

Course Number	Course Title Introduction to Japanese Linguistics	Credits 2	Instructors Mark Irwin & Matthew Zisk
Keywords	Japanese language, Japanese linguistics, history of the Japanese language		
Course Description (including Goal and Objectives)	<p>The goal of this class is to give you a basic understanding of how the Japanese language functions from a linguistic perspective. Topics include the origin of the Japanese language, Japanese phonology, the Japanese writing system, grammar, sociolinguistics and language contact, dialects and government language policy.</p> <p>Grades will be based on a combination of class participation and a take-home final exam.</p>		
Course Schedule	1	Origins and history of Japanese: a brief overview	
	2	Phonology & phonetics I	
	3	Phonology & phonetics II	
	4	Vocabulary	
	5	Word building I	
	6	Word building II	
	7	Personal pronouns	
	8	Numerals & counters	
	9	Parts of speech and word order	
	10	Verbs	
	11	The topic: <i>wa</i> or <i>ga</i> ?	
	12	Writing systems and the origins of kanji	
	13	Reading and writing kanji I	
	14	Reading and writing kanji II	
	15	Hiragana & katakana	
Textbook	Irwin & Zisk. 2019. <i>Japanese Linguistics</i> . Asakura Shoten		
Reference(s)			
Grading Method	Attendance and participation	50%	
	Take home examination	50%	
Message to Students	Have you ever wondered where the Japanese language came from, why the Japanese use three different writing systems or why certain words are spelled differently than they are pronounced? We hope to answer all of these questions and more about the Japanese language in this class!		
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