

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Revised version

August 20, 2009

Japanese Language Courses
and
Courses Taught in English for Undergraduates

J-PAC

Japan Program at Chiba

2009-2010

CHIBA UNIVERSITY

Program Requirements for Undergraduate exchange program Students

While studying at Chiba University, short-term exchange undergraduate students must take a minimum of seven courses per semester (15 weeks). They are able to take any courses with the agreement of the teachers. Those who have successfully completed seven or more courses each semester will receive a certificate of completion.

This *Course Descriptions* offers information on Japanese Language Courses and Courses taught in English. The Courses Taught in Plain Japanese are also listed and their course descriptions are available on the following website.

<http://www.chiba-u.ac.jp/student/syllabus/index.html>

Chiba University offers a wide variety of other courses in Japanese. The information concerning these regular courses taught from October 2009 to March 2010 is available on our website. The URL is the same as above.

Almost all courses except Japanese Language Courses meet once each week for 90 minutes.

Course Offerings (2009-2010)

Fall Semester (October-March)

1. Japanese Language Courses

Course titles	credits	meetings per week
Japanese 111, 121	4	4
112, 122, 132	1	1
131	2	2
Japanese 211, 221	3	3
231, 241	2	2
212, 213, 222, 223, 224, 232, 233, 234, 235, 242, 243	1	1

2. Courses Taught in English for Undergraduates

Categories and course titles in English and Japanese	credits	meetings per week
■ Japan Studies: Humanities Introduction to Japanese Grammatical System I <small>にほんごぶんぽうがいせつ</small> 日本語文法概説 1	2	1
■ Japan Studies: Social Sciences The Contemporary Japanese Economy I <small>げんだいにほんけいざい</small> 現代日本経済 I *Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy <small>ゼミナール I b</small>	2	1
The Special Study on Political Science I <small>せいじがくとつこう</small> 政治学特講 I	2	1
■ Environment and Lifestyle Introduction to Architectural Design <small>けんちく</small> 建築デザインへの招待 <small>しょうたい</small> International Standardization <small>こくさいひょうじゆんか</small> 国際標準化 Environmental Issues: Think Globally and Act Locally <small>かんきょう</small> 環境 <small>かんが</small> から <small>せいかつ</small> 考える <small>せかい</small> 生活と世界	2	1
■ Intercultural understanding Intercultural Communication <small>いぶんか</small> 異文化コミュニケーション	2	1

Introduction to Modern Japanese Literature has been cancelled.

*Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy is a new name for Seminar on Global Public Policy.

3. Courses Taught in Plain Japanese

Categories and course titles in English and Japanese	credits	meetings per week
■ Japan Studies: Humanities Contemporary Japanese Lifestyles <small>げんだいにほんじん</small> 現代日本人の生活様式 (日本事情2) <small>せいかつようしき</small> <small>にほんじじょう</small> http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/G1_ICHIRANG1715_frame.htm	2	1
Seminar on International Education II <small>こくさいりかいきぎょういくえんじゆう</small> 国際理解教育演習 II http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/E1_ICHIRANE1033_frame.htm	2	1
Education Affairs in Japan II <small>きょういくじじょう</small> 日本の教育事情 II http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/E1_ICHIRANE1033_frame.htm	2	1
Research Work (Humanities) I <small>とくべつけんきゆう</small> 特別研究 (文系) I <small>ぶんけい</small>	2	1

http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/G1_ICHIRANG1850_frame.htm *Learning about Japan b <small>にほん まな</small> 日本を学ぶ b http://www.l.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/undergraduate/2009/2nd/monday-2/1082/	2	1
■ Environment and Lifestyle The Future of Global Environment <small>ちきゅうかんきょう ゆくえ</small> 地球環境の行方 http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/G1_ICHIRANG1709_frame.htm	2	1
Environmental Chemistry <small>かんきょうかがく</small> 環境化学 http://syll.eng.chiba-u.ac.jp/ca/kam/T1M_T1M108001.shtml	2	1
■ Cutting-edge Technology Research Work (Science and Engineering) I <small>とくべつけんきゅう りけい</small> 特別研究 (理系) I http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/G1_ICHIRANG1850_frame.htm	2	1~3
■ Intercultural Understanding Intercultural Communication Training <small>いぶん かこうりゅうじっしゅう</small> 異文化交流実習 http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/G1_ICHIRANG1850_frame.htm	2	1

