

Kwansei Gakuin University
Intensive Japanese Language and Culture Study Program
Beginner class

Course Description

The goal of this program is to develop basic Japanese proficiency which enables students to communicate with Japanese people in various ordinary situations and to deepen their understanding of Japanese culture. Beginner class will; 1) teach students to understand language used in everyday life (eating, shopping etc.), 2) provide students with the tools needed to describe their surroundings using simple sentences and expressions, and make presentations in Japanese. This class is for students who have not yet attained Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) N5 level, approximately 50 hours of Japanese language study, or CEFR A1 level. Students are expected to be able to read Hiragana and Katakana before they start the program.

Course Materials

No required textbooks. Students will be given handouts and materials that instructors prepare.

Recommended textbooks

Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture, Starter A1 (Coursebook for Communicative Language Activities)

Course Objectives

At the end of the program, students will be able to communicate with Japanese people in the following situations:

- ✓ First meeting
 - Exchange greetings
 - Introduce yourselves
 - Talk about hobbies and favorite things in Japan
- ✓ Go for lunch
 - Talk about favorite foods, dishes and drinks
 - Read menu
 - Order foods and drinks at the restaurant
- ✓ Go shopping
 - Ask shopkeepers whether they have something you want to buy
 - Read prices
 - Talk about what you want to buy and make comments on products at the shop

- ✓ Travel in Japan
 - Ask people for directions to your desired destination
 - Talk about places you want to visit
- ✓ Go out with Japanese friends
 - Invite your Japanese friends to go out
 - Ask your Japanese friends where they want to go
- ✓ Talk about your daily and weekly schedule
- ✓ Write a letter to your teacher
- ✓ Give a presentation about your own “Cool Japan”

You will have opportunities to talk with your Japanese language partners about these topics and go out with them to practice in actual situations what you have learnt in class.

Cultural Knowledge

At the end of this program, students will have in-depth understanding of Japanese traditional culture through the following lectures and activities:

- Lectures on Japanese traditional New Year ceremony, Japanese cuisine, and tea ceremonies.
- Field trip to Kyoto where you will visit famous temples and experience making traditional Japanese sweets and Yuzen-zome dyeing.
- Experience Noh-drama and try Sho-do (calligraphy) with help from Kwansei Gakuin University students.