UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Japonese Language II

2425-2-E2001R059-E2001R068M

Course title

Japanese Language 2

Topics and course structure

The Japanese Language 2 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

Through this course, with constant and participatory attendance at lectures and the Laboratory connected with the course, it is intended to PROMOTE the following learning, in terms of:

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

The most part of the lessons will be delivered in presence in interactive mode. Only some lessons will be delivered in the delivery mode.

Online and offline teaching materials

Textbook and materials loaded on the e-learning page

Programme and references

The course aims to extend the basics of elementary written and spoken Japanese learnt in the first year. The programm includes a theoretical part, held by the Italian teacher, aimed at analysing the grammatical aspects of the Japanese language (last three units of the book already used in the first year and the first six units, i.e. from no. 13 to no. 18, of Genki II, the second-year book). The theoretical part will be supplemented by exercises with a native speaker teacher. At the end of the course, the student is expected to know, in addition to the grammar rules, all the vocabulary and all the kanji (in reading) that appear in the units of the textbook. The students will be able to write 240 kanji (those of the first year and those of the second year).

– An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese. Genki (Second Edition), voll. 1 e 2, a cura di Eri Banno et al., The Japan Times, Tokyo, 2016 (lezz. 10-18)
– Additional language materials and selection of excerpts from the book Itaria de manabu nihongo by Mariko Sait? uploaded to the teaching e-learning page

Assessment methods

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

The written test, which is a prerequisite for the oral exam, lasts 3 hours in total and is graded on a 30-point scale. It includes:

1. Exercises in reading, recognition, and writing of kanji and phonetic syllabaries (without dictionaries)
2. Grammar and vocabulary exercises (without dictionaries)
3. Translation from Japanese to Italian of a text and translation of some sentences from Italian to Japanese (only with paper dictionaries)

Students who score at least 18/30 on the written test are allowed to take the oral exam, which consists of:

1. A conversation in Japanese using word and grammatical structures of the Units in program (with a native speaker) (graded on a 30-point scale)
2. Reading and translating one or more passages (without furigana) from volume 1 of Itaria de manabu nihongo (vol. 1 pp. 51, 58, 59; vol. 2 pp. 7, 18, 21, 22, 25, 26, 29) by Mariko Sait? and from the textbook (with the Italian instructor) (graded on a 30-point scale)

The final exam grade will be calculated according to the average grade of the written and oral grades.

The written and oral exams can be taken in different sessions; however, both exams must be completed and passed by the February 2026 exam session, or the grade from the written partial exam will be canceled. The grade from the written exam remains valid even if the student chooses to reject the oral exam grade. If a student wishes to reject the oral exam grade, they must inform the instructor promptly via email.

Assessment Criteria: Evaluation of the degree of assimilation of grammatical content, correctness and richness of vocabulary, knowledge of characters; ability to apply acquired knowledge, and correct use of terminology.

Office hours

To be arranged by email

Programme validity

The programme are valid for two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION