

**Course Syllabus**  
**JPN 506 First-Year Japanese I**  
**Spring 2010**

| <u>Classes</u>  | <u>Tu &amp; Th</u> | <u>@RLM</u> | <u>M, W, &amp; F</u> | <u>@RLM</u> |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|
| #31605 (pink)   | 11:00 - 12:30      | 7.116       | 11:00 - 10:00        | 5.114       |
| #31610 (blue)   | 11:00 - 12:30      | 7.116       | 12:00 - 11:00        | 7.112       |
| #31615 (purple) | 2:00 - 3:30        | 5.126       | 2:00 - 3:00          | 6.116       |
| #31620 (yellow) | 2:00 - 3:30        | 5.126       | 3:00 - 4:00          | 7.112       |

| <u>Teaching Stuff</u>      | <u>Office</u> | <u>Tel</u> | <u>E-mail</u>  | <u>Office Hours</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------|--|---------------------|
| <b>Instructor</b>          |               |            |  |                     |
| Midori Tanaka              | WCH 4.114     | 475-6033   | <a href="mailto:midori@mail.utexas.edu">midori@mail.utexas.edu</a>             | TBA                 |
| <b>Teaching Assistants</b> |               |            |  |                     |
| Kanae Hirazawa             | WMB1.114      | 475-6796   | <a href="mailto:kanaehirazawa@gmail.com">kanaehirazawa@gmail.com</a>           | TBA                 |
| Tomoko P. Sakuma           | WMB1.114      | 475-6796   | <a href="mailto:sakumatomoko@mail.utexas.edu">sakumatomoko@mail.utexas.edu</a> | TBA                 |

\*When sending an email, send it to all of us. In addition, TAs may not reply you.

### **I. Course Objectives**

- 1) To acquire four skills in the Japanese language:
  - Listening: Ability to understand simple every day conversation.
  - Speaking: Ability to handle some survival situations through circumlocutions and repetitions.
  - Reading: Ability to read simple, short reading materials including semi-authentic materials.
  - Writing: Ability to write simple sentences learned in class using the appropriate *hiragana*, *katakana*, and *kanji*.
- 2) To acquire a fundamental knowledge of Japanese grammatical structures.
- 3) To acquire some knowledge of the Japanese culture.

### **II. Required Course Materials**

- 1) Textbook: "Yookoso! An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese," By *Yasu-Hiko Tohsaku*, 3rd edition
- 2) Workbook/Laboratory Manual for *Yookoso! An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese*, 3rd edition
  - You should be able to access both textbook and workbook at the PCL reserve desk.
- 3) Audio CDs: "An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese," By *Yasu-Hiko Tohsaku*, 3rd edition
  - You can also listen to the CDs through "Real Player." Log on to <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/itsaud/> Password is *hamasaki*. Call 471-0407 if a different password is requested.
- 4) Course Packet of handouts including homework assignments etc. is available at University Coop
- 5) Visit <http://www.laits.utexas.edu/japanese/>

### III. Course Structure

- Attend all classes.
  - Prepare for class according to the schedule. Do not do your homework in class.
  - Read your e-mails daily since important announcements will be sent.
- 1) Lecture class (Tu and Th)
    - Come prepared. Read appropriate textbook assignments and do the grammar exercises and activities before class. Do not read the textbook during class.
    - Brief grammar explanations and grammar exercises will be given.
    - Reading and some writing practice, including *hiragana*, *katakana*, and *kanji*, will be given.
    - Japanese cultural information related to the topic will be discussed.
    - Administrative information will be announced.
  - 2) Conversation class (M, W, and F)
    - Dialogues and activities in the textbook will be followed by communicative practice.
    - The sessions will be entirely in Japanese. Questions which require explanations in English should be asked in lecture classes.

### IV. Grading Policy

- Your final course grade is determined in the following way:

|                                     |            |               |
|-------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 1) Attendance & Class Participation | ?%         | A =90-100     |
| 2) Homework                         | 11%        | B+ =87.0-89.9 |
| 3) Vocabulary Quizzes (18-3=15)     | 9%         | B =80-86.9    |
| 4) Writing Quizzes (12-2=10)        | 10%        | C+ =77-79.9   |
| 5) Oral Performance Tests (2)       | 22%        | C =70-76.9    |
| 6) Final Group Skit                 | 8%         | D+ =67.0-69.9 |
| 7) Written Tests (2)                | 20%        | D =60-66.9    |
| 8) Final Written Exam               | <u>20%</u> | F = -59.9     |
|                                     | 100%       |               |

- Plus grade will be assigned if applicable.
- Those who wish to advance to the next level (JPN507) in the future must take this course by letter grade option. (Passing this class by CR will not allow you to take JPN507.)

