

日本語 3044 日本語の歌で冒険!  
 Japanese 3044: Adventure in Japanese Songs!  
 University of North Texas --- Fall 2025

**Instructor & Office Hours:**

**Sections & Times:**

	<i>Sections 001</i>
<i>Name</i>	Miwako Ichikawa
<i>Email</i>	<a href="mailto:miwako.ichikawa@unt.edu">miwako.ichikawa@unt.edu</a>
<i>Office</i>	LANG 405C
<i>Phone</i>	940-565-2404
<i>Office Hours</i>	1-1:50 p.m. on MWF Also by appointment

<i>Section</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Classroom</i>
001	M / W	2:00-3:20	LANG 107A

Department of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures:  
 LANG 101, 940-565-2404  
 General inquiries, placement exam, lost & found

**Course Description & Objectives:**

Adventure in Japanese Songs will take you to the world of amazing songs in Japanese! A variety of songs in different genres and time will be introduced throughout the course. The lyrics and music are the key component in gaining analytical view and understanding of Japanese culture and the history from the perspective. Classes are conducted entirely in Japanese using video clips to bring the class straight into the world of the songs. It provides prospect in learning the visual culture as well as promoting listening comprehension through the context of the music and the words. The important aspect of the class is to enjoy Japanese songs first! while learning the heart of Japanese cultures and the thoughts behind the invention of the songs. Students will learn new words and expressions associated with songs and music; at the same time, it provides chances to review their learned material in the light of new perspective. This course will help intermediate and advanced level students to develop in-depth understanding and knowledge to further appreciate the live and popular culture of songs. The art of songs will create new awareness in Japanese language and culture. The view will connect, compare the Japanese songs with their own and beyond. The course presents an entertaining way to learn language through songs and shed light in the learners' minds.

At the end of this class, you will be able to:

- Understand language structure and expressions through variety of songs
- Appreciate different types of Japanese songs in association with history, regional culture, and modern trends in global community
- Understand Japanese culture strongly associated with songs and music
- Understand Japanese music business and industry through songs and the artists
- Gain insight to help understand Japanese culture through music and words in a higher level
- Have better listening skills, pronunciation, intonation, rhythm, pitch, intonation, and fluency
- Discover your own interests in songs and compile a list of favorite songs to share with others  
...and there are many more things you can do!

**Course Eligibility:**

This course is designed for students who have finished second year college-level Japanese. Prerequisite: JAPN 2050 or the equivalent. Students who have studied Japanese informally or in high school may test into this level and receive credits for courses skipped by taking the placement test. Contact the department for more information.

### Optional Materials:

- Kodansha's Furigana Japanese Dictionary --- ISBN 4-7700-2480-0
- Kodansha's Essential Kanji Dictionary -- ISBN 4-7700-2891-1
- The Japan Times' A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar --- ISBN 4-7890-0454-6

### Free Online Resource and Dictionaries:

- <https://kanjialive.com/> (A free study tool for kanji learning developed by University of Chicago)
- <http://tangorin.com/>
- <http://www.csse.monash.edu.au/~jwb/cgi-bin/wwwjdic.cgi?1C>
- <http://jisho.org/>

### Free Online Apps:

- Japanese (Android)
- Akebi (Android)
- Imiwa (iOS)
- Shirabe Jisho (iOS)

### Grading Scale:

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

### Grade Breakdown by Category:

Participation (29)	20 %
Homework / Journals (11)	15 %
Vocab Quizzes (8)	5 %
Reading Quizzes (5)	5 %
Speaking task	10 %
Presentation	15 %
Project	30 %

**Friday, November 7, 2025**

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.

<https://registrar.unt.edu/registration/fall-academic-calendar.html>

Students should keep all graded materials until the end of the semester. In the case of a grade discrepancy, it is the student's responsibility to resubmit the graded materials.

### Expectations and Grading Policies:

#### Participation

Foreign language learning is a cumulative process, and it is very important that you come to class. Class participation is mandatory and essential to your success in learning Japanese. **Full participation credit (16 points per class)** will be given to those who are present for the entire class period, prepared for class, fully participating in all activities, and using Japanese whenever possible. Partial attendance or lack of participation will result in deduction of points. **Your two (2) lowest scores in class participation will be dropped.** Absences will only be excused in the case of university-sponsored activities, religious holidays, military service, or extended illness with documentation. **After two (2) unexcused absences, you will lose 16 points for each absence.** See the UNT attendance policy for details at <https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-039>. If you miss a class, follow the schedule and use the materials on Canvas to keep up.

