

Online Winter Program 2022

Course dates:

19 October – 13 December



About:

- Online classes made available **on-demand** (Asynchronous learning)
- Japanese language courses conducted at two levels: **elementary to intermediate** and **upper intermediate to advanced**
- Japanese culture courses conducted bilingually in **English and Japanese**
- **20 students** in total
- Application and tuition fees are **waived**

Credit recognition:

Participants can choose any or all of the program's three courses:

1. **Japanese Language(A/B):** 1 credit

* The Japanese language course of this winter program is divided into two levels. Course A is for students at elementary and intermediate levels, N4 and N3 of JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Test). Course B is for students at upper-intermediate and advanced levels, N2 and N1 of JLPT.

2. **Japanese Cultural History:** 1 credit

3. **Contemporary Japanese Culture:** 1 credit

Participants will be initially registered in all 3 courses of the program. If they wish to withdraw from any of the courses or all of them, they must do so during the first 2 weeks of the program. Important: If they do not carry out withdrawal procedures during this period & do not continue their studies their grade for those course(s) will appear on their transcript as "D".

Before applying, please make certain that:

- You can use **Microsoft Teams** in your country
- IF YOU CHOOSE CULTURE CLASSES, EITHER your English level is high enough for you to understand English instruction and submit your culture tasks in English OR your Japanese level is high enough to understand Japanese instruction and submit your culture tasks in Japanese.
- **IF YOU CHOOSE FROM THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSES, you have read the course descriptions carefully and picked the language course that suits your level.**

Apply: Applications must be submitted by coordinators of partner universities.

We will not accept any applications from students directly.

Course 1-A: Japanese Language Course A

Instructor: TAKAHASHI Chiyoe, Assistant Professor

Level: **from middle of novice to first half of intermediate**
(JLPT N4~N3/CEFR JF standard A2~B1)

※Students who take this course must: be able to read and write ひらがな・カタカナ、know a few Kanji(10-50)、 understand basic grammar、be able to make sentences such as 「Subject は Noun です」、 「Subject は Adjective です」、 「Subject は Verb ます」、 know the difference of です・ます form and simple(dictionary)form or verb conjugation: て(te)-form or ability form etc….>

JLPT N5~N1: <https://www.jlpt.jp/e/about/levelsummary.html>

JF Standard: <https://jfstandard.jp/summaryen/ja/render.do>

CEFR JF Standard can do: https://jfstandard.jp/pdf/cando_6levels_en.pdf

JLPT/CEFR comparing: <https://nihongogogo.tumblr.com/post/122496349569/jf-standard-japanese-proficiency-levels-based>

※Before registering, be sure to check if your Japanese level is high enough for you to take this course.

If you don't know your level, please try the test of N5, N4 at this link **[Sample questions]**: <https://www.jlpt.jp/e/samples/forlearners.html>

If you felt the N5 and N4 questions were too difficult for you, this course is not for you. This course is for (around) N4 level students aiming to reach N3 level or higher.

Aim of this course

1. To learn how to talk about things around you in simple Japanese.
2. To make an unforgettable self-introduction in Japanese.

Students will watch mini-videos(5min.-10min.) of Japanese students conversing. They will learn the vocabulary, grammar or expressions needed to introduce themselves and things around them.

They will be given a written assignment (MS word) and tasks every week(8~10pages). In L1, L6, and L8 they will shoot videos of themselves making their own self-introduction and conversing with a partner online. They will also have the chance to meet a Japanese student from Hirosaki University and discuss topics of common interest.



【Schedule】

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| Week 1 | Simple self-introduction: Learn how to make a simple self-introduction in Japanese using your name, place you were born, university, age, study major, etc., how to talk about 'area' or 'direction', where is Hirosaki or Tohoku area in Japan. |
| Week 2 | Introducing your university and university life Grammar and vocabulary: "There are ~." "This is ~." "I wake up at~." "I go to school by ~." |
| Week 3 | Introducing a sightseeing spot in your town Grammar and vocabulary: "This is ~." "What is this?" "Hirosaki is famous for Apples". |
| Week 4 | Column: A traditional Japanese craft in Hirosaki, "Tsugarunuri" Viewing an interview video in a Tsugarunuri (lacquerware) shop at the Hirosaki Sakura (Cherry blossom) Festival. |
| Week 5 | Talking about your hobbies Grammar and vocabulary: "What do you do in your free time?", "I like ~.", "I especially love to do ~" "Because ~". "That sounds good." "Let's do it together sometime!" |
| Week 6 | Talking about your future dreams Grammar and vocabulary: "I want to be/do ~ in the future." "Because ~" "I am doing ~ now so that ~ in the future". |
| Week 7-8 | Making your own unique self-introduction to appeal to your listeners |

※See the sample of this course and check your level: Japanese Language Course A Lesson 2

[WinterProgram2022](#)



Course 1-B: Japanese Language Course B

Instructor: NAGAO Kazuko, Associate Professor

Level: from Upper-Intermediate to Advanced
(Japanese Language Proficiency Test N2, N1, CEFR B2 or C1)



☆At this level, you will need to be able to read or listen to authentic materials, conduct interview and discuss social topics. JLPT N2, CEFR B2 or higher Japanese proficiency is required.

Please check your level at the following link.