### V. Course Requirements

- 1) Attendance & Class Participation
  - You are required to attend all classes and to prepare for the class according to the schedule; however, you will not be penalized for your absences. You will receive an extra 2% on your total course grade if you attend all the classes or receive 1 % if you are absent less than three days. Come to class on time since two days of tardiness (coming later or leaving early) counts as one absence. Please attend the class that you are enrolled. Attending a different section will be treated as absence.
  - There will be no make-up for missed course requirements** such as quizzes, tests, etc. listed below. You are allowed to turn in an assignment in advance. You have to submit it (with a note) in class or to your teacher directly; do not simply leave any assignment at your teacher's room or mailbox. You are not allowed to take quizzes and tests either earlier or later than the scheduled time.
  - Your instructor will abide by the above-mentioned rules very strictly and reserves the right to judge whether to allow work to be made up or not in unexpected, extreme, and documented circumstances such as family emergencies.
  - The student must notify the instructor at least 14 days prior to the classes scheduled of dates s/he will be absent to observe religious holy days.
  - No food, No drink, No gum in class. If you carry a cellular phone etc., turn it off.**

- Do not wear outfits nor carry accessories which include Japanese (& Chinese) characters when you take quizzes and tests.
- You are not allowed to use any recording devices (e.g. voice recorder, camera. etc.) in class.

2) Homework -- No late / incomplete homework will count toward your grade.

- You will be given written homework assignments almost every day. Do your homework promptly and carefully. Answer all of the questions even though you are not sure of the correct answer--your instructors can help you with your mistakes but need to have something to correct.
- Write neatly. **Use only pencil** (and erase carefully). **Write your name on each homework sheet.** **If there are more than two pages, staple them on the upper left corner.** Your instructor is not responsible for missing pages when pages are not stapled together.
- Read packet p.4 for *kana* practice homework instruction. Use *kana* practice sheet only (packet p.5-14)
- Read packet p.15-19 for *kanji* practice homework instruction. Use *kanji* practice sheet only (packet p.20-45)
- All homework is due at the beginning of the class.** If you need to submit an assignment earlier than the scheduled date, you must attach a written note which explains which assignment of what date you are turning in earlier. You are encouraged to turn in homework in order to check your understanding of the material even if you are late in submitting.
- The homework will be graded. Late, incomplete, or sloppily done homework may be accepted but will not be counted for credit.
- The instructors may use the marks below when checking homework as well as compositions:
 

|             |              |                 |              |               |
|-------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| H: hiragana | Kt: katakana | Kj: kanji       | Sp: spelling | V: vocabulary |
| P: particle | Gr: grammar  | Fm: form        | Tns: tense   | Ord: order    |
| ?: unclear  | >: insertion | CJ: conjugation | ☞: delete    |               |

In-class composition (a part of homework assignment)

- You are going to use *genkooyooshi* to write compositions, which are included in your packet (p.48-51). Read “how to use *genkooyooshi*” in packet (p.46) as well.
- You have to use at least one page of *genkooyooshi* (20x10) to complete composition. Submitting a composition by the deadline counts for 50% of the total grade. You will lose 10% of the total grade per day for late submission); the rest of the grade depends on content. Short or sloppily written composition may be accepted but will not be counted for full credit.
- Composition guideline/cover page is in your packet (P.47). Please fill out the cover page (p.47) and turn in the page as well whenever you turn in your composition.
- In your composition, you should use only vocabulary words and grammatical structures that you have learned. In addition, use learned kanji as much as possible.
- Write neatly. Use only pencil (and erase carefully).
- Do not consult anyone; write by yourself.

※**You must do all your homework assignment on your own.** Unauthorized collaboration on homework assignments and/or copying someone's homework and turning it in as your own homework will be considered to be cheating and will result in a severe penalty. Allowing other students to use your homework is also considered as scholastic dishonesty.

3) Vocabulary Quizzes -- NO make-up

- You will have 18 vocabulary quizzes. See the schedule for the content of each quiz.
- The three lowest scores will be dropped.

4) Writing Quizzes -- NO make-up

- You will have 12 writing quizzes, which examine your writing skills such as *hiragana*, *katakana*, and *kanji*. The two lowest score will be dropped.

※The above-mentioned quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class, so come to class on time.

5) Oral Performance Tests -- NO make-up / early oral exam

- At the end of chapter 1 and 2, there will be an oral performance exam (e.g. interview & role play) based upon the material that you have been practicing. They will be graded on the basis of communicative skills as well as accuracy, structure, vocabulary, pronunciation, and fluency. The oral test guidelines are included in your course packet (p.55-58).