**Lack of participation includes frequently speaking English, spending class time on your phone or doing work for other classes, refusing to work with your partners during group work, etc.**

## Assignments

Assignments include a variety of items such as listening practice, vocabulary list, reading material, journal/essays, speaking tasks. Material will be provided on CANVAS and in class.

## Worksheets

You will have worksheets of different types. The lyrics of songs for in-class activity are assigned to study at home further based on the class discussions and analysis. Then, responding to questions related to the lyrics on Canvas. You are expected to study vocabulary list as well as to create your own vocabulary list to develop the comprehension of songs and the concept in music. It is important practice, and you should display your effort and learning by submitting your own accumulated words and expressions. **Late homework is accepted for partial credit (-10% / day). When homework is submitted more than two weeks late, it will not be accepted.**

## Homework

You will write about assigned topics, then post your responses on CANVAS Discussions. Submissions will be evaluated based on adherence to guidelines, content quality, and your demonstrated understanding of the language and concepts covered in class.

## Vocab Quizzes

There will be eight (8) vocabulary quizzes. To promote understanding of songs and periphery of concepts, the vocab will be selected and discussed in class.

There are no make-ups for quizzes. **Your lowest vocabulary quiz will be dropped.**

## Reading Quizzes

You will have five (5) reading assignments throughout the semester. For each assignment, read and take the quiz set up online. Reading assignments are graded on comprehension in addition to completion. **Your lowest reading quiz will be dropped.**

## Speaking tasks

You will share your favorite songs in each class. The title and the lyrics should be prepared and posted before the class on Discussions. The format will be discussed in class.

## Presentation

The first one is on Japanese idol research and the presentation in pairs. You will post the links of two most representative songs by the idol you presented (keep your thread).

## Projects

This is your independent final project to showcase/share your cumulative and comprehensive knowledge from the course and beyond. An inquiry on all the material and topics from this course will be encouraged to use to compare and connect with new thoughts.

## Sexual Discrimination, Harassment, & Assault:

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 (and/or someone you know) have experienced or experienced 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: <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/>

The UNT Survivor Advocates can be reached by emailing [SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu](mailto: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://studentaffairs.unt.edu/dean-of-students/>

### **Resources, Extra Help & Disability Accommodation:**

UNT endeavors to offer you a high-quality education and to provide a supportive environment to help you learn and grow. And, as a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can achieve success, go to <https://www.unt.edu/success>.

### **Program Information:**

Major in Japanese: The major consists of the six (6) foundational courses (JAPN 1010, 1020, 2040, 2050, 3020, and 3030) and seven (7) advanced courses, at least 3 of which must be at the 4000 level. All courses require a grade of C or higher.

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

Certificate in Japanese: The Certificate of Achievement in Japanese consists of eight (8) courses (JAPN 1010, 1020, 2040, 2050, 3020, 3030, 4020 and 4030). All courses require a grade of C or higher.

For more information about the Japanese program, including the major, minor, and certificate of achievement, contact the Japanese program coordinator:

Name: Miwako Ichikawa

Office Location: 405C

Phone Number: 940-565-2404

Office Hours: 1-1:50 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Email: [miwako.ichikawa@unt.edu](mailto:miwako.ichikawa@unt.edu)

### **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. Networking during college years and in post-graduation is one of the important aspects of JNHS-College Chapter at UNT.

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 Scholars' Society, a student organization for activities and individual projects. For information, email: [yayoi.takeuchi@unt.edu](mailto:yayoi.takeuchi@unt.edu)

- ❑ Completion of five Japanese language semester courses
- ❑ Japanese language course GPA: 3.5
- ❑ Overall GPA: 3.0

## **Study Abroad:**

UNT Japanese program strongly encourages students to have an opportunity to study abroad in Japan. We have currently five direct exchanges set up in Japan: Kansai Gaidai University (Osaka), Meiji University (Tokyo), Nagasaki University of Foreign Study (Nagasaki), Nanzan University (Nagoya), and Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto).

