

Course: Japanese 103 First Year Japanese	CRN Number: 20666
Instructor: Brian Bangerter	Term: Spring 2004
Days: M/W 6:30-8:50	Classroom: Rock Creek Bldg.3 #233
Phone/Voicemail: 503-888-9029	Fax: 503-259-5230
Email: brian_bangerter@beavton.k12.or.us	

Course Description:

This course emphasizes the spoken language of Japanese. The skills, of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are developed with emphasis on active use of these skills. The use of Hiragana and Katakana syllabaries, and the kanji writing system are continued. Information is offered to help gain cultural awareness and appreciation.

Textbook and Materials:

-*Yookoso*: An Invitation to Contemporary Japanese by Yasuhiko Tohsaku, Volume 1 textbook, Second Edition.

-*Yookoso*: Workbook/Lab Manual, Volume 1

-Accompanying CDs (for text and workbook)

Placement:

If you already have a basic level of skills in reading and writing, a basic level of comfort and some experiences in oral communication, or you can read, write, and speak at a basic level, please see me for **alternative class placement**. PCC offers JPN 101, 102, 103, 150, 151, 201, 202, 203, 260, 261, and 126 at this time. If you think that you have a basic level of knowledge in reading and writing, yet have little or no experience in oral communication, you would most likely benefit from taking 101 or 150. If you can read and write but cannot speak, 101 or 150 is the course for you to begin with. Because this course places an emphasis on oral communication as well as deduction skills, it may be a different kind of challenge for some students whose previous experience excludes **oral communication in Japanese through the natural approach**. Please see me for suggestions on effective ways for studying.

Purpose:

The main objective of the course is to learn to use functional Japanese; therefore, the course is almost exclusively taught in Japanese. You will be asked **not to use your native language**. The second objective is to **learn to become an independent effective language learner**. We will begin our study with the course, First Year Japanese, which is a three-term sequence. It is designed for students with no prior or very little knowledge of spoken Japanese. Students with more advanced skills will not be admitted. The course concentrates on the acquisition and correct use of pronunciation, pitch, tone, and grammatical concepts for the purpose of communicative proficiency in Japanese. In other words, the emphasis will be placed on oral communication. This is a class to teach you to use the Japanese Language more than teaching you about Japanese grammar. We

will, however, practice skills in all five areas: speaking, listening, reading, writing, and culture. Grammar will be introduced in the context instead of through lectures and exams. The best way to succeed in this course is to have a high level of motivation and commitment, and to invest a good amount of time into study.

Classroom Procedure:

Classroom instruction and activities will primarily be done in Japanese. This applies to not only me as the instructor, but also to you the students. This means that it will be very difficult for your classmates to take notes for you when you are absent. Maximize your attendance to a near 100% level. **In this course, there will be basically no extra credit opportunities.** You must simply be consistent with your course work, participation, and assignments.

In class, you will use Japanese to communicate individually with the instructor as well as in small groups and whole class practice. **When I am monitoring your responses in small group activities, please do not ask me questions in English.** If you are lost, you may indicate to me in Japanese that you do not understand, or observe your peers, and wait for my further instruction. For those questions that you need an English explanation or clarification in, you will have an opportunity to ask me 5-10 minutes prior to break time, and again prior to the end of class. If you need to, you may want to jot down questions to ask later before you forget them. **Chatting in English with classmates during class will be detrimental to your participation grade.** If you can't say it in Japanese, don't say it until break time or question and answer time at the midpoint and end of the class

Study Tips:

Outside of class, you should prepare for each class by completing assignments, reviewing your notes, textbook, and other materials. Listen actively to your audio tapes or CDs when doing workbook activities. Because this is a 5 credit course, you should plan on spending approximately 2-3 hours outside of class for every time we meet. In other words, about 5-6 hours a week outside of class should be devoted to assignments, study, and practice. Preparing for the upcoming class is critical in allowing you to participate more in classroom activities and dialog. Here are some more things you may want to try to better succeed in the course:

- form regularly meeting study/practice groups
- Watch Japanese productions (movies, TV shows, etc.). These can sometimes even be found on the International Channel (32) if you have cable TV.
- a language exchange with a native speaker
- online chatting with classmates or natives in Japanese
- reading materials available at Kinokuniya Bookstore (Uwajimaya) in Beaverton
- flashcards (picture cards are most effective)

Evaluation:

This is not a lecture-type, teacher-centered class, but rather a student-centered class. The five hours that of class-time we have each week will be concentrated on practical exercises where you will have opportunities to be exposed to Japanese. To achieve a passing grade you need to attend class regularly, prepare your homework, and participate actively. Talk with your instructor about grading options (grade, pass/no pass, or audit) BEFORE October 13. After that date, I will assume that all students are taking the course for a standard letter grade of A, B, C, D, or F.

(1) Attendance (20%)

This is mandatory. The following scale will be used to calculate your attendance grade:

<i>Absences</i>	<i>Grade</i>
0-1	A
2-3	B
4-5	C
6	D

***You CANNOT pass the course if you miss seven (7) or more classes.**

*Exceptions to this scale could be made for **extreme, unforeseen** circumstances (not for flu or similar illnesses do not qualify) only at the instructor's discretion.

(2) Participation (40%)

Active participation is crucial in learning to speak a foreign language. You will receive a **daily grade** in this area based on the frequency and quality/accuracy of your participation in class activities. The final grade in participation will be an average of these daily grades, added to the grade you receive on an end-of-the-term **ORAL EVALUATION**. The following scale will be used to determine your daily grade:

A	Active and effective volunteering and oral participation in class with groups and with partners. Relatively no English spoken.
B	Some volunteering in class, effective and active work with partners. Relatively no English spoken.
C	Few responses in class and poor work with partners. English frequently spoken.
D	Never volunteers and ineffective work with partners. English frequently spoken.
F	Almost no speaking or involvement in class activities. English frequently spoken.

(3) Homework / Class work (40%)

1. For any given class meeting you are expected to **prepare** (read and study outside the classroom) the vocabulary and grammar sections that will be reviewed and practiced in class.
2. **Written homework** will also be assigned by the instructor weekly (on Wednesday classes), which must be handed in at the beginning of the next class period. Please submit clearly formatted homework (name, date, and neatly written). **LATE HOMEWORK WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR**

HALF CREDIT. If you are ill or unable to attend for some other reason, you must still send your homework on time in order to receive points for it. Making connections with a few classmates early would be wise in case you find yourself in a situation like this.

3. Various individual, partner and/or group activities in class will be evaluated as well. These could take the form of skits, role-plays, or interviews. The following scale will be used to determine your final homework/class work grade:

<i>points</i>	<i>grade</i>
100-90%	A
89-80%	B
79-70%	C
69-60%	D
less than 60%	F

**You CANNOT pass the course with less than 60% of the points possible in this section.*