

日本語 3068 日本語多読

Japanese 3068: Japanese Extensive Reading

University of North Texas --- Spring 2026

Instructor & Office Hours:

Section	001
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Office Hours	Tuesday and Thursday 8:20:00-9:20:00 or by appointment

Sections & Times:

Days	Time	Classroom
Tuesday & Thursday	12:30 - 1:50	LANG 205

Course Eligibility:

Prerequisite: JAPN 2050 or the equivalent.

Course Description & Objectives:

This course is designed for students who enjoy exploring Japanese through TADOKU (extensive reading) — reading as freely and enjoyably as possible. The core goals are simple: **read a lot, enjoy reading, and build your Japanese.** Unlike traditional reading comprehension courses, JAPN 3068 emphasizes reading a large quantity of appropriately leveled materials to improve comprehension, fluency, and overall language ability. Students will engage with a wide variety of materials, including graded readers, picture books, manga, novels, SF, fantasy, non-fiction, folk tales, and contemporary short stories, ranging from very simple to more complex texts. Materials are chosen to be enjoyable and suitable for each student's level, allowing learners to progress naturally from simple texts (Level 0: ~400 words) to more advanced readings without the pressure of translating every word.

The course follows the core TADOKU principles (“Golden Rules”):

1. Start Simple: Begin with books that are very easy and enjoyable.
2. No Dictionary: Avoid using a dictionary; infer meaning from context or illustrations.
3. Skip Difficult Parts: Ignore words or passages that are challenging.
4. Quit if Boring: Stop reading books that feel difficult or uninteresting and choose another.

Syllabus Components & Structure

Materials:

- Graded readers based on TADOKU levels or JLPT word counts.
- A diverse range of authentic texts to support different tastes and cultural understanding.

Time Allocation:

- Regular reading (e.g., 60 minutes/day), mostly outside of class.
- On-going extensive reading develops all four language skills: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

In-Class Activities:

- Teacher guidance for book selection and goal setting.
- In-class reading and listening sessions, including shadowing with audio.
- Short book reports, presentations, or group discussions to encourage comprehension and communication.

Course Outcomes:

By engaging with a large quantity of enjoyable reading materials, students will:

- Improve reading fluency and comprehension.
- Expand vocabulary and kanji recognition.
- Develop overall language accuracy, fluency, and complexity.
- Deepen cultural knowledge through exposure to authentic texts.

This course provides a joyful, self-directed reading experience, emphasizing comprehension and fluency over translation

Reading Materials:

All graded readers and supplementary reading materials will be provided in class.

Optional Materials:

Earphones/ head set/ portable device such as tablet, laptop, or smart phone for listening to the stories to support your reading in class

Free Online Resources and Dictionaries for Japanese:

1. [Kanji Alive](#) – A free study tool for learning kanji, developed by the University of Chicago.
2. [Tangorin](#) – Japanese-English online dictionary with example sentences and kanji lookup.
3. [WWWJDIC](#) – Comprehensive online Japanese dictionary maintained by Jim Breen.
4. [Jisho](#) – Popular online Japanese-English dictionary with kanji, vocabulary, and example sentences.

Free Online Apps: 10 Free Japanese Learning Apps & Tools:

1. LingoDeer (iOS / Android / Web) – Structured beginner lessons with grammar explanations.
2. HelloTalk (iOS / Android) – Chat and voice practice with native speakers.
3. Tandem (iOS / Android) – Language exchange app for conversation practice.
4. Anki / AnkiWeb (Web / Android / Desktop) – Spaced repetition flashcards for vocabulary and kanji.
5. Obenkyo (Android) – Kana, kanji, and vocabulary drills with writing practice.
6. Renshuu (Web / iOS / Android) – Quizzes for vocabulary, kanji, and JLPT practice.
7. NHK Easy / Easy Japanese (iOS / Android / Web) – Simple news articles with furigana and audio for reading/listening practice.
8. Imiwa? (iOS) – Offline Japanese dictionary with example sentences.
9. Takoboto (Android / iOS) – Japanese dictionary with kanji readings and example sentences.
10. Jisho.org (Web) – Online Japanese dictionary and kanji lookup.