Introduction to Japanese Studies A which was originally planned for the fall semester will be taught in the spring semester.

*Learning about Japan b which was originally planned for the spring semester will be taught in the fall semester.

Spring Semester (April-September)

1. Japanese Language Courses

(Subject to change)

Course titles	credits	meetings per week
Japanese 111, 121	4	4
112, 122, 132	1	1
131	2	2
Japanese 211, 221	3	3
231, 241	2	2
212, 214, 222, 223, 225, 232, 233, 234, 242, 243	1	1

2. Courses Taught in English for Undergraduates

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
■ Japan Studies: Humanities Introduction to Japanese Grammatical System II	2	1
■ Japan Studies: Social Sciences The Contemporary Japanese Economy II	2	1
■ Environment and Lifestyle Development of Urban Environment and Landscape in Japan	2	1
■ Cutting-edge Technology Fundamentals of Imaging Science	2	1
Introduction to Design Science	2	1

3. Courses Taught in Plain Japanese

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings
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		per week
■ Japan Studies: Humanities Japanese Traditional Culture: The Spirit of Japan Seminar on Cultural Diversity in Japan Seminar on International Education I Education Affairs in Japan I Information Education in Japan Research Work (Humanities) II Introduction to Japanese Studies a	 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
■ Environment and Lifestyle Theory of Urban Design	 2	 1
■ Cutting-edge Technology Research Work (Science and Engineering) II	 2	 1~3
■ Intercultural Understanding Language and Culture Exchange	 2	 1

Course Descriptions

1. Japanese Language Courses

Chiba University will offer a total of 29 Japanese language courses for credit at nine different levels from fall semester in 2009 as follows.

- Japanese 1 (basic): less than 300 hours total studying Japanese. There are three levels in Japanese 1.
- Japanese 2 (intermediate): those who have passed Level 2 or 3 of the Japanese Proficiency Test, or equivalent. There are four levels in Japanese 2.
- Japanese 3 & 4 (advanced): those who have passed Level 1 of the Japanese Proficiency Test or equivalent.

Students are encouraged to take the Japanese courses that suit their level, based on a placement test at the beginning of each semester. The courses in spring semester in 2010 will be basically the same. The language of instruction in all the courses is mostly Japanese.

The following descriptions are for Japanese 1 & 2 and the information on Japanese 3 & 4 is available on our website.

http://www.students.chiba-u.ac.jp/syllabus/G1_ICHIRANG1850_frame.htm

Japanese 1xx Courses—Elementary

Objective

The objective of these courses is to provide students with basic language skills necessary for study and life in Japan, enabling them to use basic sentence patterns and vocabulary, with emphasis on the vocabulary used at university. Key interpersonal skills necessary for communication in a different cultural environment including social and cultural background are also taught.

Courses

Japanese 111—Integrated course (4 classes/week) 4 credits

This course is designed for students with no prior knowledge or very limited knowledge of Japanese. The Japanese hiragana and katakana script will be introduced and about half of the basic sentence patterns will be taught through oral activities. Textbook: *Minna no nihongo—shokyû I*.

Japanese 112—Kanji (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is aimed at learning Kanji and their usage for the students taking Japanese 111. The 220 target Kanji will be introduced. Textbook: *Minna no Nihongo Kanji I*.

