



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

JAPANESE PROGRAMME

JAPA 322 READINGS IN JAPANESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
and Lecturer:**

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**Contact Person for Māori
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Class times and locations

Lectures (3 hours per week)

Tuesdays	1.10am - 2.00pm	AM (Alan MacDiarmid) 102
Thursdays	1.10pm - 3.00pm	AM (Alan MacDiarmid) 102

Communication of additional information

You are advised to check Blackboard and the noticeboard (von Zedlitz 7th floor) regularly for information on courses and programme changes.

Prescription

This course introduces students to aspects of the literary, cultural and historical traditions and current issues of Japan through the reading of selected Japanese texts and audio-visual material. The course is conducted in Japanese.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

This course is designed for students who have completed JAPA204 and also enrolled in JAPA 305/213. It aims to enhance students' understanding and knowledge of Japanese culture and society through the reading of selected Japanese texts and audio visual material. Students are to further develop functional fluency in both written and spoken Japanese through self-expression and discussion on a variety of topics. In addition, the course work is intended to help students develop research and analytical thinking skills.

Students who pass this course will be able to:

1. read texts at an intermediate level on a variety of social and cultural topics;
2. discuss various issues of Japanese culture and society in written and spoken Japanese;
3. demonstrate a deeper understanding of Japanese culture and society relating to everyday life;
4. demonstrate research and analytical thinking skills through study and analysis of Japanese culture and society.

Teaching format

JAPA 322 is a second trimester course of 2 lectures per week and students are expected to attend all classes and participate in course-related activities.

Mandatory course requirements (MCRs)

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. attend at least 19 out of 24 classes so that they can maximise opportunities to learn the contents through activities and discussions;
2. obtain at least 30% for Progress and Final Tests to demonstrate the minimum achievement of the CLOs for these assessments;
3. obtain at least 40% for oral presentation on a specified date to demonstrate the adequate achievement of the CLOs for the assessment.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

There are 3 contact hours per week consisting of one 1 hour lecture and one 2 hours lecture. The University Assessment Handbook suggests that students enrolling a 20 point course should devote on average 17 hours a week including class contact hours to this course for its duration in order to maintain satisfactory progress (a total of 200 hours)– i.e. in the case of JAPA 322, approximately 15 hours of private study per week (for pre-reading and reviewing, answering questions in the text, and work on assessments) outside class time.

If you find difficulty or feel that you are not making satisfactory progress despite spending the appropriate time on study, you should consult your Course Coordinator.

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
1 Weekly quizzes (2% x 10) (approx. 10 minutes)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	Weekly, weeks 2–10 (2 quizzes in Week 4 & 5)
2 Weekly Worksheets (1% x 10)	10%	1, 2, 3, 4	Weekly, weeks 2–11
3 Progress Test (approx. 1.5 hours)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	20 August
4 Oral presentation (15%)/hosting (5%)	20%	1, 2, 3, 4	On a specified day during Weeks 7–11 Tuesdays
5 Discussion contribution	5%	2, 3, 4	Weekly Tuesdays, weeks 7–11
6 Final Test (approx. 2 hours)	25%	1, 2, 3, 4	15 October

1. Weekly short quizzes will be conducted at the beginning of the lecture where a new topic in the textbook is introduced to check students' preparatory reading comprehension on each topic (Note: 2 quizzes in Week 4 & 5).
2. Weekly Worksheets are homework to deepen understanding of lecture topics through interviews and discussions with a native Japanese speaker, and
- 3 & 6. Progress test and Final test will be conducted during the lecture time. You are not permitted to use books or dictionaries (including electronic ones) for reference.
4. Individual presentation on a selected topic and hosting the class discussions.
5. contribution to discussions in class on questions regarding other students' oral presentation.

Details of oral presentation and discussion will be given out on the first day of the course.

Submission and return of work

Students are to submit assessment items in class on due dates. Students will be able to collect marked major assessment works from the SLC Office on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz between the hours of 10am and 2pm each day.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

The granting of extensions is at the discretion of the Course Coordinator. Extensions without penalty will be considered on the grounds of exceptional personal circumstances (illness, bereavement, etc) for which supporting evidence must be provided.

Penalties

- a) If you are unable to sit the tests due to unforeseen reasons, you must contact the lecturer **prior to** the tests and if it is a medical reason, you have to provide a medical certificate.
- b) For students who are unable to sit a test due to exceptional circumstances such as health problems or a family bereavement, alternative arrangements may be agreed to by the Course Coordinator, on presentation of a medical certificate or other appropriate document(s). Such arrangements must be made as soon as possible, **at the latest the day after the test date**. If the Course Coordinator has not been contacted by that day, a fail grade may be awarded.
- c) If you are unable to do your oral presentation on due date, you must contact the lecturer **before** that date and if it is a medical reason, you have to provide a medical certificate. If it is due to exceptional circumstances occurred on the presentation date, alternative arrangements may be agreed to by the Course Coordinator, on presentation of a medical certificate or other appropriate document(s). Such arrangements must be made as soon as possible, **at the latest the day after the presentation date**. If the Course Coordinator has not been contacted by that day, a fail grade may be awarded.