Professionalism, Engagement & In-Class Activities

This portion of the grade evaluates the student's overall engagement and contribution in class. Key components include:

- General engagement – Active attention, interest, and involvement in class.
- Consistent effort – Regular participation and dedication to class activities.
- Positive participation – Respectful and constructive interaction with peers and the instructor.
- Group discussions – Contribution to collaborative conversations about reading materials.
- Reading / listening sessions – Active involvement in in-class reading and listening exercises.

In accordance with UNT Policy 06.039 (Attendance), students who accrue **eight (8) or more absences over the semester may** receive a failing grade for the course..

Grading:

Extensive Reading-Weekly Reading Logs	50%
Quizzes for building expressions (15 times – 3 lowest drop)	20%
Book Talk Presentations (2 times)	10%
Reading Portfolio	20%

April 10 = Last day to drop the course

If you submit your drop paperwork by this date, you will receive a W on your transcript, which will not be calculated into your GPA.

Grading Scale:

90 – 100% = A 80 – 89% = B 70 – 79% = C 60 – 69% = D 59% or below = F

Students who accumulate **eight or more absences** will receive a grade of F in accordance with UNT policy.

Extensive Reading – Weekly Reading Logs (50%)

This portion of the grade evaluates each student’s reading practice and engagement with extensive reading.

Key components include:

- Completion of weekly reading requirement – Start with approximately 2 hours of reading per week, with the expected hours increasing as the semester progresses.
- Consistency of reading – Regular reading each week, maintaining steady progress throughout the semester.
- Variety of reading – Students are expected to read a wide range of genres and materials (e.g., graded readers, short stories, fiction, non-fiction, folk tales, etc.).
Reading should not be limited to only one type of material (e.g., only manga, only newspapers, or the same genre repeatedly).
- Honest effort – Genuine engagement with reading materials, following Tadoku principles (reading for comprehension and enjoyment rather than translating every word).

Quizzes for Building Expressions (20%)

This portion of the grade evaluates each student’s effort to expand their vocabulary and useful expressions. Key components include:

- **Weekly selection of words or phrases** – Each student chooses 10 English words or expressions they want to learn in Japanese.
- **In-class quiz** – Students write the corresponding Japanese words or phrases from memory.
- **Consistent effort** – Regular participation in weekly quizzes, demonstrating engagement with vocabulary practice.
- **Application to reading** – Words and expressions are drawn from personal reading experience, supporting language growth and fluency.

Book Talk Presentation x 2 (10%)

Students will give two short presentations on books they read during the semester. The goal is to share what they read, explain why they liked it, and recommend it to classmates, practicing speaking and summarizing skills in Japanese.

Instructions:

1. Select a Book:
 - Choose a book you have read for class, following Tadoku principles.
 - You may select different genres for each presentation if you like.
2. Prepare Your Talk:
 - Summarize the story in your own words.
 - Explain what you enjoyed about the book (plot, characters, genre, author).
 - Recommend the book to your classmates and explain why they might enjoy it.
 - Avoid translating every word; focus on general meaning and impressions.

Reading Portfolio (20%)

The Reading Portfolio is the final project of the course, allowing students to reflect on their extensive reading experience, track progress, and share insights. It demonstrates growth in reading fluency, vocabulary, and engagement with Japanese texts.

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Instructions:

Reading Log Summary:

- Compile your weekly reading logs from the semester.
- Include titles, reading time, level, and brief reactions for each book.

Reflection essays

- Reflect on your initial reading goals at the start of the semester.
- Describe your progress, challenges, and achievements in reading Japanese.
 - How their reading habits changed?
 - Which books were most enjoyable?
 - What strategies helped them read?
 - How their fluency, confidence, and imagination improved?

Favorite Book Reflection:

- Select one book you enjoyed the most.
- Summarize the story in your own words and explain why it was meaningful or enjoyable.