The Study Abroad Office helps students find placements in Japan for one semester or an academic year. The beauty of these programs is that you can study in Japan at close to the same cost as studying at UNT. For more information, visit the Study Abroad Office in Marquis Hall (Room 145), check out their website (<https://studyabroad.unt.edu/index.html>) and attend one of their “Study Abroad 101” sessions. You can contact [angela.harris@unt.edu](mailto:angela.harris@unt.edu) for further details. There are also several opportunities for summer study in Japan at various levels. This website maintains a good list.

## **Office Hours:**

Office hours offer you an opportunity to ask for clarification or find support with understanding class material. I encourage you to contact your instructor for support. Your success is our goal. Visit your instructor during office hours for individual help or study suggestions. If the scheduled times don't work for you, email for an appointment.

## **Canvas Site:**

You can download the PowerPoint from each lesson from our class site on Canvas. You will also find helpful links, activities, etc. Log in at: <https://unt.instructure.com>.

## **Tutors:**

The Department of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures provides free tutoring. See Canvas for times and starting date. Tutoring goes through pre-finals week. Also, the Learning Center has volunteer tutors that will work with you individually at no charge. Request a tutor at: <https://learningcenter.unt.edu/tutoring/index.html>.

## **Lab:**

For student printing services, computers to use, etc.

- GAB 330 or GAB 550 (Check the website for the GAB lab hours): [https://itservices.cas.unt.edu/services/lab/student-view?field\\_building\\_target\\_id=256&lab\\_type=All&macs=All](https://itservices.cas.unt.edu/services/lab/student-view?field_building_target_id=256&lab_type=All&macs=All)
- Willis Library (Check the hours on the library website): <https://library.unt.edu/willis/>

## **Willis Library:**

The Willis Library has quite a few resources for additional study. The “Japanese Graded Readers” are particularly recommended. Browse through the area on the third floor around PL539!

## **Disability Accommodation:**

The University of North Texas makes reasonable accommodation for students with disabilities. Students needing a reasonable academic accommodations 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](https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access) website (<https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>). You may also contact ODA by phone at (940) 565-4323.

### **Support:**

UNT strives to offer you a high-quality education and a supportive environment, so you learn and grow. As a faculty member, I am committed to helping you be successful as a student. To learn more about campus resources and information on how you can be successful at UNT, go to <https://unt.edu/success> and explore <https://unt.edu/wellness>. To get all your enrollment and student financial-related questions answered, go to <https://scrappysays.unt.edu>.

### **Academic Honesty:**

Students who use other people's work without citations will be violating UNT's Academic Integrity Policy. Please read and follow this important set of guidelines for your academic success (<https://policy.unt.edu/policy/06-003>). If you have questions about this, or any UNT policy, please email your instructor or come discuss.

Homework assignments and tests should be true representations of your effort and learning. Plagiarism (i.e., copying another person's work and presenting it as your own work) or cheating (i.e., providing answers for someone else or getting answers from someone else) are prohibited. In addition, we ask that no online translation tools are used when completing writing assignments. Consequences of any breach of academic integrity may include lowering of grade and/or failure of the assignment and/or the course.

### **Teachers Prohibiting the Use of Generative AI:**

The use of generative AI is strictly prohibited in this course. For all assignments, any use of AI tools is NOT permitted.

- **Generative AI Use Is Prohibited:** The use of generative AI is strictly prohibited in this course.
- **Closed Book Exam/Quiz:** The use of AI tools is not permitted.
- **Writing Assignments:** The use of generative AI tools is not permitted on writing assignments in this course. By submitting a writing assignment, you attest that you are the only and original author.

### **Student Perceptions of Teaching (SPOT):**

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The short SPOT survey will be made available November 11 – December 4 to provide you with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. For the Fall 2025 semester, you will receive an email on November 11 (12:01 a.m.) from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via IASystem Notification" ([no-reply@iasystem.org](mailto:no-reply@iasystem.org)) with the survey link. Please look for the email in your UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete your survey. Once you complete the survey, you will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the spot website at <https://vpaa.unt.edu/spot> or email [spot@unt.edu](mailto:spot@unt.edu). We work to continually improve our courses, so we appreciate your feedback!

### **Emergency Class Cancellation:**

In the event of a class cancellation due to the weather, illness, or other emergency, you should follow the instructions announced on Canvas by your instructor and/or the coordinator. Since our course schedule is so packed, we will deviate as little as possible from the schedule. You should look through the PowerPoint online and complete your homework following the schedule in the syllabus. Any quiz or test would be postponed until the next class meeting unless otherwise announced. We will communicate any schedule changes on Canvas, so check for announcements there.

