

Sophia University –Summer Session 2026

July 1 – July 22, 2026 *July 1: Orientation. *July 3: No class day

Date: December 2025

Course Title	Intensive Japanese 1
Course Code	JPZ118
Instructor	Mika Yamaguchi
Class Period	1st: 9:00–10:40, 2nd: 10:55–12:35, 3rd: 13:30–15:10
Course Format	In-Person
Language of Instruction	English and Japanese
Maximum class size	20
Course Description	This course is designed for students with no prior knowledge of Japanese and emphasizes oral communication in everyday situations. It introduces fundamental vocabulary, expressions, grammar, and sentence structures in Japanese. By the end of the course, students will be able to engage in simple daily conversations in Japanese. Additionally, students will learn to read expressions and short sentences written in Hiragana and Katakana. Writing in Japanese is optional in this course.
Course Objectives	The objectives of this course are: (1) to develop basic oral communication skills necessary for exchanging simple information and ideas, and (2) to build awareness and appreciation of the similarities and differences between Japanese culture and the student's own culture.
Expected work outside of class	One to two hours daily for reviewing course materials, completing homework, and preparing for quizzes and lesson tests.
Course Materials	Genki Textbook Volume 1, 3rd edition Publisher: Japan Times ISBN-10: 4789017303 ISBN-13: 978-4789017305
	Purchase of textbook: mandatory
	e-book: not recommended Students in previous years said that it is easier to look at the printed textbook for new vocabulary and expressions than e-Book. Scanning copyrighted books into digital files and uploading those files to the Internet without the authors' permission is a copyright infringement and is against the law. It is also illegal to download copyrighted material that you know was illegally posted online.
Moodle	Students are responsible for checking Moodle every day for important information. Moodle will be used for - announcement to students - posting daily schedule - uploading course materials

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - submitting daily homework - posting grades
Contact Instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • via Email m2269y@gmail.com
Evaluation (Attendance, Class participation, in-class assignments, final exam, quizzes, etc.)	<p>Attendance & Class Performance: 20%</p> <p>Daily Homework: 15%</p> <p>Daily Quiz: 15%</p> <p>Lesson Test and Oral Test: 40%</p> <p>Final presentation: 10%</p> <p>A: 90-100, B: 80-89, C: 70-79, D: 60-69, F: 0-59</p> <p>Attendance & Class Performance: Regular attendance and punctuality are essential for both your progress and that of your classmates, especially in an intensive language course. Arriving late and/or leaving in the middle of the class will distract other students as well as the instructor. Please be punctual and stay engaged throughout the entire class.</p> <p>The use of electronic devices significantly disrupts learning for both the students using the devices and for others in the class. Phones and other electronic devices must be turned off and placed in your bag. If you need to use a phone due to a personal emergency, inform the instructor. Failure to adhere to this policy will lower your attendance and class performance grade.</p> <p>Daily Homework: All daily homework will receive a completion grade. When you submit homework before the class on the due date, you will receive full credit. Late submissions will receive partial credit.</p> <p>Daily Quiz: There are no make-up quizzes for missed quizzes. If you are absent due to a legitimate reason and provide notification, your quiz grade will be recorded as “no count.” If you are absent from class without a legitimate reason or notification, your quiz will be recorded as zero points.</p> <p>Lesson Test & Oral Test: You will have at least four lesson tests and oral tests (e.g., conversation with classmates, group skit, oral presentation). All scores from lesson tests and oral tests will be included in your final grade. In case of absence due to legitimate reasons and notification, you will be allowed to take the lesson test when you return to class. If you miss a test without a legitimate reason, you may take a make-up test, but you will receive 80% of your score. (For example, if your score is 90 points, you will receive 72 points.)</p>

	<p>Final Presentation: You will give an oral presentation about your memorable experience in Japan on the last day of class.</p>
Other comments	<p>Hiragana and Katakana</p> <p>This is a short and intensive course, with class activities primarily focused on oral communication to use class time effectively. Before taking this course, please ensure that you can read Hiragana and Katakana so that we can use the textbook more effectively. Writing Hiragana and Katakana is optional.</p> <p>Please see the textbook for Japanese Writing System, pp.20-27. Additionally, you can find a variety of online resources for self-study of Hiragana and Katakana. Some examples are:</p> <p>Japanese e-Learning NHK Easy Japanese</p>
Class schedule	<p>*July 1: Orientation</p> <p>*July 3: No-Class Day</p> <p>[DAY 1, Thu 7/2] Greetings, Self-introduction, Hiragana words</p> <p>[DAY 2, Mon 7/6] Asking/answering prices, ordering at a restaurant, talking about daily activities, Katakana words</p> <p>[DAY 3, Tue 7/7] Talking about weekend activities, interviewing Japanese students on campus, Review and Lesson test & Oral test 1</p> <p>[DAY 4, Wed 7/8] Whereabout of things and people, inviting someone for activities, talking about favorite things</p> <p>[DAY 5, Thu 7/9] Talking about family, expressing impression using adjectives</p> <p>[DAY 6, Fri 7/10] Talking about past experiences, interviewing Japanese students on campus, Review and Lesson test & Oral test 2</p> <p>[DAY 7, Mon 7/13] Making polite request, describing two activities in one sentence</p> <p>[DAY 8, Tue 7/14] Stating reasons, asking permission</p> <p>[DAY 9, Wed 7/15] Describing people's physical characteristics and clothing, talking about favorite things to do</p> <p>[DAY 10, Thu 7/16] Comparing 2 or more things, Review and Lesson test & Oral test 3</p> <p>[DAY 11, Fri 7/17] Field trip to a museum or disaster prevention center (subject to change)</p> <p>[DAY 12, Mon 7/20] Noun modification, talking about how to get to the place and how long it takes</p>

	[DAY 13, Tue 7/21] Review, skit presentation practice
	[DAY 14, Wed 7/22] Lesson test & Oral test 4, Final presentation

*Course format, evaluation methods and class schedule may be subject to change.

[Important Note Regarding Class Capacity]

Course enrollment in each course is on a first-come, first-served basis. Please be aware that once the maximum capacity is reached, you will no longer be able to select that course.

If you plan to transfer the credits to your home university, please consider alternative courses as well when making your study plan, in case the courses you want to take are full.