



University
of Exeter



Evening language programme 2024/25

Course title: Japanese Intermediate – Part II

Course descriptor/objectives

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

1. Read texts such as news, articles or reports for relevant information, and understand films, instructions or advice.
2. Write emails and make notes on a wide range of topics
3. Follow or give a presentation on a specific topic.
4. Communicate in Japanese on a wide range of topics and speak fluently with native Japanese speakers in a conversational manner.

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 I” course or equivalent.

Coursebook and/or learning resources:

Japanese for Busy People II, Revised 4th edition (not 3rd!).