[N1-N5: Summary of Linguistic Competence Required for Each Level | JLPT Japanese-Language Proficiency Test](#)

JLPT N5~N1: <https://www.jlpt.jp/e/about/levelsummary.html>

JF Standard: <https://jfstandard.jp/summaryen/ja/render.do>

CEFR JF Standard can do: https://jfstandard.jp/pdf/cando_6levels_en.pdf

JLPT/CEFR comparing: <https://nihongogogo.tumblr.com/post/122496349569/jf-standard-japanese-proficiency-levels-based>

※Before registering, be sure to check if your Japanese level allows you to take this course.

If you don't know your level, please try the test of N2 at this link 【 Sample questions 】 : <https://www.jlpt.jp/e/samples/forlearners.html>

Aim of this course

1. To exchange opinions about social issues in Japanese.
2. To manage authentic resources in Japanese and learn related grammar and vocabulary

Students will have input about topics from reading or listening materials and be given written assignments and tasks every week. They will learn how to improve their academic skills related to notetaking, interviews, discussions and writing reports.

They will make a video of their self-introduction (L1) , a presentation of their region (L2) and a video about pros and cons of food-mileage (L6). They will also have the chance to get to know Japanese students attending Hirosaki University and talk about personal and social issues.

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| Week 1 | Forming a network in the group Introduce yourself and get to know about your classmates. Vocabulary about your personality. |
| Week 2 | Learning about Hirosaki Read some parts of a leaflet about Hirosaki and make a list of language new to you. Make a presentation about your town. |
| Week 3 | Talking about your childhood in detail Tell about a book that you liked: story line, most impressive part, reason why you liked it and memories. |
| Week 4 | Learning about a social action Listen about a social action to bring illustrated books to children in Laos and take notes. |

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| Week 5 | Learning about good practices in Hirosaki Listen an interview with a traditional Miso maker in Hirosaki and take notes. Interview your tandem partner about their major and future career or dreams. |
| Week 6 | Exploring ideas to solve a social problem What is food mileage? Listen to an interview and take notes. Explore pros and cons about this idea. |
| Week 7 | Preparing your opinion with a logic tree Choose a topic from current news and read an article or listen to news about it. Summarize your opinion with a logic tree to argue your point. |
| Week 8 | Learning how to discuss and how to use written language to write a report Discuss with your tandem partner about news. Write a report about the discussion. |

Course 2: Japanese Cultural History

- A short survey of the cultural history of Tsugaru

Instructor: Hannah Sawada, Associate Professor



This course will take us on a series of virtual fieldtrips to explore the history that has shaped the vibrant regional culture of Tsugaru in Northern Japan, where Hirosaki University is located.

We will start out by visiting an archeological site dating back over 5500 years to walk through the remains of a settlement that was home to people of the Jomon era, who were hunters and gatherers. Then by making stops at sites that were inhabited in subsequent eras, we will witness the societal changes that took place after the introduction of rice cultivation. In order to learn more about life in feudal times, we will explore Hirosaki castle and the city surrounding it, where ninja headquarters and Kenjutsu dōjō still stand.

We will deepen our understanding of some of the beliefs that underpin spiritual practices which live on in the area by experiencing zazen at a temple and spending time at a Jizōson where shamans mediate between the living and the dead. We will then savor the music, art and narratives that have emerged from this cultural climate and finally consider the impact of modernization and the recreation of tradition that continues to the present.

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| Week 1 | Jomon culture - Sannai Maruyama site |
| Week 2 | Societal changes subsequent to rice cultivation - Takayashikidate settlement, Namioka and Horikoshi Castle ruins |
| Week 3 | Life in feudal times - Hirosaki Castle |
| Week 4 | The making of a castle city - Ninja headquarters and a Kenjutsu dōjō |
| Week 5 | Beliefs - Zazen experience and Sai no Kawara Jizō-son |
| Week 6 | Music - the Tsugaru Shamisen |
| Week 7 | Neputa art and narrative |
| Week 8 | Modernization and the recreation of cultural traditions discussed at Hirodai Café |

Course 3: Contemporary Japanese Culture

- A Sketch for Images and Senses

Instructor: SUWA Jun'ichiro, Associate Professor



Wikipedia "鍛冶町" <https://w.wiki/4z8Q>

In recent years, there has been increasing attention given to the study of contemporary cultures from non-Western perspectives. Studying non-Western cultures should benefit mutual cross-cultural understanding in global society as well as assist in the search for alternatives to achieve sustainable development goals. This series of lectures aims to provide an inside view of Japanese culture and society. The first four lectures are grouped under the keyword 'becoming' and will take examples from the aesthetics of 'kawaii', aspects of the matsuri festival and sustainable operation of local enterprises. The latter four lectures are organized under the keyword 'otherworldliness', and will analyze Spirited Away (2000) and Daemon Slayer (Kimetsu no Yaiba) (2020) to exemplify how the reality of time-space is generated.

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| Week 1 | The idea of becoming |
| Week 2 | Aesthetics of kawaii |
| Week 3 | The matsuri machine |
| Week 4 | Becoming-Sustainable |
| Week 5 | The idea of otherworldliness |
| Week 6 | Spirited Away |
| Week 7 | Kimetsu no Yaiba (1) |
| Week 8 | Kimetsu no Yaiba (2) |