

COURSE OFFERINGS

UHM Study Abroad Center ♦ J. F. Oberlin University
Spring Semester or Academic Year in Machida, Japan

ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

- All students must enroll in a minimum course load per term of 13 credits at Oberlin.
- Core Language is required.
- All students must enroll in at least one of the UHM Resident Director's courses each term, when available.

COURSE CATEGORIES

Core language: Students will be sent an online placement exam before departure. Based on the results, students will be placed into an equivalent level at JFOU.

<https://www.obirin.ac.jp/en/programs/studyabroad/courses/japanese/core.html>

JFOU Japanese Core Language Levels								
Beginner (6 credits)				Intermediate (4 credits)				Advanced (2 credits)
1a	1b	2a	2b	3a	3b	4a	4b	5

Elective language courses are 1-credit each, which can be combined to create a JPN Directed Reading credit. Students placed into Beginner levels can also combine two Elective language courses with the Core language class to form two 4-credit JPN equivalent courses at UHM.

<https://www.obirin.ac.jp/en/programs/studyabroad/courses/japanese/electives.html>

COURSE TITLE	TERM*	LEVEL						
		1	2a	2b	3a	3b	4	5
Tutorial	F S	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Experiential Activities	F S	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Kanji	F S		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Pronunciation	F S			✓	✓			
Speaking (1, 2, 3)	F S				✓	✓	✓	✓
Writing (1, 2, 3)	F S				✓	✓	✓	✓
Reading (1, 2, 3)	F S						✓	✓
Grammar	F S				✓	✓	✓	✓
Modern Pop Culture	F S				✓	✓	✓	✓
Occupational Communication	F S							✓
Listening/Note-Taking	F S							✓
Terms in Geography and History	F S							✓
Academic Essay Writing	F S							✓
Newscasts and Newspaper Articles	F							✓
Expressions in Japanese & Chinese	S							✓
Expressions in Japanese & Korean	F							✓

*Term: Fall, Spring

Content courses taught in English are listed as 4 credits each at JFOU, but are recorded as 3 credits each at UHM. UHM equivalents are provided, where available. Course titles and contents are subject to change without notice.

Fall semester JFOU titles		UHM equivalent
Modern Japanese Culture	近代の日本文化論	ANTH 484 (DS)
Japanese Art: History	日本の芸術	TBD
Japanese History: US-Japan Exchanges	日本の歴史	AMST 319
The Japanese and International Society	日本人と国際社会	TBD

Spring semester JFOU titles		UHM equivalent
Intercultural Communication	異文化コミュニケーション論	COM 340 (DS)
Japanese Theatrical Art	日本の舞台芸術	THEA 428 (DA)
Japanese Culture	日本の文化	EALL 325D (DH)
Premodern Japanese History	日本の歴史	HIST 321 (DH)
Fieldwork in Japan	比較人文学特論	HIST 321 (DH)

COURSE ARTICULATION

UHM Japanese language credits are determined according to the last completed JPN course at UHM and the number of total enrolled language credits. UHM equivalents will also vary depending on JFOU language placement.

- Beginner Level: Students can combine their Core language class with two 1-credit Elective courses to form two 4-credit JPN equivalent courses at UHM.
- Intermediate Level: Students can combine 1-credit Elective courses to form a JPN Directed Reading credit (399 or 499), but they will only receive one 4-credit JPN course from the Core language class.
- Advanced Level: JPN credits will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. However, UHM students placing into this level is rare.

Example...

Last Completed JPN at UHM	JFOU Language Placement	JFOU Registration	UHM JPN Registration while at JFOU
112 or 102	Beginner	Core (6-cr) + Two 1-cr Electives	258 (4-cr), 259 (4-cr)
212 or 202	Intermediate	Core (4-cr) + Three 1-cr Electives	358 (4-cr), 399 (3-cr)
302 or 305	Intermediate	Core (4-cr) + No 1-cr Electives	458 (4-cr) only
402 or 404	Intermediate	Core (4-cr) + Three 1-cr Electives	415 (3-cr), 499 (3-cr)

Students must use the Electives and/or the English-taught content courses to reach the minimum credit load of 13 JFOU credits. This includes enrolling in at least one UHM Resident Director course, when available.

