

Sophia University –Summer Session 2026

July 1 – July 22, 2026

*July 1: Orientation, July 3: No Class Day

Date: November 2025

Course Title	Japanese Language and Culture
Course Code	LIN 200
Instructor	Mami Tanaka
Class Period	2nd period: 10:55-12:35
Course Format	In-Person
Language of Instruction	English
Maximum class size	25
Course Description	In this course, students will explore the relationship between the Japanese language and Japanese culture. The Japanese language encompasses pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and more, while culture encompasses Japanese customs, way of thinking, and more. This course combines lectures, discussions, written reports, and presentations. Students will not only learn through instruction but also from one another by actively participating in the exchange of ideas and opinions. Students are encouraged and expected to share their opinions, personal experiences, and views actively in class.
Course Objectives	By the end of this course, students are expected to be able to understand the Japanese language beyond grammar and vocabulary, and the relationship between the language and culture of Japan.
Expected work outside of class	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Reading course materials in Moodle- Writing reflection papers- Research paper & presentation Length of time for work expected outside per class: 1 ½~ 2 hours
Course Materials	Purchase of textbook: not necessary
Moodle	Reading materials will be available on Moodle. Students must submit assignments in Moodle.
Contact Instructor	•via Moodle message
Evaluation (Attendance, Class participation, in-class assignments, final exam, quizzes, etc.)	Attendance and Participation 30% Reflection Paper 30% (5 times) Research Paper & Presentation 35% Daily Quiz 5% (11 times)

<p>Other comments</p>	<p>1) Attendance is very important. We will exchange opinions and views in class. You are expected to participate actively.</p> <p>2) Be punctual because you will disturb the class if you come in late. Also, do not leave in the middle of the class unless you are sick. This will distract your instructor and classmates. If you miss a part of a class, your attendance & class performance score of the day will be negatively affected.</p> <p>3) You will have a presentation at the end of the course. Details of oral tests will be discussed in class.</p> <p>4) Absolutely no cheating! This includes plagiarizing. If you cheat, you will receive zero for that paper and/or report. If you cheat the second time, you will receive zero for the entire category and we will notify your home university about your dishonesty.</p> <p>5) Daily reading assignments are necessary in order to participate effectively in class discussions. Missing daily reading assignments may affect your participation grade. Paper assignments will be given periodically. Students must submit the assignments before the class on the scheduled date. A zero will be recorded for any late submission which has been missed unless your instructor is informed of a legitimate reason. You may be requested to submit written proof of your excuse (e.g., a doctor's note, etc.). In case of an emergency, contact your instructor or the administrative office immediately.</p> <p>6) Daily quiz will be held at the beginning of each class session. Students are expected to arrive punctually to participate. There will be no make-up for any quiz. But the lowest score will be dropped at the end of the course.</p> <p>7) Classroom courtesy: Please do not eat food or chew gum. (Water, tea, and coffee are ok.) Please do not use electronic devices during class. (It includes a cellular phone.)</p>
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Class Schedule

*Daily Quiz is scheduled at the beginning of the class (7/6-7/22).

Date	In Class	Reading Assignment	Assignment
7/1 (W)		Orientation	
7/2 (R)	Course Introduction & Discussion		
7/3 (F)		No Class Day	
7/6 (M)	History of Japanese and Language & Typology	"History of Japanese language"	
7/7 (T)	Japanese Writing System	'Japanese Writing System'	Paper 1 Due
7/8 (W)	Lexicon	"Lexicon"	
7/9 (R)	Nonverbal Communication	"Nonverbal Communication"	Paper 2 Due
7/10 (F)	English Word in Japanese, KATAKANA words in Japanese (Research Paper & Presentation Instruction)	'The Dynamics of English Words in Contemporary Japanese'	
7/13 (M)	Language Contact (Chinese, Portuguese, Deutsch, German, French, English)	The History of Japanese English Language Contact	Paper 3 Due
7/14 (T)	1 st and 2 nd Person Reference, Role and Gender in Language	'1st and 2nd Person Reference'	(Research Topic Due)
7/15 (W)	Politeness Strategy	'Politeness Strategy'	Paper 4 Due
7/16 (R)	Food and Language, Giving and Receiving Gifts	"Japanese Food" "Zoto"	(Research Paper Reference Due)
7/17 (F)	Refusing	"Refusing"	
7/20 (M)	Apology	"Apology"	Paper 5 Due
7/21 (T)	Review and Presentation		(Research Paper & PPT Due)
7/22 (W)	Review and 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.