

University of North Texas
Department of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures

WLLC 2980
Japanese Culture, Language and Business Practices
Spring 2022

Instructor: Kaori Furuya

Office Location: LANG 405G

Phone Number: (940) 565-2404 (Main office)

Email: kaori.furuya@unt.edu

Office Hours: Thursdays 8am-9am or by appointment

Class Hours & Location: 11am-12:20 LANG 214

Welcome to WLLC 2980!

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide a general introduction to Japanese society and culture along with Japanese language introduced according to the unit being studied. 70% of the course will focus on Japanese society and culture in English and 30% of the course will focus on Japanese language. By exploring five themes related to Japanese society (geography, language, social organization, intercultural communication, workplace) along with foreigners' real stories about living in Japan and videos, this course will examine how cultural constructions and social relations structure everyday life in contemporary Japan. The assignments will assess both language understanding and acquisition as well as culture and business in Japan. All readings are in English; no knowledge of Japanese is required.

Note: This course cannot be used as credit for a Japanese major/minor/certificate, nor can it be used to fulfill the CLASS foreign language requirement. Be sure to consult an advisor in your department or college in order to know how this course can be used for your particular degree plan.

Course Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, learners will be able to:

- demonstrate basic knowledge of cultural practices in Japanese societies.
- Demonstrate understanding of cultural differences in business protocols and practices between the U.S. and Japan.
- exchange greetings and hold rudimentary conversations in Japanese.
- demonstrate comprehension of situational dialogues related to business practices and participate in a simple conversation based on said information.

Required Texts and Materials:

- Jeff Berglund *Japan* (2004)-Its People, Its Language, and Its Culture in Annual report, *Faculty of Human and Cultural Studies*
- Knight, Gary A. (1995), International Marketing Blunders by American firms in Japan – Some Lessons for Management, *Journal of International Marketing*, Vol. 3, No. 4, 107-129.
- Niall Murtagh (2006) *The Blue-Eyed Salaryman: From World Traveler to Lifer at Mitsubishi* ISBN#: 101861977891
- Yamada, Haru et. al. (2017) *The Seven Keys to Communicating in Japan: An Intercultural Approach* ISBN#: 9781626164772
- *I know there have been some very famous business blunders in Japan because of Cultural misunderstandings* <https://www.katielingo.co.uk/portfolio/japan-cultural-misunderstandings/>
- Power Points and audiovisual materials will be posted in Canvas for students to access

Grading Scales:

Attendance and Participation	20%
Quizzes (4)	20%
Conversations (2)	30%
Presentation	10%
Project	20%
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Total Percentage Possible	100%

A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 79-70 D = 69-60 F = 59-50 (and below)

Late work will not be accepted without appropriate documentation confirming an excused absence. There are no extra credit opportunities.

Attendance and class participation: Regular attendance is required. Repeated unexcused absences and tardiness will affect your grade significantly. Being tardy three times will count as one unexcused absence. Leaving class before the end of the period will be considered an unexcused absence. If you have more than eight unexcused absences, you will receive a grade of F for the course.

In addition to being physically present, you are also expected to be intellectually present in class and to remain engaged with the discussion topic at hand. Participation also includes the focused reading or watching of the materials under discussion, taking notes, and generally contribute towards a conducive learning environment for yourself and your classmates.

It is important that you communicate with the professor prior to being absent, so you and the professor, can discuss and mitigate the impact of the absence on your attainment of course learning goals. Please inform the professor if you are unable to attend class meetings because you are ill, in mindfulness of the health and safety of everyone in our community.

If you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Team at COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure.

Face Coverings: UNT encourages everyone to wear a face covering when indoors, regardless of vaccination status, to protect yourself and others from COVID infection, as recommended by current CDC guidelines.

Quizzes (4 times): Quizzes will be given on regular intervals. It is therefore imperative that you keep up with your studies on a daily basis. The quizzes will cover the Japanese words and expressions covered in class and the topics including business practices/business culture covered in class. The quizzes will consist of answering multiple-choice questions and short answers.

Conversation tests (twice): This portion of the course will consist of two conversation presentations between pairs of students in class. Students will work with partners and create their own conversations for the presentations. Note: There will be NO make-ups.

Presentation (once): A presentation will be given during the semester. In a group, you will select a topic on business practices and protocols/culture from the list. The presentation must include visual images and fun facts about Japan.

Project: You will be expected to select a Japanese company and write a paper about the company. Detailed instructions will be given in class.

ODA Statement

“The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Access (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You 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 deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty 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 at <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>. You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.”

~~If you teach a multi-section course, your coordinator will include the most recent version of the statement in your course syllabus. For more information see the website of the Office of Disability Accommodation: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>.~~

Sexual assault and discrimination policies

UNT is committed to providing an environment free of all forms of discrimination and sexual harassment, including sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you (or someone you know) has experienced or experiences any of these acts of aggression, please know that you are not alone. The federal Title IX law makes it clear that violence and harassment based on sex and gender are Civil Rights offenses. UNT has staff members trained to support you in navigating campus life, accessing health and

counseling services, providing academic and housing accommodations, helping with legal protective orders, and more.

