UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Japanese Language I

2324-1-E2001R058-E2001R066M

Course title

Japanese language 1

Topics and course structure

The Japanese Language 1 course aims to provide the foundation for learning the Japanese language at the elementary level. At the end of the course, the student acquires basic skills in grammar, vocabulary, spoken language and writing through face-to-face lectures by the Italian teacher and the native speaker. He/she is able to conduct simple conversations and read and write basic texts. Attendance and active participation in class are highly recommended.

Objectives

Knowledge and understanding

Students will acquire solid and systematic knowledge of the fundamentals of the Japanese language at the elementary level.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

Students will learn to independently rework the grammatical structures and vocabulary learned in the lessons covered in the syllabus, as well as to recognize and read a sufficient number of kanji for understanding texts written in Japanese at an elementary level.

With regard to independent judgment and the strengthening of communication skills, teaching urges students to independently formulate their own opinion and argue it effectively. Learning skills are stimulated through active participation in lectures and discussion of materials provided by the lecturer.

Methodologies

Lectures and language conversation classes

Online and offline teaching materials

The manuals indicated in the bibliography and materials uploaded to the e-learning page by the Italian teacher and the mother-tongue teacher

Programme and references

The course aims to provide the basics of elementary written and spoken Japanese. The program includes a theoretical teaching part aimed at analyzing grammatical aspects of the Japanese language (first 9 units of the textbook). Lectures by the Italian teacher are supplemented by exercises with a native speaker. At the end of the course, the student is expected to know all the vocabulary and all the kanji (in reading) that appear in the textbook units. Learning 101 kanji from the textbook in writing is also expected.

Bibliografia:

– An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese. Genki (Third Edition), vol. 1, a cura di Eri Banno et al., The Japan Times, Tokyo, 2022 (lezz. 1-9)
– An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese. Genki. Workbook (Third Edition), vol. 1, a cura di Eri Banno et al., The Japan Times, Tokyo, 2022 (lezz. 1-9)
– Materiali caricati sulla pagina e-learning dell'insegnamento
– M. Mastrangelo, N. Ozawa, M. Saito, Grammatica giapponese, Hoepli, Milano, 2016 (o edizioni successive) (facoltativo)
– Simone Guerra, Kanji. Grande dizionario giapponese-italiano dei caratteri, Zanichelli, Bologna, 2015 (o edizioni successive) (consigliato)
– Susanna Marino, Il dizionario di giapponese, Bologna, Zanichelli, 2019; oppure AA.VV., Dizionario giapponese-italiano, Sh?gakukan, Tokyo, 2008 (o edizioni successive)

Assessment methods

The final examination consists of a written test and an oral test.

The written test, preparatory to the oral test, includes: a) grammar exercises, vocabulary, comprehension of a text; b) recognition and writing/reading exercises of characters (kanji) and phonetic syllabaries; c) translation of a passage from Japanese into Italian (using paper dictionaries). To be admitted to the oral test, the student must obtain a mark of at least 15/30 (plus 2 bonus points).

The oral test, which can only be taken after passing the written paper, consists of: self-presentation, a short conversation in Japanese; reading of one or more texts (the kaiwa at the beginning of the unit) found within each unit in the syllabus of the textbook; questions on the passages read (you must answer without looking at the book) (with the mother-tongue teacher); reading, translation and grammar questions on one or more passages analysed in class (yomikakihen from the textbook) and taken from the first volume of Itaria de manabu nihongo by Sait? Mariko (readings on pp. 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, 27, 30, 37); oral translation of a few sentences from Italian into Japanese (with the Italian lecturer). The final exam mark will be the average of the marks obtained in the written and two oral exams, to which 1 bonus point will be added.

The written and the oral may be taken in different appeals; however, both tests must be taken and passed by the February 2025 appeal, or the grade given in the written partial test will be forfeited. The grade in the written test remains valid even if the student decides to reject the grade in the oral. A student who decides to reject the grade of the written test must promptly notify the lecturer by e-mail.

Evaluation criteria: evaluation of the degree of assimilation of grammatical content, lexical correctness and richness, character knowledge; ability to apply acquired notions, correct use of terminology.

Office hours

By appointment via email

Programme validity

The programmes are valid for two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION