

GUIDANCE for Japanese Language Learning Subjects
2026



From
Learning Japanese
to
Learning in Japanese

新潟大学国際交流センター

Our policy for teaching Japanese at Niigata University

Nowadays, it is quite easy to learn some information about a language through the Internet. However, it is not that easy to learn and acquire the ability to output your ideas and thoughts using that language all by yourself.

Here at Niigata University, all our Japanese language learning courses are aiming at cultivating students' ability to acquire that. It is true that if people want to say something in Japanese, they need to have appropriate expressions for the situation in Japanese and take that out of their brains and say it. What do you think we need to do to make it possible? Our answer to that question is that we should get rid of the old language learning style; learning grammar and accumulating the lexical knowledge.

Have you become a good Japanese user through traditional grammar based studying yourself? Have you ever questioned yourself asking "Why am I still not able to use Japanese correctly and fluently, after studying it for so long and so hard?". Studying grammar surely makes you feel that you really study a lot but you should realize that you haven't practiced language much to be able to use it in real situations. To become a good user of Japanese, you need to practice appropriate Japanese phrases depending on the situation you actually face.

If you have done some sports earnestly and eagerly, you do understand that at the beginner's level, learning correct forms are important and in the end quickest way to become a good player of that sport. And you even recognize that the practicing for learning correct forms is quite boring and tiresome activity. It is the only way that you will become a good player of that sport through boring, tiresome basic training. In language learning, that basic training is mimicking and memorizing the model sentences.

Our Japanese Classes are in 2 main categories, which are; Learning Japanese Subjects and Learning in Japanese Subjects.

Now, let's get going and learn Japanese with us and make yourself a better Japanese user.

Learning Japanese Subjects

—Lessons for Output in Japanese—

Duration varies by subject:

- Term-long subject
8 weeks: one term only
- Semester-long subject
15 weeks: two consecutive terms

《Writing》

■Semester-long

Subject	Target Level	Content
Academic Writing in Japanese I	JLPTN3	Target levels are JLPT based so that Learners should be able to become better users of Japanese through various writing exercises.
Academic Writing in Japanese II	JLPTN2	
Academic Writing in Japanese III	JLPTN1	
Academic Writing in Japanese IV	JLPTN1 or above	

Japanese Language Proficiency Test > N1-N5: Summary of Linguistic Competence Required for Each Level

<https://www.jlpt.jp/e/about/levelsummary.html>

《Speaking/Oral Communication》

Subject	Target Level	Content
■Term-long Learning Japanese I	CEFR A1	Target levels are CEFR based so that learners should be able to communicate in Japanese in various situations. CEFR A1 : as good as N5 in JLPT CEFR A2 : as good as N4 in JLPT CEFR B1 : as good as N3 in JLPT ※ CEFR and JLPT levels are not quite related.
■Term-long Learning Japanese II	CEFR A1	
■Term-long Learning Japanese III	CEFR A2	
■Term-long Learning Japanese IV	CEFR A2	
■Semester-long Learning Japanese V	CEFR A2~B1	
■Semester-long Learning Japanese VI	CEFR B1	
■Semester-long Learning Japanese VII	CEFR B1	
■Semester-long Introduction to Japanese Language	CEFR A1	Based on the recitation of selected sample monologues so that learners actually will be able to present their own information in Japanese.

—Lessons for acquiring further knowledge of Japanese language—

Subject Name	Contents								
<p>■Semester-long subject</p> <p>Japanese Reading Comprehension I / II / III / IV / V / VI</p>	<p><u>JLPT-N2 or higher is preferred.</u></p> <p>Genres vary by class I thru VI.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Professional/Academic Writing</td> <td>Literature/Poetry</td> </tr> <tr> <td>I: News Articles, etc.</td> <td>IV: Poetry, etc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II: Academic essays, etc.</td> <td>V: Novels, etc.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>III: News editorial, etc.</td> <td>VI: Waka(HAIKU), etc.</td> </tr> </table>	Professional/Academic Writing	Literature/Poetry	I: News Articles, etc.	IV: Poetry, etc.	II: Academic essays, etc.	V: Novels, etc.	III: News editorial, etc.	VI: Waka(HAIKU), etc.
Professional/Academic Writing	Literature/Poetry								
I: News Articles, etc.	IV: Poetry, etc.								
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III: News editorial, etc.	VI: Waka(HAIKU), etc.								
<p>■Term-long subject</p> <p>Lecture on Japanese Grammar in English Lecture on Japanese Grammar in Chinese</p>	<p>One way lecture on Japanese Grammar in English or Chinese. Both English and Chinese lecture use a textbook for JLPT-N2/intermediate level.</p>								

