

Course Number	Course Title Introduction to Japanese Linguistics	Credits 2	Instructors Matthew Zisk & Mark Irwin
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	Slang & bad language	
	5	Attitudes to language & non-verbal communication	
	6	Sociolinguistic aspects I	
	7	Sociolinguistic aspects II	
	8	Honorifics & anti-honorifics	
	9	Language in subculture	
	10	Names and naming	
	11	Sino-Japanese	
	12	Foreign borrowings	
	13	Dialects	
	14	Government language policy	
	15	Phonology and grammar through time	
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!		
Contacts	Instructor: Matthew Zisk & Mark Irwin Email: zisk@yz.yamagata-u.ac.jp ; irwin@human.kj.yamagata-u.ac.jp		