



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2025/26

Course title: Japanese Beginners Part 3

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of this course is to build on the knowledge gained during the first 20 weeks of study and to help participants expand their ability to use Japanese in practical, everyday situations. By the end of the course, participants will be able to:

- understand and use a wider range of everyday expressions and simple phrases needed to manage common situations and personal needs.
- ask for and give more detailed personal information, including talking about daily routines, preferences, and plans.
- interact in short exchanges on familiar topics, provided the conversation partner speaks clearly and the context is predictable.

Participants will develop some basic 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 participants, who have completed a 20-week course for beginners (40 contact hours) or equivalent.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

Continued study of:

Japanese for Busy People I: Kana Version 1

Revised 4th Edition, Paperback (25 Aug 2022)

ISBN: 978-1568366203

**Please make sure to purchase 'Kana Version', not 'Romanized Version' and please purchase the revised 4th Edition!*

Please do not purchase the book until the course has been confirmed.