※You need to sign up for oral tests in advance. Without signing in, you cannot take the tests.

There will be no make up if you missed your scheduled time slot, so come on time (preferably arrive at least 10 minutes early).

6) Final Group Skit -- NO make-up / early skit

- Your partners and you will cooperate to create a skit in Japanese to present in the class. Your instructor will form the groups. Turn in the skit draft and revision according to the schedule. Unless participating in all the group activities such as script writing, performance practice, and presentation, you will receive no credit. If you do not attend the group meetings as scheduled (in class & outside of the class) and/or do not contribute to the group activities such as skit draft writing, you will be removed from your group and will not be able to participate. The skit guidelines and the script cover page are included in your packet (p.59-61).
- Do not consult anyone (except your group members).

7) Written Tests -- NO make-up / early test

- You will have two written tests to examine your understanding of the material that you have learned. Each test will include everything that has been covered.
- Study "Language Notes" and "Culture Notes" etc. in the textbook. (These sections may not be covered in class; however, you are expected to read and know them.)
- The listening section will be conducted in the beginning of the hour, so please come to classroom on time. You will not be able to make up a missed listening section if you come late.

8) Final Written Exam (TBA) -- NO make-up / early final written exam

- All students are expected to take the comprehensive final written exam on the scheduled date and time, which will be announced later. Our final may be a unified exam, which has different test date and time than the ones published in the course schedule. The exam will test your abilities in all language skills such as listening, reading, writing, and grammar within the context of what has been done in this course. The format is similar to that of the previous written tests but it will include a *kanji* and *katakana* section. Be sure to come to the location on time.

※You cannot keep any of the tests and exams. Make sure to return them to your instructor by the end of the class. If they are not returned on the same day, you will not receive any credit for the test/exam. Please go to your instructor's office if you need to look at them further.

## VI. Policy on Scholastic Dishonesty

- The University of Texas guidelines on scholastic dishonesty apply to all requirements in this class.
  - e.g. Copying other students' homework/exam answers.
  - Showing your homework/exam answers to other students.
  - Working homework together.
  - Having someone else write a paper for you or correct your compositions.
- Visit the following web sites for more information.
  - [http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint\\_student.php](http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/sjs/acint_student.php)
  - <http://www.dec.utexas.edu/onlinecourses/dishonesty.html#topimage>
- Students who violate university rules on scholastic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failing the course and dismissal from the University. University policies on scholastic dishonesty will be strictly enforced.

## VII. Honor Code

- The core values of the University of Texas at Austin are learning, discovery, freedom, leadership, individual opportunity, and responsibility. Each member of the University is expected to uphold these values through **integrity, honesty, trust, fairness, and respect toward peers and community**.

## VIII. For Students with Disabilities

- Any student with a documented disability (physical or cognitive) who requires academic accommodations should contact the Services for Students with Disabilities area of the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259 (voice) or 1-866-329-3986 (video phone) as soon as possible to request an official letter outlining authorized accommodations.

## IX. For students who previously studied Japanese

- Students who have prior knowledge of Japanese (regardless of how it was acquired) and who do not have college credit in Japanese must take the UT Austin Test for Credit in Japanese before they can enroll in their first UT Austin Japanese course. The UT Austin Test for Credit in Japanese is offered only on the UT Austin campus, at regularly scheduled times.
- Students transferring college credit in Japanese are not required, but are strongly encouraged, to take this placement test and to use the results to help them choose their first course in Japanese at UT Austin. Transfer students may also use the placement test to earn additional credit in Japanese or to earn credit for lower-division courses from which they were exempted without credit at another institution. In no way will Japanese credit already earned be jeopardized by the results of this test.
- Please contact the Division of Instructional Innovation & Assessment for further information.
  - [http://www.utexas.edu/academic/diia/assessment/credit\\_exam\\_cp/index.php](http://www.utexas.edu/academic/diia/assessment/credit_exam_cp/index.php)

## X. Studying Japanese

- In learning a foreign language, it is important to study every day.
- Actively participate in class. Use Japanese whenever possible, and do not be afraid of making mistakes.
- Spend as much time as possible studying with audio CDs.
- Develop a systematic way of organizing the large amount of materials that you will be responsible. Language learning requires constant review of previously learned material. You may want to make vocabulary cards or lists according to word groups. Find your own learning and organizational style, and continue reviewing on a daily basis. Read the "Study Hints" in the textbook pages 3, pages 13, 53, 84, 115-6, 122-3, and 136-7 for suggestions.