J. F. OBERLIN RECONNAISSANCE JAPAN PROGRAM

Core language

Japanese I Spring/Fall - 6 credits

This course is an introduction to modern colloquial Japanese through aural-oral drills and exercises using basic grammatical structures. By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to handle basic conversation used in greetings, self-introductions, shopping, etc. Students also acquire basic reading and writing skills through mastery of hiragana, katakana, and very basic kanji to write short sentences.

Japanese II Spring/Fall - 6 credits

This course, which is equivalent to elementary Japanese. After reviewing introductory Japanese, students will practice the grammar items beginner level through oral practice. Learn the four language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) in a well-balanced manner. By the end of this level, students will be able to understand commonly used sentences and expressions in simple daily conversation, very basic personal and family information, shopping.

Japanese III Spring/Fall - 4 credits

This course, which is early intermediate level (have completed the beginner level). It aims at the further development of the four basic language skills. The strongest emphasis will be placed on speaking properly in specific given situations. Students will practice different levels of speech (i.e. formal and informal styles) and learn how to give a short speech or report, take part in or preside over discussions, etc. Students will also practice reading materials with basic *kanji* and writing short essays on specific topics.

Japanese IV Spring/Fall - 4 credits

This course is equivalent to high-intermediate Japanese. Its goal is to provide students with the basic knowledge and skills necessary for taking content courses in Japanese and participating in discussions, and for developing and deepening friendships with people around them in Japanese. In the area of knowledge building, students will learn core vocabulary, expressions, and grammatical items through the use of everyday language materials such as newspaper articles and newscasts. In the area of skills development, students will be given tasks designed to help them; comprehend short passages quickly and accurately, follow short conversations and television broadcasts, express themselves in face-to-face and telephone conversations, give short presentations, and write letters and short reports.

Japanese V Spring/Fall - 2 credits

This course serves as an introduction to advanced Japanese. Its goal is twofold: (1) to provide students with additional knowledge and skills necessary for attending lectures and participating in discussions, and for developing and deepening friendships with people around them in Japanese; and (2) to improve each student's ability to manage his/her own learning experiences through consultation and discussions with the instructor and classmates. In the area of knowledge building, students will learn

vocabulary, expressions, and grammatical items used in materials such as introductory books in various fields of study and newspapers. In the area of skills development, practice rapidly processing large quantities of information in Japanese, and expressing themselves to others in their own words. Students will also reflect on what they have learned in and outside the classroom with the goal of becoming autonomous learners who can manage the process of learning on their own.

Elective language (1-cr. each)

Japanese (Tutorial) Spring, Fall
Students are encouraged to proceed in their studies according to academic goals and study plans set individually with support and advice from the instructor. The content of this course differs by individual, focusing on overcoming weak points or pursuing language-related topics of special interest. In principle, students learn at their own pace; however, group activities may be organized according to student needs. In this course, students are encouraged to: (1) think about their Japanese-language needs and how to best meet those needs; (2) proceed in their studies according to their goals; and (3) evaluate outcome(s). Through these activities, the course aims to help students discover their own learning style and cultivate an independent learning attitude for future studies.

Japanese (Kanji I, II)..... Spring, Fall
These courses are designed for students with a non-Chinese language background. They are offered at two levels: for those who are at level 2 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program (Kanji I); and for those who are at levels 3 to 4 or the equivalent (Kanji II). Emphasis will be placed on providing students with alternative approaches to kanji through various tasks such as dividing one kanji into its components (e.g., radicals), grouping kanji, and studying the morphology of kanji, rather than rote memorization.

Pronunciation Spring, Fall
This course is primarily intended for students who are at levels IIb and III in the core Japanese program. The course will introduce students to the basics of Japanese pronunciation. They will learn about various features of the Japanese sound system such as vowels, consonants, rhythm, intonation, and accent through various activities such as voice performance and training, singing, and writing Haiku poems. Each class meeting will start with light warm-up stretches designed to help prepare students for vocal activities. The course also aims to improve students' general speaking skills.

Japanese (Speaking I, II, III)..... Spring, Fall
These courses are designed for students who are at levels 3 to 6 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. The students will be placed in appropriate levels. The courses aim at developing various aspects of students' proficiency according to their needs and levels. These aspects include knowledge of basic vocabulary, expressions, and grammar, oral skills such as asking for clarification or confirmation, and the use of facial expressions and gestures for effective communication. Advanced students will work on their oral communication skills to adjust their speech according to situation and

addressee; cope with challenging situations involving negotiation; discuss complicated social issues or feelings; and appropriately use expressions rooted in cultural differences. Native speakers of Japanese may participate in class as volunteers.

* One's oral proficiency level may be different from that for the core class. Therefore, those who wish to register for this course must do so according to the placement for "Speaking" classes (i.e., I, II, or III) Generally, "Speaking I" entails the overall proficiency of "3b" or higher.

Japanese (Writing I, II, III) Spring, Fall

These courses are designed for students who are at levels 3 to 6 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. The students will be placed in appropriate levels. The courses aim to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary for; writing simple notes and email, stating their opinions using appropriate expressions and grammar, and eventually fully participating in academic activities (e.g., giving presentations in seminars and writing papers) with Japanese students. Students will acquire the vocabulary and expressions necessary to structure their compositions logically.

* One's level of writing skills may be different from that for the core class. Therefore, those who wish to register for this course must first take a separate placement for courses in writing. (Detailed information is provided at the JLP Orientation and on the online course syllabus.) Generally, "Writing I" entails the overall proficiency of "3b" or higher.

Japanese (Reading I, II, III) Spring, Fall

These courses are designed for students who are at levels 4 to 6 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. The students will be placed in appropriate levels. The courses aim to provide students with the knowledge and skills they need to rapidly process large quantities of authentic Japanese written material. Students will read various materials on society and culture to improve their reading skills. "Reading I" will focus on speed reading large quantities of material, whereas "Reading II" and "Reading III" have the additional goal of achieving deeper understanding of the material. Those who plan to continue study Japanese at a higher level in the following semester are strongly advised to take one of these courses.

* One's level of reading skill may be different from that for the core class. Therefore, those who wish to register for this course must do so according to the placement for "Reading" classes (i.e., I, II, or III). Generally, "Reading I" entails the overall proficiency of "3b" or higher.

Elementary Japanese (Experiential Activities) Spring, Fall

This course is designed for beginning students at levels 1 to 2 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. The course centers around activities outside the classroom. Its goals are; to help students obtain the linguistic knowledge and skills necessary for daily life, expose students to diverse forms of expression, allow them to experience authentic Japanese society and culture, help them gain confidence in using the Japanese language, and have them think about methods of language study outside the classroom. For example, in the 2023, the project will collaborate with university cafeteria an the

theme of diversity in Japanese food culture. Students are required conducts preparation in the classroom or at home to make practical suggestions for the cafeteria, and report on the progress in the next class. There will also be Japanese-speaking interactions with diverse people such as non-class students. No textbook will be used, and transportation expenses, admission fees, and other actual costs will be borne by the students themselves.

Intermediate Japanese (Elementary & Intermediate Grammar) Spring, Fall

This course is intended for intermediate students who are at levels 3 to 4 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. The goal of the course is to help students make appropriate use in various situations of the basic grammatical items learned at the high-elementary level (e.g., passive and causative verb forms and constructions, particles, expressions relating to time, demonstratives, honorific language) and gain competence in varying their language according to situation while learning differences between similar grammatical items and expressions. The course will focus not only on daily colloquial communication but also on the written medium of communication. It aims to help students acquire the grammatical foundation necessary for the high-intermediate and advanced levels while also working to enlarge their vocabulary.

Intermediate Japanese (Experiential Activities) Spring, Fall

This course is for intermediate students who are at levels 3 to 4 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. The course centers around activities outside the classroom. Its goals are; to expose students to diverse forms of expression, allow them to experience authentic Japanese society and culture, help them gain confidence in using the Japanese language, and have them think about methods of language study outside the classroom. Activities, which are arranged by the instructor according to student interests, may include: shopping, cooking, observing a traditional Japanese event such as a local festival, making an appointment by phone, and paying a home visit. Normally, each activity will be conducted in the week following preparation in class or at home. No textbook will be used, and transportation expenses, admission fees, and other actual costs will be borne by the students themselves.

Intermediate Japanese (Modern Pop Culture) Spring, Fall

This course is for intermediate students who are at levels 3 to 4 or the equivalent in the core Japanese program. Students will learn about contemporary Japanese popular culture through "J-pop" music, movies, dramas, animated films, fashion, and other forms of "youth culture" (wakamono-bunka). The course aims to help students learn new phrases and expressions that would normally not appear in language textbooks and to deepen their understanding of contemporary popular culture. In the class, native Japanese-speaking guests will be available as a "learning resource." Students are encouraged to talk and exchange information with the guests in order to learn about contemporary popular culture through authentic interactions with Japanese people.