	0-64

Course Schedule (Tentative and Subject to Change)

Week	Lecture	Reading/Assignments/ Examination
1	Course Overview Japanese Syllabary1 Hiragana and Katakana	Assignment1 Hiragana and Katakana
	Japanese Syllabary2 Type in Japanese with IME	Quiz Hiragana and Katakana
	Japanese Grammar Category Daily Greetings	Group Assignment 1 Daily greeting video
	Sentence Patterns Self-introduction	Assignment 2 Self-introduction Video
2	Noun Sentences Seasons' Greetings	Group Assignment 2 Seasons' greetings Video
	Noun Sentences My Family and Friends	Assignment 3 Introduce my family / best friend with a photo
	Verb Sentences and Case Particle My Daily Life	Assignment 4 Video on my typical day
	Verb Sentences and Case Particle Our Weekend's Plan	Group Assignment 3 Present a group weekend's plan
	Adjective sentences Sense and feelings	Group Assignment 4 Present a seasonal landscape of Japan
3	Adjective sentences Climate and weather	Midterm exam
	Scenario Learning Shop at Market	Assignment 5 Compositions with photo My favorite shop and the shopping last week
	Scenario Learning Dine in a Restaurant	Assignment 6 Write an email inviting your friend(s) to a

		dinner
	Scenario Learning Shop at a Department Store	Assignment 7 Compositions with photo My weekend shopping at a Department Store
	Scenario Learning Visit a university	Assignment 8 Compositions with photo A Visit to a university
4	Scenario Learning Go to the Cinema	Assignment 9 Compositions with photo My favorite film
	Scenario Learning Visit a university	Assignment 10 Compositions with photo A Visit to a university
	Plan a trip to Japan 1	Group Assignment 5 Present a historic site of Japan
	Plan a trip to Japan 2	Group Assignment 6 Present my travelling plan for a visit to Japan
	Final exam	

Reading List:

Week	Reading List
1	Marugoto: A1 Coursebook P21-34
	IRODORI: A1 Coursebook P42-43
	IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P44-53
	IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P81-97
2	Marugoto: A1 Coursebook P35-50
	IRODORI: A1 Coursebook P205
	Marugoto: A1 Coursebook P83-98 IRODORI: A1 Coursebook

	<p>P232-236 P240-256</p>
	<p>Marugoto: A1 Coursebook P101-116</p> <p>IRODORI: A1 Coursebook P257-259 P293-297</p>
	<p>IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P206-208</p>
	<p>Midterm exam</p>
3	<p>IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P 288-292</p>
	<p>IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P398-413,417-451</p>
	<p>IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P178-181,319-326</p>
	<p>IRODORI:A1 Coursebook P332-335,393-394</p>
4	<p>Marugoto: A1 Coursebook P134-141</p>
	<p>Marugoto: A1 Coursebook P142-148</p>
	<p>IRODORI: A1 Coursebook P351-357,363-368</p>
	<p>IRODORI: A1 Coursebook P499-504</p>
	<p>Final exam</p>