UNT's Dean of Students' website offers a range of on-campus and off-campus resources to help support survivors, depending on their unique needs: <http://deanofstudents.unt.edu/resources>.

The UNT Survivor Advocates can be reached by emailing SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or calling 940-565-2648. The UNT Survivor Advocates connect students who have been impacted by violence to resources (counseling, health, safety, academics, legal, etc.), and act as their advocate. They can assist a student by filing protective orders, completing crime victim's compensation applications, contacting professors for absences related to an assault, working with housing to facilitate a room change (if needed), and connecting students to the many other resources that are available, both on and off campus. They are here to help! For more information see <https://deanofstudents.unt.edu/sexual-misconduct/reporting-sexual-misconduct>

UNT code of student conduct

"Policy Statement. The University of North Texas is deeply committed to advancing educational excellence and preparing students to become thoughtful, engaged citizens of a diverse, global community. The University has established the Code of Student Conduct to promote the well-being, honor and dignity of all who live, learn, and work in our educational community.

Application of Policy. The Code of Student Conduct ("the Code") applies to all students and to conduct that occurs on-campus, at University activities and off-campus when the conduct could adversely affect the University community, the pursuit of the University's educational mission, or could create a hostile environment for a student on campus. The Dean of Students (DOS) will decide whether the Code will apply to student off-campus conduct on a case-by-case basis.

Students are responsible for their conduct from the time of application for admission to the University through the award of a degree. The Code continues to apply even if a student withdraws from the University during the conduct process or is not otherwise enrolled. Applicants also are responsible for their conduct prior to admission or re-enrollment. Sanctions for violation of the UNT Code of Student Conduct include, but are not limited to a warning, suspension, and expulsion from the university."

See full policy (PDF):  [Code of Student Conduct](#)

Student attendance and authorized absences

https://policy.unt.edu/sites/default/files/06.039_StudAttnandAuthAbsence.Pub2_.19.pdf

Student Support and Resources

- [Student Resources](#)
- [Food Pantry](#)
- [Military Activation of Enrolled Students](#)
- [Pregnant & Parenting Students](#)
- [Early Alert Response System](#)
- [Seeking Options and Solutions](#)

- [Student Complaints](#)
- [Student Death](#)
- [Temporary Disabilities](#)
- [Temporary Illness](#)
- [Withdrawal Due to Medical Reasons](#)
- [Community Resources](#)
- [Mean Green Gowns for Grads](#)

Schedule

Week1	<p>Introduction Japanese language 1-one language, one country Chapter 1: pp1-3, pp12-19 Japanese language: greeting expressions</p> <p>Japanese Geography-islands and mountains Chapter 2 pp31-p41 Japanese language: Self-introduction</p>
Week 2	<p>Water boundaries, major cities, the history of Japan Chapter 2: pp41-47 Japanese language: Appreciation</p> <p>Transportations Chapter 2 pp53-61 Japanese language: Being Sorry in Japan</p>
Week 3	<p>Japanese names and people in Chapter 1 pp7-12 Japanese language: Can You Take My Japanese Order?</p> <p>Review + Quiz1</p>
Week 4	<p>Living in Japan as a foreigner: Social organization1-Inside and outside faces Chapter 3 pp 63-71 Japanese language: Can you tell me what this is in Japanese?</p> <p>Living in Japan as a foreigner: Social organization: Japanese family and house Chapter 3 p71-</p>
Week 5	<p>Living in Japan as a foreigner: Social organization2- Japanese educational systems to careers including business careers. Chapter 3 p79-84 School Lunch (video) Japanese language: Asking a Japanese question</p> <p>Living in Japan as a foreigner: Social organization: public spaces Chapter 3 p84-91 Japanese language: Japanese language: Is this your Japanese house ?</p>
Week 6	<p>Review +Quiz2 Creating business cards</p>
Week 7	<p>Niall Murtagh's story: When you enter the village, obey the village pp1-14 Conversation test #1</p>

Week 8	<p>Japanese context and content-listener talk Chapter 4 pp93-100 Japanese language: Can you take my Japanese order? Japanese bars, izakaya (video)</p> <p>Japanese context and content-Silent sword Chapter 4 pp100-106 Japanese language: What is this delicious Japanese dish ?</p>
Week 9	<p>Japanese context and content-listener feedback Chapter 4 pp106-119 Japanese language: Can you eat this Japanese meatball ?</p> <p>Japanese business discourse of oneness: a personal perspective pp94-103 Japanese language: Where's party in Japan?</p>
Week 10	Review + Quiz 3
Week 11	<p>Working in Japan as a foreigner Japanese social system: Social hierarchy Chapter 5 pp123-130 Japanese language: Being really clumsy in Japan</p>
Week 12	<p>Japanese social system: Social values Chapter 5 pp130-136 Japanese language: Do you eat Sushi in Japan?</p> <p>Dalline Bates' story of visiting Japan: Chapter 8 pp209-218 Japanese language: Do you drink Japanese beer?</p>
Week 13	Review + Quiz 4 Conversation Test #2
Week 14	Presentation
Week 15	Reading Day