—Lessons for acquiring knowledge for working in Japan—

Subject Name	Contents
<p>■Semester-long subject</p> <p>Business Japanese</p>	<p><u>JLPT-N2 or higher is preferred.</u></p> <p>To practice and acquire practical business Japanese skills which will be needed when being employed in Japan.</p>
<p>■Semester-long subject</p> <p>Working in Japan</p>	<p><u>JLPT-N2 or higher is preferred.</u></p> <p>To gain knowledge about job hunting in Japan, and to acquire an ability to express oneself effectively in job-hunting situations.</p>

Learning in Japanese Subjects

Cross Cultural Learning A / B / C / D ■Term-long subject *A: Japanese/English bilingual.

Active Learning B / C ■Term-long subject *B: Japanese/English bilingual; C: mainly Japanese.

Intercultural Collaborative Learning A ■Term-long subject

Learning in English Subjects

Active Learning A ■Term-long subject

What is Japan A / B ■Term-long subject

Studies in Japanese Culture I / II ■Term-long subject

Be sure to check syllabus:
<https://www.niigata-u.ac.jp/academics/syllabus/>

PLEASE NOTE:

- The first term starts on Wednesday, April 8. Please make sure when you have your first lessons by seeing the university's Academic Calendar.
 - All the classes are designed for full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students and non-degree-seeking undergraduate exchange students from partner universities. Other students including graduate students are accepted only when there is vacancy in the class.
 - Research Students are accepted in Learning Japanese I –VII, when there is vacancy in the class.
 - Privately-funded research students and people with no student status are not allowed to enroll.

IMPORTANT!

1 Some subjects meet in classroom, others delivered via online.

Check the classroom shown on the syllabus for a face-to-face (in-person) subject.

For subjects delivered via online, students will need a Desktop PC, Tablet PC, Laptop PC.

⇒ Web camera and microphone must be installed on your PC.

NOTE: Students will be required to use Zoom for online lessons.

2 Apply for subjects through Student Web System Portal Site

Registration application period starts from April 1, 2026

Deadline

1st - term and semester subjects: **One day ahead of the day of the first lesson**

2nd - term subjects: **April 13, 2026**

《Procedures》

Step 1 Log in to [Niigata University Student Web System Portal Site](#).

Step 2 Apply for the subjects as soon as possible after April 1.

Step 3 Receive Zoom information (bulletin board icon) on the system for online lessons.
Go to the classroom shown on the syllabus for face-to-face lessons.

Japanese language-learning and cross-cultural-learning subjects First Semester 2026(1st Term and 2nd Term)

* Course application period starts April 1, 2026 on Student Web System.

* Students should check a syllabus for each subject they wish to take.

Syllabus Search:

<https://www.niigata-u.ac.jp/en/study/syllabus/>

[1st and 2nd terms: April 8 - August 5] ※Apply by one day prior to the day of the first session.

Class Number	Title	Credit	Term	Day Period	Capacity	Suitable for Japanese Intermediate-Beginners ✓	Conducted via Online ✓
260G4001	JLPT-N1 A	1	1,2	Fri 3	20		in-person
260G4002	JLPT-N2 A	1	1,2	Tue 2	20		in-person
260G4013	Academic Writing in Japanese I	1	1,2	Thu 2	10		in-person
260G4014	Academic Writing in Japanese II	1	1,2	Wed 2	10		in-person
260G4015	Academic Writing in Japanese III	1	1,2	Tue 1	10		in-person
260G4016	Academic Writing in Japanese IV	1	1,2	Thu 4	10		in-person
260G4017	Japanese Reading Comprehension I (News articles, etc.)	1	1,2	Mon 3	30		in-person
260G4018	Japanese Reading Comprehension II (Academic essays, etc.)	1	1,2	Fri 2	30		in-person
260G4019	Japanese Reading Comprehension III (Newspaper editorial, etc.)	1	1,2	Fri 4	30		in-person
260G4020	Japanese Reading Comprehension IV (Literature: Poetry, etc.)	1	1,2	Mon 4	30		in-person
260G4021	Japanese Reading Comprehension V (Literature: Novels, etc.)	1	1,2	Thu 3	30		in-person
260G4022	Japanese Reading Comprehension VI (Literature: Waka, etc.)	1	1,2	Tue 3	30		in-person
260G4023	Introduction to Japanese Language	3	1,2	Mon 4 / Tue 4 / Wed 4	20	✓	in-person
260G4011	Learning Japanese V	4	1,2	Mon3 / Tue3 / Wed3 / Thu3	20	✓	in-person
260G4012	Learning Japanese VI	5	1,2	Mon4 / Tue4 / Wed4 / Thu4 / Fri4	20		in-person
260G4030	Business Japanese	2	1,2	Wed 3	32		in-person
260G4031	Working in Japan	2	1,2	Fri 2	24		in-person
260G3243	Intercultural Collaborative Learning A: Business Communication in a Globalized World	2	1,2	Thu 3	30 (15/15)*		in-person
260G3244	Intercultural Collaborative Learning A: Cross Cultural Understanding through the Collaborative Learning with International Students	2	1,2	Mon 3	30 (15/15)*		in-person

