

JAPN 1101
 Elementary Japanese I (日本語初級)
 Winter 2026

Instructor: Qiushi Chen (陳 秋實)
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Office Hours: By appointment (@Webex)

Time & place: MoTuWeTh: 9:00am – 1:00pm (@Webex; link provided later)

Course description:

In this course, we learn Japanese, focusing on how to use the language in real-time situations. Emphasis is mainly on understanding how the Japanese language works, but there will also be class activities involving interactions with other students or the instructor to improve communicative abilities. Students are required to memorize Japanese words and grammatical expressions on an everyday basis.

Course materials:

Textbook: *Genki 1: An Integrated Course for Elementary Japanese I, 3rd Edition*
 (available at CO-OP; no need to purchase the workbook)

Online: http://genki.japantimes.co.jp/index_en
 (a variety of online materials to support your learning with *Genki*)

Other materials, e.g., handouts, will be distributed in class.

Grading:

Homework: 40 pts (10*4 pts)
 Quizzes: 24 pts (12*2 pts)
 Midterm exam: 20 pts
 Final exam: 20 pts
2 oral exams: 10 pts (5 pts each)
 Total: 114 pts (14 are extra)

Grading scale:

Excellent	A	4.0	91–100
	A-	3.7	89–90
Very good	B+	3.3	87–88
Good	B	3.0	81–86
	B-	2.7	79–80
	C-	2.3	77–78
Average	C	2.0	71–76
Fair	C-	1.7	69–70
Poor	D+	1.3	67–68
	D	1.0	61–66
Merely passing	D-	0.7	59–60
Failure	F	0	under 59

Website:

- The course website can be found on HuskyCT (<https://learn.uconn.edu>).
- On the website you will find: (i) the latest syllabus of the course; (ii) the gradebook; (iii) course materials other than the textbook; (iv) the quizzes, (v) a place to submit your homework.

Homework:

- Homework is distributed in most classes; it is due before the next class.
- There will be 10 homework assignments; each assignment counts as 4 points. You will be able to earn at most 40 points from doing the homework.
- Homework is submitted through Husky CT in PDF format (note that Husky CT does NOT display a photo format like .jpeg or .HEIC). Please do handwriting.
- A poor attempt (too many mistakes) will be graded as FAIL and is subject to redo. The second attempt will be taken as a late submission (3 points maximum).

Quizzes:

- A quiz will be assigned on Husky CT after all classes, and is due before the next class. You take the quizzes on HuskyCT.
- There will be 12 quizzes; each quiz counts as 2 points. You will be able to earn at most 24 points from doing the quizzes.

Mid-term & final exams:

- Students must take both the mid-term and the final written exams. They will be online.
- Accompanied with the two written exams, each student is required to talk with the instructor on Webex for 5–10 minutes. Specific instructions will be given before the exams.

Tips

- This is an intensive course. You will complete a semester worth of work within three weeks. You are strongly encouraged to speak up if you have questions or need clarifications. Let's make sure you are catching up with the content.

Academic Integrity and Honesty

- Academic dishonesty or misconduct of any type will not be tolerated in this course. We will follow the university policy in all cases of suspected misconduct. The university defines academic misconduct as follows: 'misrepresenting mastery in an academic area (e.g., cheating), intentionally or knowingly failing to properly credit information, research or ideas to their rightful originators or representing such information, research or ideas as your own (e.g., plagiarism).' Please see Appendix A of the Student Code (<https://community.uconn.edu/thestudent-code-pdf/>) for more information.
- We recognize that the concept of academic integrity might vary across cultures and institutions. Make sure you know the expectations at UConn. These are the expectations that will be enforced.
- Academic misconduct will result in a failing grade for the assignment during which it occurred. Repeated misconduct will result in failing the course and being reported to UConn's Community Standards Office, which may administer disciplinary action.

Respect

- I will do my best to provide you with an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust. Everyone must abide by UConn's academic integrity, anti-harassment, and anti-discrimination policies. We will NOT tolerate disrespectful comments regarding elements of diversity such as ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, social class, or spoken accent. Likewise, if I accidentally overlook the sensitivity of an issue, and you feel uncomfortable with some aspects of the class environment, please let me know as soon as possible.

Student Authentication

- The University of Connecticut is required to verify the identity of students who participate in distance learning or online courses and to establish that students who register in these courses are the same students who participate in and complete the course activities and assessments and receive academic credit. Verification and authentication of student identity in this course will be ensured in the following ways.
 - HuskyCT will be the primary repository and access point for course content, assessment, and activities. Students must use their NetID and password process to securely access course content/ assessments.
 - The instructor will lead two one-on-one synchronous oral examinations via Webex, where the instructor will confirm student identity.
 - The instructor will facilitate synchronous class sessions. Students are expected to be present and engage in the discussion.

Course schedule (subject to change; please check on HuskyCT)

Date	Contents	HW, quizzes
Week 1		
Dec. 29 (Mon)	Sound system, writing system (hiragana)	HW 1; Quiz 1
Dec. 30 (Tue)	writing system (katakana); counting	HW 2; Quiz 2
Dec. 31 (Wed)	Lesson 1	HW 3; Quiz 3
Jan. 1 (Thu)	<i>no class</i> (New Year)	
Week 2		
Jan. 5 (Mon)	Lesson 2	HW 4; Quiz 4
Jan. 6 (Tue)	Lesson 3	HW 5; Quiz 5
Jan. 7 (Wed)	Review of Lessons 1–3	HW 6; Quiz 6
Jan. 8 (Thu)	Mid-term (written and oral)	Quiz 7
Week 3		
Jan. 12 (Mon)	Lesson 4	HW7; Quiz 8
Jan. 13 (Tue)	Lesson 5	HW8; Quiz 9
Jan. 14 (Wed)	Lesson 6	HW 9; Quiz 10
Jan. 15 (Thu)	Review of Lessons 4–6	HW 10; Quiz 11
Jan. 16 (Fri)	Final (written and oral)	Quiz 12