Set texts

Prescribed text:

Aspects of Japanese Society 3rd edition, The Japan Times, 2001

Texts can be purchased from Vic Books, Ground Floor Easterfield Building, Kelburn Parade. They can also be ordered online at www.vicbooks.co.nz. Orders and enquiries can be emailed to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz.

Recommended reading

Available in the library:

Japanese business culture and practices: a guide to twenty-first century Japanese business. Alston, Jon P. and Takei, Isao. New York : iUniverse. 2005.

Japan at a Glance – Q&A. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1997. (Also available at the book centre)

Japan Almanac. Asahi shimbun. 2006.

Eigo de hanasu 'Zatsugaku Nippon' Q&A [Japan trivia]. Soboku na gimon tankyuukai hen. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1998.

Hendry, J. *Understanding Japanese society*. New York: Routledge. 3rd ed. 2003.

Iwao, Sumiko. *The Japanese woman: traditional image and changing reality*. New York: Free Press; Toronto: Maxwell Macmillan Canada; New York: Maxwell Macmillan International. 1993.

Matsui, Yoshikazu. *Nihongo gakushusha no tame no Nihon bunkashi*. Tokyo: Bonjinsha. 1995.

March, R. M.

Reading the Japanese mind: the realities behind their thoughts and actions. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1996.

Working for a Japanese company: insights into the multicultural workplace. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1992.

Miura, A. & Sakamoto, T. *Japanese cultural episodes for speed reading*. Tokyo: Bonjinsha. 1997.
Nakane, Chie. *Japanese society*. [Tate shakai no ningen kankei] Harmondsworth, Penguin, 1973.
Reischauer, E. & M. B. Jansen. *The Japanese today: change and continuity*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. 1995.
Sugimoto, Yoshio. *An introduction to Japanese society*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2nd ed. 2002.
Sugimoto, Y. & R. Mauer.
Images of Japanese society: a study in the social construction of reality. New York : KPI, 2002.
Constructs for understanding Japan. New York: KPI. 1998.
Nihonjinron no Hoteishiki [The Structure of *Nihonjinron*]. Tokyo: Chikuma School. 1995.
* Audio visual resources available at the **Language Learning Centre** (vZ Level 0) or the library.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how the course is going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Student feedback

This course is a new course, and student feedback from this year will be thoroughly reviewed. Course coordinator is happy to discuss opportunities for improvement with students.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Language Learning Centre (LLC)

The Language Learning Centre (LLC) is the University's technology-rich, multimedia centre supporting language learning.

At the LLC you can practise and extend your language learning. You can:

- Find materials to support your language studies, including dictionaries, textbooks and graded readers.
- Study independently using language learning software, audio material and DVDs.
- Find a welcoming environment with services and events, and onsite assistance and support for languages
- Become a Language Buddy or find a conversation group.

Visit the LLC on Level 0, von Zedlitz Building and take a look at our website www.victoria.ac.nz/llc.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats

- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Course programme
JAPA 322 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE 2015

Week	Tuesday Class	Thursday Class	Due Dates /Notes
wk 1 13 July	Introduction コースの紹介 & Reading tips	Popular Culture 大衆文化	
wk 2 20 July	At Home in Japan 日本の家	Housing Conditions 住宅事情 Quiz 1	
wk 3 27 July	Marriage 結婚	Women's Social Progress 女性の社会進出 Quiz 2	
wk 4 3 Aug	Japanese cuisine 日本料理・食文化 Quiz 3	Aging Society 高齢化社会 Quiz 4	
wk 5 10 Aug	Traditional Arts 1 伝統芸術 1 Quiz 5	Equal Society 平等社会 Quiz 6	映画鑑賞 LLC (TBA)
wk 6 17 Aug	Traditional Arts 2 伝統芸術 2 Revision for Progress Test	Progress Test 20 August	
Mid-Trimester Break			
wk 7 7 Sept	Discussion	Education 教育 Quiz 7	
wk 8 14 Sept	Discussion	Business Culture 日本的経営 Quiz 8	
wk 9 21 Sept	Discussion	Attitudes to Work 日本人の労働観 Quiz 9	
wk 10 28 Sept	Discussion	Group Consciousness 集団意識と肩書き Quiz 10	
wk 11 5 Oct	Discussion	Dialect Culture 方言文化	
wk 12 12 Oct	Revision	Final Test 15 October	