



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2026/27

Course title: Japanese Post-Beginners Part I - on campus

Course descriptor/objectives

The aim of the course is to help the learner to continue to develop basic speaking, writing, listening and reading skills, extend vocabulary and consolidate grammar for communication purposes. By the end of the course (Part I & II) participants will be able to:

1. Understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment).
2. Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters.
3. Can describe in simple terms aspects of their background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

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 Japanese language learners, who have completed a two-term beginner course (20 weeks/40 contact hours) or equivalent. Participants need to be able to read and write all basic Japanese alphabets (Hiragana & Katakana) to follow the class.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

Continuation (from Lesson 10) of: *Japanese for Busy People I: Kana Version 1*

Revised 4th Edition, Paperback (25 Aug 2022)

ISBN: 978-1568366203

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