



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Japanese Language I

2425-1-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

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 uploaded to the e-learning platform

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.

- 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)
- Additional language materials and selection of excerpts from the book *Itaria de manabu nihongo* by Mariko Saito? uploaded to the teaching e-learning page
- Language and language history handouts uploaded to the teaching e-learning page
- 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)
- Susanna Marino, *Il dizionario di giapponese*, Bologna, Zanichelli, 2019 (o edizioni successive); oppure AA.VV., *Dizionario giapponese-italiano*, Shogakukan, 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 and graded in thirtieths, includes: grammar and vocabulary exercises; writing exercises and recognition of kanji and phonetic syllabaries; translation of a few sentences from Italian into Japanese (without paper dictionaries) and a passage from Japanese into Italian (with paper dictionaries). Students

who obtain a grade of at least 18/30 in the written test enter the oral test. The oral test is graded in thirtieths (max 27 points with the native speaker professor, max 3 points with the Italian professor) and includes: self-presentation, a short conversation in Japanese; reading of a text from the book *Itaria de manabu nihongo* by Mariko Sait?; questions on the passages read (you have to answer without looking at the book) (with the native teacher); questions on the language and/or language history handouts (with the Italian teacher). The final exam grade is the average of the marks given in the written and oral test.

The written and oral examinations may be taken in different months; however, both tests must be taken and passed by the February 2026, otherwise the mark obtained in the written partial test will be cancelled. The grade for the written test remains valid even if the student decides to reject the finale grade. A student who decides to decline the grade of the written test must notify the professor promptly by e-mail.

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

Office hours

to arrange by email

Programme validity

The programmes are valid two academic years

Course tutors and assistants

Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION
