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JPNS 301.01: Advanced Japanese

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JPNS 301: Advanced Japanese
Geography and Culture

Time: MTWR, 1:00-1:50
Meeting Place: NAC202
Instructor: Michihiro Ama (michihiro.am@mso.umt.edu)
Office: LA320
Office Hours: MTWR, 10:00-10:50 am; by appointment

Prerequisite
JPNS 202 with at least a grade of C- is required.

Course Description
This course employs a content-based approach to enhance three modes of communication
(interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) in Japanese, and examines geography of
Japan and the ways in which geography and climate have shaped Japanese life and culture.
Students continue to progress in their mastery of productive skills (spoken and written) and
perceptive skills (reading and listening) in Japanese.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)
Upon the successful completion of the entire curriculum, students will be able to do the
followings in Japanese.
1) Identify regions and prefectures of Japan with prefectural capitals,
2) Discuss geographical features and climatic conditions of Japan,
3) Explain major cities and their industries and businesses, and
4) Discuss local history, events, food, and community life of a given prefecture.

Course Texts (Selected Chapters)
Ueda, Ichizo. Nihon no chiri rekishi no chishiki to eigo o minitsukeru 日本の地理・歴史の知識
と英語を身につける (Tokyo: Bere, 2016).
shinbunsha, 2005).
Sasaki, Kaoru, et al. Topics ni yoru nihongo sogo enshu, chukyu zenki トピックによる日本語総合
演習中級前期 (Tokyo: 3A Corporation, 2009).
Course Requirements
Anyone with more than two unexcused absences will have great difficulty in passing the course. Grading in this class will be based on the following calculation:

1. Three short tests (100 pts x 3) 300 pts
2. Twenty-eight quizzes (10 pts x 28) 280 pts
3. One essay* 100 pts
4. One presentation* 100 pts
5. A peer-review assignment* 20 pts
4. Final exam 100 pts
5. Attendance 100 pts
Total 1,000 pts

Grade Scale: 1000-900=A, 899-800=B, 799-700=C, 699-600=D, 599 and below=F

Essay and Presentation Assignments*
Students are required to write one essay and present their findings in Japanese using expressions they have learned and である style. They should discuss 1) the geographical location and climate of a city they choose; 2) the city’s major industries, local attractions and specialty; and 3) its brief history. Presentations are subject to peer review: students take turn and write down in Japanese what a presenter says in Japanese, evaluate the style and flow of the presentation, pronunciation, and information given by the presenter.

Attendance
Attendance is mandatory as class participation is a vital part of language acquisition and affects the students’ grades. They can improve their participation and make the class more
interesting by coming to class prepared; interacting with the instructor and classmates in Japanese; and asking questions, commenting on discussion topics, and volunteering answers and sharing ideas in group activities. *Student attendance will be noted at the beginning of each class.* It is highly recommended that students keep in contact with their classmates, when they miss the handouts and information given on the day in order to keep up-to-date.

**Moodle**

Students are responsible for obtaining updated course information by checking Moodle. Please log in at [https://login.umt.edu/idp/profile/cas/login?execution=e1s1](https://login.umt.edu/idp/profile/cas/login?execution=e1s1) and visit “Moodle 101 for Students” for tutorial instruction.

**Grading Policy**

- If a student drops the course, s/he is responsible for the paperwork. Otherwise, the student will receive an F as the final grade. If a student wishes to change grade option, s/he must register this request. See [Official Dates and Deadlines for Spring Semester 2018](https://login.umt.edu/idp/profile/cas/login?execution=e1s1). Changing the status after the official dates and deadlines is NOT permitted.

- *Incomplete grades will NOT be granted*, unless the student has progressed satisfactorily but incidents beyond the student’s control prevent him/her from pursuing the goal.

- When long absences and emergencies are expected, consult with the instructor immediately. *Do NOT wait until the incident is over.*

- *Make-up tests will NOT be permitted* unless the student has a legitimate excuse and contacts the instructor 12 hours prior to a quiz/exam day. However, it will be left to the instructor’s discretion as to whether or not a make-up is granted.

- Students are required to maintain all of their work, including tests, quizzes, homework, and artifacts, which may include business cards, a video recording of a presentation, business letters, etc.

**Academic Honesty**

Students are expected to follow ethical standards such as integrity and honesty in preparing and presenting materials that demonstrate their level of knowledge and that is used to determine their grades. When an act of academic dishonesty is detected, the instructor is obliged to speak to the student and report it to the Department. For more detailed
information, see the section V Academic Conduct in the University of Montana Student Conduct Code (http://www.umt.edu/vpsa/policies/student_conduct.php).

Student Service Policies

- Emergency Procedures: In case of an emergency evacuation, students will take all their personal belongings and move to a safe area outside the building.

- Disability Accommodations: “Students with disabilities, faculty, and Disability Services for Students have rights and responsibilities related to reasonable modifications. Collaborative efforts among these three parties ensure equal access.”
  “Faculty expects the student to initiate modification requests and provides reasonable modifications to ensure equal access. Faculty also refers students to Disability Services when necessary and refrains from retaliation against individuals advocating for accessibility.” (Cited from http://www.umt.edu/dss/Faculty/default.php)
  It is highly recommended that students with certified disabilities make a specific request to the instructor at least one week prior to the particular need.

- Disruptive and Improper Behavior: Cell phones must be turned off when a class is in session. No chewing of gum or eating in class is allowed. The dress code should be in accord with the learning place.