* 15 international students and 15 Japanese students

[1st term: April 8 - June 8] ※Apply by one day prior to the day of the first session.

Class Number	Title	Credit	Term	Day Period	Capacity	Suitable for Japanese Intermediate-Beginners ✓	Conducted via Online ✓
261G4003	Lecture on Japanese Grammar in English	1	1	Wed 2	50		in-person
261G4005	Lecture on Japanese Grammar in Chinese	1	1	Tue 2	50		in-person
261G4007	Learning Japanese I	2	1	Mon 1 / Tue 1 / Wed 1 / Thu 1	20	✓	✓ Zoom
261G4009	Learning Japanese III	2	1	Mon 4 / Tue 4 / Wed 4 / Thu 4	20	✓	in-person
261G4026	Studies in Japanese Culture I	1	1	Fri 1	100	✓	✓ Zoom
261G4028	Studies in Japanese Culture II	1	1	Wed 5	50	✓	in-person
261G3224	Active Learning A Unique Japanese Cultures	1	1	Wed 3	50	✓	in-person
261G3227	Active Learning C globalization and anti-globalization	1	1	Thu 3	30 (15/15)*		✓ Zoom
261G3237	What is Japan A	1	1	Thu 2	100	✓	✓ Zoom
261G3229	Cross Cultural Learning A 1	1	1	Wed 1	50 (25/25)**	✓	in-person
261G3231	Cross Cultural Learning B 1	1	1	Thu 2	50 (25/25)**		in-person
261G3233	Cross Cultural Learning C 1	1	1	Mon 2	30 (15/15)*		in-person
261G3235	Cross Cultural Learning D 1	1	1	Tue 2	30 (15/15)*		in-person

* 15 international students and 15 Japanese students

**25 international students and 25 Japanese students

[2nd term: June 10 - August 5] ※Apply by April 13.

Class Number	Title	Credit	Term	Day Period	Capacity	Suitable for Japanese Intermediate-Beginners ✓	Conducted via Online ✓
262G4004	Lecture on Japanese Grammar in English	1	2	Wed 2	50		in-person
262G4006	Lecture on Japanese Grammar in Chinese	1	2	Tue 2	50		in-person
262G4008	Learning Japanese II	2	2	Mon 1 / Tue 1 / Wed 1 / Thu 1	20	✓	✓ Zoom
262G4010	Learning Japanese IV	2	2	Mon 4 / Tue 4 / Wed 4 / Thu 4	20	✓	in-person
262G4027	Studies in Japanese Culture I	1	2	Fri 1	100	✓	✓ Zoom
262G4029	Studies in Japanese Culture II	1	2	Wed 5	50	✓	in-person
262G3225	Active Learning A Unique Japanese Cultures	1	2	Wed 3	50	✓	in-person
262G3226	Active Learning B Japan as A Country Producing Something Perfect	1	2	Wed 1	30 (15/15)*		in-person
262G3228	Active Learning C globalization and anti-globalization	1	2	Thu 3	30 (15/15)*		✓ Zoom
262G3238	What is Japan B	1	2	Thu 2	100	✓	✓ Zoom
262G3230	Cross Cultural Learning A 2	1	2	Wed 1	50 (25/25)**	✓	in-person
262G3232	Cross Cultural Learning B 2	1	2	Thu 2	50 (25/25)**		in-person
262G3234	Cross Cultural Learning C 2	1	2	Mon 2	30 (15/15)*		in-person
262G3236	Cross Cultural Learning D 2	1	2	Tue 2	30 (15/15)*		in-person

* 15 international students and 15 Japanese students

**25 international students and 25 Japanese students