Students' Concerns and Complaints:

Open communication is key to resolving concerns. Most issues or misunderstandings can be addressed effectively when those directly involved engage in honest discussion. If you have a concern related to your course, whether about materials, instruction, assessments, or the classroom environment, please begin by speaking with your instructor. If the matter remains unresolved, or if you are uncomfortable approaching your instructor, you may contact the WLLC department. To learn more about the complaint procedure or to file a formal complaint, you can access the document WLLC COURSE COMPLAINT PROCEDURE FOR STUDENTS on the departmental website:

<https://class.unt.edu/world-languages-literatures-cultures/resources/studentcomplaint.pdf>

When emailing the department, be sure to include:

- Your first and last name
- Your instructor's name
- Your course title and section number

Office of Disability Access (ODA):

You can find the ODA Faculty Guide here: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access/faculty/faculty-guide/index.html>

Per [UNT Policy 16.001](#), every UNT course syllabus must have the following syllabus statement provided on the [ODA website](#):

The University of North Texas makes reasonable accommodation for students with disabilities. Students needing a reasonable academic accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the student will request their letter of accommodation. ODA will provide faculty with a reasonable accommodation letter via email to begin a private discussion regarding a student's specific needs in a course. Students may request reasonable accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with faculty regarding their accommodations during

office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information, refer to the Office of Disability Access website.

Student and Faculty Support Resources:

CARE Team: The mission of the CARE Team is to

- Assist in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the UNT community.
- Support student, staff, and faculty success.
- Provide a comprehensive response to students, staff, and faculty whose behavior could be harmful to themselves or others.

The CARE Team is one of several resources available to the campus community to address these concerns. To refer a student to the CARE Team, please go to report.unt.edu. After submitting a report, a UNT staff member will reach out to the student within the next business day. A crisis or emergency involving a UNT student should be reported to the UNT Police Department by calling 911 or 940-565-3003. If you ever have any questions or concerns, contact the Dean of Students Office at deanofstudents@unt.edu or by calling 940-565-2648.

You can find additional Student Support Resources under **Quick Links** on the [Dean of Students](http://deanofstudents.unt.edu) website.

UNT Policies related to student affairs can be found here: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/policies/>

Weekly schedule

Week	Class contents	Assignment
Week 1	Quiz 1, reading, discussion	Reading log1
Week2	Quiz 2, reading, discussion	Reading log2
Week3	Quiz 3, reading, discussion	Reading log3
Week4	Quiz 4, reading, discussion	Reading log4
Week5	Quiz 5, reading, discussion	Reading log5
Week6	Cooking1 , Book talk1,	Reading log6
Week7	Quiz6, reading, discussion	Reading log7
Week8	Quiz7, reading, discussion	Reading log8
Week9	Quiz8, reading, discussion	Reading log9
Week10	Quiz9, reading, discussion	Reading log10
Week11	Quiz10, reading, discussion	Reading log11
Week12	Cooking 2 Quiz11, reading, discussion	Reading log12
Week13	Quiz11, reading, discussion	Reading log13
Week14	Quiz12, reading, discussion	Reading log14
Week15	Review, Book talk 2 , Quiz13	Reading log15
Final exam week	Reading Portfolio	

Minor in Japanese:

The minor consists of the seven (7) courses (JAPN 1010, 1020, 2040, 2050, 3020, and 3030 and one more course at the 3000 or 4000 level). All courses require a grade of C or higher.

Certificate in Japanese:

Certificate of Achievement in Japanese consists of eight courses: JAPN 1010, 1020, 2040, 2050, two 3000 and two 4000 courses. All courses require a grade of C or higher.

Honor Society:

UNT has a chapter of the Japanese National Honor Society (JNHS). The mission of the society is to recognize our outstanding students and encourage their scholastic achievement and excellence in the study of Japanese language. In addition, we aim to promote ways for students to use Japanese on campus and in the community. Certificates of Excellence and red-and-white cords to wear at graduation will be given to students who are granted membership in the society. The following is the criteria for the membership of JNHS in addition to the active participation in Japanese Honor Society, a student organization by invitation for activities and individual projects.

JNHS requirement:

- completion of 5 semester courses of Japanese language study at the college level
- GPA of 3.5 in Japanese language courses
- overall GPA of 3.0

Study Abroad:

UNT Japanese program strongly encourages students to have an opportunity to study abroad in Japan.

We have currently three direct exchange programs set up in Japan:

- Kansai Gaidai University (Osaka)
- Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto)
- Nanzan University (Nagoya)
- Nagasaki University of Foreign Study (Nagasaki)

The Study Abroad Office helps students find placements in Japan for one semester or an academic year.