**JAPN4044 Schedule:** (Schedule is subject to change.) [Date of revised on 8/23/25]

L	日付	ジャーナル	授業のテーマとトピック	発表
		クイズ		
1	8/18 月		Course overview Introduction to Japanese songs	
2	8/20 水		モジュール① 日本の歌	Speaking Task
3	8/25 月	宿題 1	モジュール① 日本の歌 言葉のリスト①	0. 市川
4	8/27 水	Vocab quiz ①A	日本の心 赤とんぼ 春の小川 Genre of Japanese songs 歌のジャンルと でんとう 伝統 Japanese traditional styles	1. 2.
9/1 月 Labor Day - No classes				
5	9/3 水	宿題 2	言葉のリスト① でんとうき 日本の伝統的な音楽・歌・歴史 歌のジャンル	3. 4.
6	9/8 月	Vocab quiz ①B	日本の伝統的な歌のルーツ こだい へいあん かまくら ちゅうせい え ど 古代から平安、鎌倉、中世、江戸 雅楽、謡曲、長唄、小唄 Modern Western influence めいじ 明治から始まる西洋音楽の世界 和楽と洋楽 古い音律、メロディ	5.. 6.
7	9/10 水	宿題 3	モジュール② えんか かようきよく 演歌と歌謡曲	7. 8.
8	9/15 月	Vocab quiz ②A	言葉のリスト②	9. 10.
9	9/17 水	宿題 4	言葉のリスト③	11. 12.
10	9/22 月	Vocab quiz ②B		13. 14.
11	9/24 水	宿題 5	モジュール② えんか かようきよく 演歌と歌謡曲 自然と季節と心	15. 16.
12	9/29 月	Vocab quiz ③A	北国の春 言葉のリスト④	17. 18.
13	10/1 水	宿題 6	モジュール③ アイドルの世界 かげ 光と影	19. 20.
14	10/6 月	Vocab quiz ③B	ラボでリサーチ	21. 22.

L	日付	ジャーナル	授業のテーマとトピック	発表
		クイズ		
15	10/8 水	宿題 7	ラボでリサーチ	Karaoke
16	10/13 月	Vocab quiz ④A		
17	10/15 水	宿題 8	モジュール④ アニソンと現代の歌の世界	Presentation: アイドル発表
18	10/20 月	Vocab quiz ④B		
19	10/22 水	宿題 9	アイドルの世界 <sup>はっぴょう</sup> 発表 言葉のリスト④ <b>Presentation:</b> 歌のグループプロジェクトについて <b>Project:</b> 歌の期末プロジェクトについて	Presentation: アイドル発表のクラ スレポート
20	10/27 月	読み物クイズ 1		
21	10/29 水	宿題 10	えんか かようきょく 演歌と歌謡曲 フォークとニューミュージック <b>Presentation:</b> グループプロジェクト	Project Outline
22	11/3 月	読み物クイズ 2		
23	11/5 水	宿題 11	アニメの歌、メディアの歌の世界 歌のつながり日本の文化 <b>Presentation:</b> グループプロジェクト	Project Draft 1
24	11/10 月	読み物クイズ 3		
25	11/12 水		J-POP 失われた十年、二十年 世界にひとつだけの花 千の風 ハナミズキ <b>Presentation:</b> グループプロジェクト <b>Post on YouTube and NHK</b>	<b>Presentation:</b> 歌の発表
26	11/17 月	読み物クイズ 4		
27	11/19 水		2010 年代 3・11後の歌の世界 花は咲く	Project Draft 2
	11/24 月 - 11/30 日	☺ Thanksgiving Break ☺ - No classes		
28	12/1 月	読み物クイズ 5	世界の中の日本の歌 歌詞の研究 私の好きなフレーズコレクション	<b>Project</b> <b>[by 11:59 p.m. on</b> <b>12/7 (sun) on</b> <b>Canvas]</b>
29	12/3 水	SPOT by 12/4 木		
	12/8 月 Final Exam Week	1:30 - 3:30 p.m. LANG 107A	期末プロジェクト発表	

A final exam may only be given during the specific block of time designated by the Office of the Registrar. <https://registrar.unt.edu/exams/final-exam-schedule/fall.html>