Japanese 121—Integrated course (4 classes/week) 4 credits

This course is designed for students who have studied about half of the basic sentence patterns (approx. 150 contact hours). The remaining half of basic sentence patterns will be taught through oral activities. Textbook: *Minna no nihongo—shokyû II*.

Japanese 122—Kanji (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is aimed at learning Kanji and their usage for the students taking Japanese 121. About 300 target Kanji will be introduced. Textbook: *Minna no Nihongo Kanji II*.

Japanese 131— Reading and grammar (2 class/week) 2 credits

This course is for learners who have finished the elementary course at any institution and are not ready to proceed to the intermediate course at Chiba University. Japanese 131 will focus on grammar and reading comprehension. Textbook: *J. Bridge*.*

***The textbook has been changed.**

Japanese 132— Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is for learners who have finished the elementary course at any institution and are not ready to proceed to the intermediate course at Chiba University. Japanese 132 will focus on oral communication in Japanese and help students develop practical conversational skills (listening comprehension and oral expression) based on sentence patterns and expressions previously acquired.

Japanese 2xx Courses—Intermediate

Objective

The objective of these courses is to provide students with language proficiency sufficient for studying or conducting research without major hindrance and enable them to communicate at a more abstract level. In order to achieve this goal, students practice the earlier acquired basic sentence patterns and study more complex (intermediate level) patterns. This allows them to talk about or seek advice regarding their area of study or research, and—with some external help—read and understand texts written for the Japanese.

Japanese 2xx courses include both class work with textbooks and other teaching materials, as well as other means of language instruction aimed at putting the student's knowledge into practice, such as inviting Japanese visitors to the classroom or conducting extramural activities. Classes are divided according to specific skills, so that the student can choose the most suitable or necessary content.

Courses

Japanese 211—Integrated course (3 classes/week) 3 credits

This course aims to reinforce and practice what participants have learned in their previous study of Japanese, and to acquire new vocabulary, sentence patterns and other expressions through various activities integrating the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). Textbook: *Nihongo Chûkyû J301*.

Japanese 212—Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course we will learn to express ideas in more appropriate ways. This course will also be an opportunity to become accustomed to speech levels in Japanese according to various situations, and to acquire active listening skills for participating in conversations.

Japanese 213—Kanji (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is only for learners without Kanji background in their native language. The emphasis will be on expanding the students' repertoire of Kanji and Kanji words to facilitate the reading of authentic Japanese texts. Japanese 214 in spring semester 2010 will be the

continuation of Japanese 213, with the same textbook. Textbook: *Ryûgakusei no tame no Kanji no Kyôkasho chûkyû 700*

Japanese 221—Integrated course (3 classes/week) 3 credits

This course aims to reinforce and practice what participants have learned in their previous study of Japanese, and to acquire new vocabulary, sentence patterns and other expressions through various activities integrating the four language skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing). More abstract topics and authentic material will be introduced. Textbook: *Nihongo Chûkyû J501*.

Japanese 222— Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course we will learn basic skills for understanding lectures, and for preparing and giving seminar presentations. Among the topics covered will be speaking logically, arguing in an appropriate manner, and monitoring your own speech.

Japanese 223—Composition (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course you will develop basic skills for writing logically in an academic context. Textbook: *Japanese for International College/Graduate Students 2*.

Japanese 224—Grammar (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is for learners who want to reinforce their grammatical knowledge and practice the sentence patterns introduced in other courses. Japanese 225 in spring semester 2010 will be the continuation of Japanese 224, with the same textbook. Textbook: *Nihongo Soumatome Mondaisyû 2kyû: Bunpô Hen*.*

*The textbook has been changed.

Japanese 231—Integrated course (2 classes/week) 2 credits

In this course you will learn about Japanese society through reading authentic Japanese texts, such as newspaper articles and opinion and factual essays. Participants will be encouraged to gather relevant information by themselves as a basis for discussing the topics. Textbook: *Images of Japan, 2nd Edition (Nihon e no Shôtai, Dai 2 han)*.

