

TERM:	SPRING 2026	
COURSE TITLE:	Japanese 2	
COURSE NUMBER:	JAPN 2102.01	CRN 71744
SECTION TIMES/DAYS:	12:15 PM– 1:25 PM	MWF
INSTRUCTOR:	Prof. Hiromi Kinjo	

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This course continues developing the students' four communication skills in present-day Japanese, using the Direct Method. The course consists of fundamental grammar, vocabulary building, introduction of Katakana, and expansion of kanji. Each student is provided opportunities to continue practicing conversations with native speakers of Japanese to further improve his/her listening and speaking skills. Selected topics on Japanese culture are presented throughout the course to enhance students' awareness and understanding of Japanese culture.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Recognize the differences between formal/informal Japanese
- Demonstrate proficiency in grammatical structures such as progressive forms and permission/something forbidden
- Give one's opinion using "I think~." (in the present tense)
- Describe people/things by combining adjectives
- Comprehend content of texts written in hiragana, katakana and kanji
- Demonstrate adequate culture awareness to function in given settings appropriate to the level of the elementary student

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Japanese 2101 or LMU placement exam or consent of instructor

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Banno, et al, Genki, An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese, Volume I, Japan Times, 2020 (**Third edition**).
- Banno, el al, Genki, An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese, Volume I, Workbook, Japan Times, 2020 (**Third edition**).

COURSEWORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Coursework includes quizzes, a midterm, and a final examination, class attendance and participation, oral presentations, conversational/grammar practice with tutors, daily homework and assignments, and listening exercises as determined by the instructor.

TERM:	SPRING 2026	
COURSE TITLE:	Japanese 4	
COURSE NUMBER:	JAPN 2104.01	CRN 71745
SECTION TIMES/DAYS:	1:40 PM– 2:50 PM	MWF
INSTRUCTOR:	Prof. Hiromi Kinjo	

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This course continues developing the students' four communication skills in present-day Japanese, using the Direct Method. The course consists of more advanced grammar, vocabulary building, and expansion of kanji. Each student is provided opportunities to continue practicing conversations with native speakers of Japanese to further improve his/her listening and speaking skills. Selected topics on Japanese culture are presented throughout the course to enhance students' awareness and understanding of Japanese culture.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Show intermediate proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing
- Demonstrate the mastery of more advanced grammar such as advanced clauses, giving/receiving verbs, potential and volitional forms
- Express opinions and thoughts using more complex grammatical patterns
- Demonstrate adequate cultural awareness to function in giving settings appropriate to the level of the intermediate students

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Japanese 2103 or LMU placement exam or consent of instructor

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Banno, et al, Genki, An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese, Volume II, Japan Times, 2020 (**Third edition**).

Banno, el al, Genki, An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese, Volume II, Workbook, Japan Times, 2020 (**Third edition**).

COURSEWORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Coursework includes quizzes, a midterm and a final examination, class attendance and participation, oral presentations, conversational/grammar practice with tutors, daily homework and assignments, listening exercises and compositions as determined by the instructor.

TERM:	SPRING 2026	
COURSE TITLE:	Manga, Anime & Japanese	
COURSE NUMBER:	JAPN 3240.01	CRN 71746
SECTION TIMES/DAYS:	1:45 PM– 3:25 PM	TuTh
INSTRUCTOR:	Prof. Hiromi Kinjo	

COURSE DESCRIPTION/PRINCIPAL TOPICS:

This course will help students acquire knowledge and perspectives regarding Japan's most popular culture—Manga & Anime. It will explore why Manga and Anime are so popular not only among young Japanese but also among young people worldwide. Furthermore, students will examine Japanese Manga & Anime with a critical eye. The class will give students a chance to read Manga in Japanese and then watch the Anime based on the same stories, also in Japanese. This class provides a window into understanding the culture and lifestyle of the people of Japan.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Show intermediate proficiency in the four skills of listening speaking, reading and writing.
- Demonstrate the ability to recognize and analyze similarities and differences between at least two disciplinary perspectives and explain or solve a phenomenon, issue, or problem as presented in selected materials.
- Understand the core concepts of one of the three interdisciplinary thematic connections, namely **culture, art, and society**.
- Understand the reasons that Manga and Anime have become a phenomenon domestically and internationally from the perspectives of social culture and economics.
- Apply learning from Japanese culture, art, and history to students own lives as whole persons.

PREREQUISITES/RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND:

Japanese 2103 or LMU placement exam or consent of instructor

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Carefully selected Manga such as *Erased* and *Kimi no Na wa*.

COURSE WORK/EXPECTATIONS:

Course work includes vocabulary and grammar quizzes and a final examination, active class discussion, short essays/final essay, mini oral presentations/final presentation, as determined by the teacher.