

Japanese 431: Studies in Japanese Culture Fall 2009

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00 – 3:30 pm

Starting in Brooks 104b

Instructor: David Henry

Office: Gruening 612a

Office hours(subject to change): Monday 4:00-5:00 and Thurs. 4:00-5:00 or by appt.

Contact: fdah1@uaf.edu or 474-7128

TEXTBOOK:

Coursepack on E-reserve, including readings from 「読解を始めるあなたへ」 日本語教育研究所
編著 2004 Tokyo: 凡人社

Supplemental material:

Haig, John H. 1999. *The Compact Nelson Japanese-English Character Dictionary*.

Tokyo: Tuttle. OR a suitable electronic dictionary

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course will be conducted in Japanese and is designed to help students increase their knowledge of Japanese society while furthering their Japanese language skills. Instruction will especially focus on developing students speaking and reading skills and class will be intensely oral.

COURSE GOALS

- provide students with a Japanese speaking environment in which to interact, enabling them to use and increase their Japanese speaking skills
- help students gain confidence in their oral abilities by presenting on topics of their own choosing in Japanese
- expose students to a variety of written materials in Japanese, including authentic materials and help students gain confidence and ability to read in Japanese
- train students to be confident in reading Japanese on their own, including how to look up kanji and how to read for essential meaning in Japanese

* *Prerequisites:* Students **must** have received a C or better in JPN 302 at UAF, have studied abroad in Japan or have the permission of the instructor

Language Lab. Gruening 609, hours TBA. We have computers with internet and printing access available for language students. We also have language-specific tutors who can help you with your work; many of them are native speakers, and are happy to act as a conversation partner with you. I will announce their hours.

COURSE POLICIES

Student responsibilities

- Participation in class interaction is a principal element of the course and is required. See Evaluation below.

- Preparation. When material is assigned for home review, students must come prepared. Your preparation will have a direct effect on your participation, which is graded, and on your quiz grade. See Evaluation below.

GRADING

Participation	20%
Presentations	30% (6 presentations X 5% each)
Homework	20%
Quizzes/Tests	30%

From this year, UAF has returned to +/- grading. Grading is as follows:

A+	100 – 97
A	96 – 93
A -	92 – 90
B +	89 – 87
B	86 – 83
B -	82 – 80
C +	79 – 77
C	76 – 73
C -	72 – 70
D +	69 – 67
D	66 – 63
D -	62 – 60
F	59 and below

As a rule, no make-ups will be given for participation, presentation grades, etc unless prior arrangements are made or there is a signed doctor note. Homework: I'll check in class to see if you have done it and will subtract points if it's not complete. You can submit it by the following day (by 3pm) for 75% credit. Homework submitted later than that will receive no credit but will still be checked.

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."