Japanese 232— Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course we will listen to news programs that are easy to understand, and use them as a basis for class discussions. You will also have the chance to give three speeches, learning how to speak in a way easy for your listeners to understand.

Japanese 233— Composition (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course you will develop basic skills for writing logically in an academic context. There will be an emphasis on monitoring and revising your own writing. Textbook: *Nihongo sakubun no hôhô* (revised edition).

Japanese 234— Reading comprehension (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course we will read authentic stories which are relatively short and simple, and use them as a basis for understanding a wider variety of Japanese expressions, as well as the

cultural background of the stories.

Japanese 235—Kanji (Intensive course) 1 credit

In this course, intermediate and advanced Kanji will be introduced. This course will only be offered in the fall semester. Textbook: *Kanji in context*.

Japanese 241—Integrated course (2 classes/week) 2 credits

In this course you will develop the advanced Japanese language skills necessary for university study, and for overcoming difficulties encountered on campus. Textbook: *Academic Japanese for International Students*.

Japanese 242—Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course we will watch television programs as a basis for class discussions and presentations at a more advanced level.

Japanese 243—Composition (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course will focus on understanding the process of outlining and writing reports, and on acquiring skills for writing logically and persuasively. The students will each write a report on their chosen topics.

2. Courses taught in English

(1) Fall Semester

■ Japan Studies: Humanities

Introduction to Japanese Grammatical System I (Prof. M. Holda)

This course is designed to provide basic knowledge on Japanese grammatical system to those international students whose Japanese language proficiency may not be sufficient to fully understand a similar lecture given in Japanese, but who still want to enrich their knowledge of the Japanese language by better understanding its theoretical aspects.

Research Work (Humanities) I (Prof. A. Kaneda, Prof. R. Niikura, Prof. A. Yoshino and Prof. K. Wada)

This course, offered only to J-PAC students, is taught in Japanese. Students are expected to write a short essay (about 6000 words) in Japanese by mid-July.

■ Japan Studies: Social Sciences

The Contemporary Japanese Economy I (Prof. M. Amano)

This course deals with various aspects of the Japanese economy from statistical and historical viewpoints, using two articles in one session, copied from the weekly version of Japan Financial News.

Each participant is, in turn, assigned one article and asked to give its summary in a class in 10 to 15 minutes. Then the instructor will give a brief explanation for the background of the topic.

Following it, all students will discuss on the subject matters. Students are expected to give some experiences of their own countries relating to the topics under discussion. The topics to be handled include current and historical aspects of the Japanese economy such as: financial markets, labor markets, monetary and fiscal policy, industrial policy, and Japan's political and economic relationships with other countries.

The course grading will be based on reporting and discussion of each student during the course.

Students are expected to read some books dealing with the history and current conditions of the Japanese economy. Some of the representative books will be cited in the course.

Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy

Lecturer: Hikari Ishido (Associate Professor of international economics)

The aim of this course is to help the participant gain some basic concepts and “global public policy” issues concerning international trade and poverty reduction from a global perspective. The participant will learn what trade and investment theory is, how those concepts are actually related to the issue of “North-South problem” (i.e., income gap between the rich and the poorer countries), and how poverty reduction could be achieved globally. Along the way, the participant is also expected to learn about real-world institutions in the global economic system.

Schedule: (1) Basic Concepts of International Trade Theory (4 weeks)

(2) Linkage between international trade and global poverty (4 weeks)

(3) Presentations by internationally mingled groups of students (4 weeks)

References: Study materials will be distributed before the course starts. The issue area of this course is closely linked to the following book (although this book is not directly used): Paul Krugman and Maurice Obstfeld (2009), *International Economics: Theory and Policy* (8th Edition), Addison Wesley.

Conditions: The participants are expected to have just a basic understanding of “international trade” and “global poverty reduction”.

