



University  
of Exeter



# Evening language programme 2025/26

## Course title: Japanese Upper-Intermediate – Part 3

### Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to help the learner to develop Japanese reading, listening, written and oral skills at upper-intermediate level (B1/N3-4 level) and for communication purposes. Therefore, by the end of the course participants will be able to:

1. understand the main ideas of complex Japanese text on both concrete and abstract topics.
2. interact with a degree of spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party.
3. talk about a wide range of topics and express their own opinions by making full use of the beginner-level Japanese grammar patterns learnt in previous courses.

Participants will further develop reading, listening, speaking and writing skills through a series of task-oriented sessions and will be provided with informal formative feedback during contact hours.

In seminars, participants will have to engage in practical exercises and group interaction in order to develop relevant language-specific learning strategies. The role of the instructor is to facilitate this process, provide useful tools and encourage participants to become independent learners and basic users of the languages too.

### Language-specific information:

There are around 124,000,000 native speakers of Japanese and it is the national language of Japan. As a language isolate, Japanese syntax and phonology is very different from other languages. No other country uses Japanese as a first language, although there are many Japanese communities across the world.

The writing system makes use of two syllabaries: Hiragana for pure Japanese words and Katakana for borrowed words. Both syllabaries are used together with Kanji, which is composed of characters from Chinese. The written language is also closely tied to iconic elements of Japanese culture such as manga and possibly the first ever novel: The Tale of the Genji.

### Prerequisite:

This non-credit bearing weekly course is intended for learners, who have completed our “Intermediate Part 2” course or equivalent.

If you have not taken any previous seminars of this level, please refer to the following essential forms and grammars that we have covered;

Beginner Japanese Grammar

- e.g.,
- Making hypothetical statement ~たら
  - Speaking of natural/habitual results ~と
  - Nominalising sentences ~の
  - Giving more than one reason ~し、

## **Coursebook and/or learning resources:**

WEEKLY J book 1 -日本語で話す 6 週間- (WEEKLY J book 1: Talk in Japanese for 6 weeks w/2CDs).

[WEEKLY J book1 日本語で話す 6 週間 | にほんごの凡人社 出版社サイト](#)

(Official website)

The instructor will provide additional resources in class.