Japanese 210 Beginning Kanji
Fall 2012

Fridays  2:15-4:15 pm     Instructor: David Henry
Location: Duckering 341     Office: 612a
Office hours(subject to change): Tuesdays and Thursdays 4-5pm or by appt.
Contact: dahenry2@alaska.edu or 474-7128

COURSE DESCRIPTION
Japanese orthography, which features three different alphabets, presents a distinct challenge to
language learners. Kanji, or Chinese characters, in particular are demanding because of their
number (in the thousands) and complexity (one character may have several different readings,
several different meanings). But they can be mastered with perseverance and regular study. This
course aims to begin students on that road.

In this class we will learn 336 basic kanji from the textbook and workbook Kanji Look and Learn.
For each kanji, we will memorize how to draw them, their meaning and readings (both on and
kun), their proper stroke order, their component parts (radical and base), and several common
words using that kanji. Just as importantly we will also learn about the history of kanji, increase
our Japanese vocabulary, learn basic translation strategies, practice writing with brushes, and
learn several radicals which will help us decipher unknown kanji.

In Japan, students learn the 1,947 basic kanji across the span of six years from the 6th through the
12th grades. This means that students only learn one kanji per day which makes the task
manageable. Regular, short periods of study across the months or even years is a key to success,
“cramming” does not work. Strategies for moving studied kanji from short term to long term
memory are also key and we will develop these strategies as well.

MATERIALS
*You should also have a good kanji dictionary, either electronic or paperback.
*For checking correct stroke order I recommend:
http://kakijun.main.jp/
*We will also use kanji lists available at:
www.kantango.com (see the lists under username “dahenry”)
*small dry erase board and markers
*notecards to make flashcards (5X7 recommended) and container for flashcards

COURSE OBJECTIVES:
By the end of the semester students will be able to:
*master 368 kanji (know meanings, on & kun readings, and associated vocabulary)
*master stroke order, even for unknown kanji
*make educated guesses about unknown kanji based on context and radicals
*attempt rudimentary translations
*be proficient at looking up unknown kanji through a variety of different methods
*understand the basics of shodo (書道) and accompanying ‘kanji culture’
GRADING

Quizzes: 60% (roughly 1 week)
Participation 20% (includes workbook checks and homework sheets)
Final Exam 20%

Grading is as follows:
A+ 100 – 97  B + 89 – 87  C + 79 – 77  D + 69 – 67  F  59 and below
A  96 – 93  B  86 – 83  C  76 – 73  D  66 – 63

As a rule, no make-ups will be given for participation, etc unless prior arrangements are made or there is a signed doctor note.

COURSE POLICIES

Appropriate class behavior. You are welcome to bring a drink to class, as long as you clean up after yourself. Side conversations are not acceptable. I expect you to be courteous to classmates and professor at all times. Cell phones should be turned off, and I reserve the right to answer any phone that rings in class. If mine rings, you have the right to ridicule me.

Students with disabilities. UAF makes appropriate accommodations for individuals with disabilities who have been documented by the Office of Disability Services (203 Whitaker Building, 474-7043). Students with learning or other disabilities who may need classroom accommodations are encouraged to make an appointment to obtain the appropriate documentation if they do not have it. Please meet with me during office hours so that I can collaborate with the Office of Disability Services to provide the appropriate accommodations and supports to assist you in meeting the goals of the course.

Student support services. UAF is committed to equal opportunity for all students. Students who are the first in their families to attempt a four-year college degree, or students whose incomes are low, have opportunities for tutorial and other forms of support from the office of Student Support Services. Please make an appointment with Student Support Services at 474-2644.

Student code of conduct. As a UAF student, you are subject to UAF’s Honor Code:

"Students will not collaborate on any quizzes, in-class exams, or take-home exams that will contribute to their grade in a course, unless permission is granted by the instructor of the course. Only those materials permitted by the instructor may be used to assist in quizzes and examinations.

Violations of the Honor Code will result in a failing grade for the assignment and, ordinarily, for the course in which the violation occurred. Moreover, violation of the Honor Code may result in suspension or expulsion.

Tentative Schedule

☐8月31日（金） Class orientation, lecture “What is Kanji,” study Kanji Lesson #1 (16 kanji)

☐9月7日（金） Quiz over #1; Study #2, #3
  Student presentation #2: ___________________________
  Student presentation #3: ___________________________
Lecture/activity, “Radicals: Keys to Understanding Kanji”

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>9月14日</td>
<td>Quiz over #2-3; Study #4, #5</td>
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<td>Student presentation #4: __________________________</td>
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<td>Student presentation #5: __________________________</td>
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<td>Activity: Kanji Golf</td>
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<td>➤ Note: Friday January 30 is the deadline for 100% refund of tuition and fees</td>
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<td>9月21日</td>
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<td>Student presentation #7: __________________________</td>
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<td>書道（Shodo): Practicing Japanese Calligraphy #1</td>
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<td>9月28日</td>
<td>Quiz over #6-7; Review #1-7</td>
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<td>10月5日</td>
<td>Review Quiz over #1-7; Study #8, #9</td>
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<td>Student presentation #8: __________________________</td>
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<td>手習い（tenarai): Learning by Copying</td>
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<td>10月12日</td>
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<td>書道（Shodo): Practicing Japanese Calligraphy #2</td>
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<td>10月19日</td>
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<td>書道（Shodo): Practicing Japanese Calligraphy #3</td>
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<td>10月26日</td>
<td>Quiz over #12-13; Study #14, #15</td>
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<td>Student presentation #14: __________________________</td>
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Activity: Looking up Unknown Kanji #1

11月2日（金）
Quiz over #14-15; Review #8-15
Student presentation #8: ___________________________
Student presentation #9: ___________________________
Student presentation #10: _________________________
Student presentation #11: _________________________
Student presentation #12: _________________________
Student presentation #13: _________________________
Student presentation #14: _________________________
Student presentation #15: _________________________

11月9日（金）
Review Quiz over #8-15; Study #16, #17
Student presentation #16: ___________________________
Student presentation #17: ___________________________
“Reading Signs in Kanji 1”

11月16日（金）
Quiz over #16-17; Study #18, #19
Student presentation #18: ___________________________
Student presentation #19: ___________________________
“Reading Signs in Kanji 2”

11月23日（金）
Quiz over #18-19; Study #20, #21
Student presentation #20: ___________________________
Student presentation #21: ___________________________
Activity: Take Practice JLPT*, level 3, kanji section (no grade taken)
*JLPT=Japanese Language Proficiency Test / 日本語能力試験

11月30日（金）
Quiz over #20-21; Study #22, #23
Student presentation #22: ___________________________
Student presentation #23: ___________________________
Activity: Looking up Unknown Kanji #3

12月7日（金）
Quiz over #20-21; Review #16-21
Student presentation #16: ___________________________
Student presentation #17: ___________________________
Student presentation #18: ___________________________
Student presentation #19: ___________________________
Student presentation #20: ___________________________
Student presentation #21: ___________________________

Final examination: December 14 (Friday); 1-3pm (tentatively)
Covers Lessons 1-21 (336 kanji)