CIEE Tokyo, Japan

Course name: Beginning Japanese
Course number: JAPN 1001 TOJA
Programs offering course: Summer Japanese Studies
Language of instruction: Japanese / English
U.S. Semester Credits: 3
Contact Hours: 45
Term: Summer 2020

Course Description
This is a beginner’s course that will provide students with the necessary tools for communicating in Japanese, providing students with a general understanding of the various linguistic elements of the Japanese language. Students will develop fundamental reading, speaking, and listening skills.

Learning Objectives
By completing this course, students will be able to:
• Comprehend fundamental grammar principles and proper conjugation methods.
• Acquire a working knowledge of the writing system, including hiragana, katakana, and basic kanji.
• Hold short conversations about personal interests, time, directions, and other simple topics at a basic level.
• Type Japanese characters including hiragana, katakana, and kanji on a computer.
• Understand basic Japanese cultural concepts and social customs through studying the language.

Course Prerequisites
None

Methods of Instruction
This course will incorporate in-class lectures, activities, and assignments, and homework assignments.

Assessment and Final Grade
• Class Participation 20%
• Homework Assignments 20%
• Quizzes 20%
• Group Skit 20%
• Final Exam 20%

Course Requirements

Class Participation
You are expected to follow CIEE’s attendance and participation policies as outlined in the CIEE Academic Manual for students.
Homework Assignments
Students will be expected to complete homework assignments and tasks that will allow them to review and practice key concepts learned that day. Students’ understanding of the concepts will be quizzed the following day. Each submission is evaluated on a 5-point scale. All assignments are due at the beginning of class. Assignments submitted during or after class are considered late and will only receive half credit. Assignments that are one day late or later will not be accepted. Cheating, plagiarism, and other breaches of academic honesty will negatively affect your grade. You are expected to know and abide by CIEE academic policies.

Quizzes
Students will take quizzes that cover material learned from their previous homework assignments. Exact contents may vary depending on the lesson covered, but quizzes will typically have 2 to 3 fill-in-the-blank questions on grammar, kanji, reading, and/or listening, respectively. Quizzes will also test writing by prompting the students to write an answer to one question. The grammar and kanji used, and the length of the response in the writing may vary.

Group Skit
Students will give Group Skits in Japanese on a topic of their choice, subject to instructor approval, followed by a Q&A with the audience. Total time for skit and Q&A should not exceed 15 minutes. Students will be graded on how effectively they are able to use the language learned previously in the course. Individual students within the group will also be graded on their contribution to the skit. Students in the audience are expected to participate in the Q&A as part of their Class Participation for that day.

Final Exam
The Final Exam is a comprehensive test of language concepts covered during the course, with an emphasis on grammar, kanji, reading, writing, and listening. The exam will be divided into 5 sections. Section 1 will test students’ understanding of grammar through fill-in-the-blank questions. Section 2 will test students’ understanding of kanji through fill-in-the-blank questions. Section 3 will test students’ reading ability. Students will read two to three short passages and answer multiple-choice and/or fill-in-the-blank questions based on the reading. Section 4 will test students’ writing ability. Students will write responses to prompts at the length designated by each question. Finally, Section 5 will test listening. Students will listen to short dialogues and news reports adapted to the course level. Students will be prompted to answer questions based on the listening activity.

Weekly Schedule
NOTES:
- Listed classroom sessions are 150 minutes including a 15 min break, unless otherwise noted.
- The following schedule and assignments are subject to change.

Week 1:
1.1 Course Introduction
Greetings and common phrases
Introduction to Hiragana
Week 2:

2.1 DUE: Homework 1
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 1
Homework 2

2.2 DUE: Homework 2
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 1
Homework 3

2.3 DUE: Homework 3
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 2
Homework 4

Week 3:

3.1 DUE: Homework 4
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 2 (continued)
Homework 5

3.2 DUE: Homework 5
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 3
Homework 6

3.3 DUE: Homework 6
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 3 (continued)
Homework 7

Week 4:

4.1 DUE: Homework 7
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 4
Homework 8

4.2 DUE: Homework 8
QUIZ on previous day’s contents
CHAPTER 4 (continued)
Homework 9
4.3 **Fieldtrip.** Location TBD. (Example: Photography and exploration a local neighborhood such as Yanesen.)

4.4 **DUE:** Homework 9  
**QUIZ** on previous day’s contents  
**CHAPTER 5**  
Homework 10

**Week 5:**  
5.1 **DUE:** Homework 10  
**QUIZ** on previous day’s contents  
**CHAPTER 5 (continued)**  
Group Skit preparation  
Homework 11

5.2 **DUE:** Homework 11  
**QUIZ** on previous day’s contents  
**CHAPTER 6**  
Group Skit preparation  
Homework 12

5.3 **Fieldtrip.** Location TBD. (Example: Shotengai shopping area.)

5.4 **DUE:** Homework 12  
**QUIZ** on previous day’s contents  
**DUE:** Group Skits  
Homework 13

**Week 6:**  
6.1 **DUE:** Homework 13  
**QUIZ** on previous day’s contents  
**CHAPTER 6 (continued)**  
Homework 14

6.2 **DUE:** Homework 14  
**QUIZ** on previous day’s contents  
**Review for final exam**

6.3 (140 minutes including 15-minute break)  
**Final exam**

**Course Materials**