Class size: Japanese economics-major students (already fixed) and 5 to 6 JPAC students

The Special Study on Political Science I: Contemporary Japanese Politics and Educational Policies (Prof. I. Isozaki)

This course deals with various phases and aspects of the contemporary Japanese politics and educational policies, using Japan Times and so on.

It is divided into three parts.

First, the instructor will explain the overview of Japanese politics, particularly main political institution, political history after World War II, public policy-making, including politicians, bureaucrats, political party, political interest group and mass media, and election results.

Next, the instructor will make lecture on public policies from historical viewpoint and current topics as a whole.

Third, focusing on Japanese educational policies, the instructor will analyze the process and recent trend.

In each part in most cases, at least one participant is assigned one article and asked to give its summary in a class.

After hearing lectures and summaries, all students will discuss on the related subject.

The course grading will be based on reporting and discussion of each student during the course.

■ Environment and Lifestyle

Introduction to Architectural Design (Prof. K. Yanagisawa)

Course Description:

This course will cover various topics in traditional and contemporary architecture. I will give you a lecture, showing many slides. After a lecture, we will discuss about the topic shown in the slide. Besides regular classes, we would like to visit to the site of traditional and contemporary Japanese architecture as a field excursion.

Course Contents

The topics in lecture and discussion are follows.

Type of Dwelling in Different Countries.

Design of Traditional Architecture

Study Tour "Visit to History Museum and Samurai House"

Japanese Architecture: Lectured by Prof. Morris Martin

Design of Modern Architecture

Human Behavior and Design

Environmental Design

Design of Educational Facility

Design of Healthcare facility
Design of Residential facility
Design of Workplace
Urban Design and Regulation

International Standardization (Prof. Y. Higaki)

Goals: To have comprehensive understanding on international standardization, beginning from the initiation of an organization in 1906, regarding schemes and activities, publications, structure and management; to have basic knowledge of importance of International Standards to meet global markets for goods manufactures, users, consumers as well as general interest groups; and to get outlined image on management and development of International Standards.

Contents:

- General knowledge on International Standards and the organizations, IEC and ISO which publish International Standards
- Provide an answer to questions such as
 - a) What is IEC/ISO?
 - b) What are missions of IEC and ISO?
 - c) What is an International Standard?
 - d) Why are International Standards so importance?
- Structure and management for technical works in ISO and IEC such as
 - a) Organizational structure and responsibilities for the technical work
 - b) Development of International Standards
 - c) Development of other deliverables
 - d) Meetings
 - e) Appeals
- Actual works in ISO and IEC based on current topics of International Standardization

Environmental issues: Think Globally and Act Locally (Lecturer: Y. Ohkura)

Many environmental issues concerned, nowadays, are not just one nation's problems but most likely the problems that need to be solved with cooperation amongst the societies in the world. Moreover, actions of individuals can be a key to conserve quality of environment.

This course focuses on some environmental issues concerned in Japan. Students will see how their lifestyles and activities may relate to those issues, what actions taken by Japanese people and how they can contribute themselves to solve the problems in their country and also in a global manner.

Objectives of the course:

- Learn and understand the environmental issues occurring in Japan and the world,
- Examine students' own thoughts and attitude toward environmental issues,
- Being able to discuss the problems and solutions toward the particular issues in the class with other international students, as well as Japanese students.

Environmental issues to be discussed and rough outline of the course:

1. The evolution of Japanese environmental awareness -- from the pollution problems to environmental issues
2. The marine litter problem -- mass-consumption and disposable culture
3. Bio-diversity -- extinction, foreign species and coexistence
4. Global climate change -- the truth, the fact and the way we should act

Evaluation

1. Comments on the each issue and discussion participation in the class
2. Field exercise and report (on marine litter issue)
3. Short essay either on issues of bio-diversity or global climate change

■ Cutting-edge Technology

Research Work (Science and Engineering) I (Students' Academic Advisors)

This course is open to science and engineering students. Participating students will be assigned to their supervisors' laboratories and will be required to investigate a specific research topic. Exploratory experiments and preliminary experimental design as well as oral and written reports will be required.

