

【Course Description】

Prerequisite: Japanese 7 (or its equivalent)

This course is the second level of advanced Japanese. Japanese 8A is offered in the fall semester, and Japanese 8B is offered in the spring semester. Different course materials are used for each. This course aims to further enhance students' Japanese language skills by engaging with advanced texts and complex subjects. Students will learn to express their opinions logically and in detail while providing supporting information for explanations and arguments. The course focuses on acquiring grammar and expression skills equivalent to JLPT* N1 while aiming to achieve CEFR** B2.2 level proficiency in the four language skills. This course includes presentations, project work, and discussions that address a wide range of diverse and complex social issues. The course materials consist of packets prepared by the language faculty at Kansai Gaidai University. Students are expected to study and demonstrate the ability to read the kanji covered in the packets during the semester.

* The Japanese Language Proficiency Test

** The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

【Course Objectives】

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

1. Fluently express persuasive opinions, selecting appropriate expressions from a variety of language resources, including grammar at the level of JLPT N1 and vocabulary at the levels of JLPT N1/N2, according to the situation and audience.
2. Accurately grasp the critical points of various social issues discussed in news programs and other sources.
3. Collect relevant information on social issues and present it concisely and effectively.
4. Understand and respect the logical reasoning behind opinions that differ from their own, actively participating in discussions while maintaining effective communication.

【Class Schedule】

(Subject to change depending on class size. Students are to choose Topics 3-8 in the beginning of the term.)

	Class Content	After-class Homework
1	Orientation	Questionnaire
2	Mock Interview	Outline
3	Project Work	Task 1
4	Topic 1.1: Mini-lecture & Note-taking (Craftsmanship)	Worksheet 1.1
5	Topic 1.2: Vocabulary & Expressions (例: ～ならいざ知らず), Q&A	Worksheet 1.2
6	Topic 1.3: ★ Quiz, Group Work	Worksheet 1.3
7	Topic 1.4: Mini-presentation	Worksheet 1.4

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	Class Content	After-class Homework
8	Topic 1.5: Discussions (Craftsmanship)	Worksheet 1.5
9	Topic 1.6: Review	Worksheet 1.6
10	Review (Topic 1) - writing	Report 1
11	Project Work	Task 2
12	Topic 2.1: Mini-lecture & Note-taking (Gender)	Worksheet 2.1
13	Topic 2.2: Vocabulary & Expressions (例: ～こそすれ), Q&A	Worksheet 2.2
14	Topic 2.3: ★ Quiz, Group Work	Worksheet 2.3
15	Topic 2.4: Mini-presentation	Worksheet 2.4
16	Topic 2.5: Discussions (Gender)	Worksheet 2.5
17	Topic 2.6: Review	Worksheet 2.6
18	Project Work	Task 3
19	Review (Topics 1-2) - writing	Report 2
20	Review (Topics 1-2) - ★ Mid-term Exam	Review (Topics 1-2)
21	Project Work	Task 4
22	Topic 3.1: Mini-lecture & Note-taking (Laziness does not exist)	Worksheet 3.1
23	Topic 3.2: Vocabulary & Expressions (例: ～を皮切りに), Q&A	Worksheet 3.2
24	Topic 3.3: ★ Quiz, Group Work	Worksheet 3.3
25	Topic 3.4: Mini-presentation	Worksheet 3.4
26	Topic 3.5: Discussions (Laziness does not exist)	Worksheet 3.5
27	Topic 3.6: Review	Worksheet 3.6
28	Review (Topic 3) - writing	Report 3
29	Project Work	Task 5
30	Activity Report Session (1)	PPT slides
31	Activity Report Session (2)	PPT slides
32	Activity Report Session (3)	PPT slides
33	Project Work	Task 6
34	Topic 4.1: Mini-lecture & Note-taking (Anti-natalism)	Worksheet 4.1
35	Topic 4.2: Vocabulary & Expressions (例: 極まりない), Q&A	Worksheet 4.2
36	Topic 4.3: ★ Quiz, Group Work	Worksheet 4.3
37	Topic 4.4: Mini-presentation	Worksheet 4.4
38	Topic 4.5: Discussions (Anti-natalism)	Worksheet 4.5
39	Topic 4.6: Review	Worksheet 4.6
40	Review (Topics 3-4) - writing	Report 4
41	Project Work Presentation (1) & Discussions	Comment Sheet
42	Project Work Presentation (2) & Discussions	Comment Sheet
43	Project Work Presentation (3) & Discussions	Comment Sheet
44	Review ★ Oral Interview Test (Final Exam)	Review Topics 1~4.
45	Review ★ Oral Interview Test (Final Exam)	Review Topics 1~4.

【Textbook】

Course packets prepared by the faculty members of Kansai Gaidai University
(to be distributed in class)

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【Learning Assessments】

Homework for Class Activities: 15% (5% comes from Class Performance)

Quizzes: 10%

Mid-term Exam: 15%

Mini-presentation: 10%

Project Work: 20% (includes Individually tailored activities for Project Work)

Final Exam: 30%

Homework for Class Activities: The course schedule includes homework due dates. Read it carefully and submit your homework. Homework is accepted at the beginning of the class. After that, it will be considered “late”. For a late submission, there will be a 50% deduction if submitted before the next class starts. If submitted in or after the next class, no points will be awarded. Also, there will be a deduction if homework is incomplete, or if homework does not reflect your mastery of the subject.

Class Performance: Active participation in class is essential for creating a productive learning environment. Please refrain from activities that might hinder your engagement, such as using smartphones or engaging in unnecessary conversations with classmates. If you don't actively participate, your "class participation" evaluation may be negatively affected. Additionally, tardiness or absence can also impact your participation in class, as it reduces the time you spend engaged in the learning process. Please be mindful of this.

Quizzes: Details will be provided in class. The lowest quiz score will be dropped in calculating the final grade. There will be no make-ups for missed quizzes.

Lesson Tests: Lesson Tests for review. Details will be provided in class.

Mini-Presentation: Five-minute presentation to explore and provide additional information on one of the topics.

Project Work: 20-30 minute presentation at the end of the course. Introduce the topic you have chosen among current social issues, summarize the results of the interviews you have conducted, explain your own opinion, and lead a class discussion.

Individually tailored activities for Project Work: For your Project Work, progress toward the achievement of the goal you set, will be consulted and assessed.

Final Exam: A cumulative final exam will be scheduled for the last week. Details will be provided in class.

Grading Scales

A+: 100-97	A: 96-93	A-: 92-90
B+: 89-87	B: 86-83	B-: 82-80
C+: 79-77	C: 76-73	C-: 72-70
D+: 69-67	D: 66-63	D-: 62-60
F: 59-0		