■ Intercultural Understanding

Intercultural Communication (Lecturer: K. Nishizumi)

This course explores the relationship between language and culture and the ways in which this affects cross-cultural communication at the interpersonal, group and international levels. We discuss how we use languages to keep 'harmony' in social relations from the cross-cultural perspectives. Besides, we examine similarities and differences in communication style between Japanese and other languages by means of conversational analysis.

(2) Spring Semester

■ Japan Studies: Humanities

Introduction to Japanese Grammatical System II (Prof. M. Holda)

This course is designed to give international students an insight into Japanese grammatical categories by analysing differences between the Japanese language and the students' native language(s). Class participation and students' presentations will be encouraged. On the other hand, Japanese students attending the course will gain an opportunity of looking at their own language from a different perspective.

Research Work (Humanities) II

Continuation from Research Work (Humanities) I. Students should prepare an essay by 1 July.

■ Japan Studies: Social Sciences

The Contemporary Japanese Economy II (Prof. M. Amano)

The course will begin with an overview of the relationships among the growth rates of money supply, output, and the price level in postwar Japan. Discussion will then shift to an in depth analysis of the various kinds of monetary and fiscal policies implemented during Japan's postwar development process. The next component of the course will be a consideration of monetary policy measures that monetary authorities can use to control the total supply of money, and thus stabilize employment, output, and inflation. This will be followed by an exploration of the question of what monetary policy can do and cannot do in its attempt to stabilize the economy. Finally, the monetarist and Keynesian views on the working of a monetary economy and the effectiveness of monetary policies will be compared and contrasted.

■ Environment and Lifestyle

Development of Urban Environment and Landscape in Japan (Prof. Y. Tashiro)

The history of environmental thought, planning and design of the urban environment and landscape since the establishment of modern society in Japan will be introduced with an emphasis on selected individuals and projects. The purpose of the course is to describe and analyze the relationship between cultural background and physical planning, and to explore how this relationship is expressed in the design of urban environment and landscape in Japan. There will be special reference to the patterns of homogeneity and heterogeneity of cultural features found in the Western traditions. The course will cover the cultural background of environmental planning and design in Japan, traditional garden design, the urban environment in the pre-modern age, and city planning and urban development in the post-war period. Examples of following features, such as uncontrolled urban growth and land development, new-town development, projects of environmental planning and design are to be shown and introduced with some field trips to Tokyo.

■ Cutting-edge Technology

Fundamentals of Imaging Science (Prof. H. Yaguchi)

This course is designed to introduce the major currents in modern imaging science and will provide basic principle of imaging science and technology. Among the subjects to be included are the science of color, mechanism of visual perception, printing and photography, materials science for imaging, dynamics of imaging materials, image processing and analysis, and color reproduction and evaluation.

Recent developments and application of imaging technology will also be explained.

Introduction to Design Science (Lecturers: T.B.A.)

This course is organized to show you that "design science" is practical science and integrated activities of academic disciplines, technologies and arts so as to contribute to solve various problems against human beings and environments from a viewpoint of design.

Fifteen faculty members of Department of Design Science (i.e., one lecturer a week) will discuss interesting topics of their own research field. For your reference, Department of Design consists of nine research units (i.e., Product Design Unit, Design Management Unit, Materials Planning Unit, Communication Design Unit, Human Informatics Unit, Design Psychology Unit, Environmental Design Unit, Humanomics Unit, and Design Culture Unit).

Research Work (Science and Engineering) II (Students' Academic Advisors)

This course is open to science and engineering students. Participating students will be assigned to their supervisors' laboratories and will be required to investigate a specific research topic. Exploratory experiments and preliminary experimental design as well as oral and written reports will be required.