



KANSAI UNIVERSITY GLOBAL FRONTIER

Course Guide 2023



KUGF Course Guide

International Education Support Office
Division of International Affairs Kansai University

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KUGF Curriculum Website ▶




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Course Schedule21-22

*The course information outlined in this booklet is abbreviated. Please refer to the online syllabi for further details.
*Course offerings and/or content may be changed without notice depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic.
*Photos in this booklet were taken before October 2022.



KUGF Curriculum

The courses are taught entirely in English, and cover a range of subject areas. KUGF courses are open to both Japanese and international students. The purpose of these courses is to improve language proficiency and communication skills, develop a high level cross-cultural understanding, and foster global leadership skills.

*The primary language of instruction for some "Japanese as a Second Language courses" is Japanese.

Credit and Course System

- Each course convenes weekly for 15 weeks.
 - In accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, one credit is defined as 45 hours of study time per Kansai University credit.
 - All courses are 2 credits, which equates to 90 hours' worth of study.
- *For more information on credit approval, be sure to check with your university supervisor well in advance.

Academic Calendar

Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
← Spring Semester →				Summer Vacation		← Fall Semester →		Winter Vacation	→ Spring Vacation		

Time Table

Period	1st	2nd	Lunch Time	3rd	4th	5th
Time	9:00-10:30	10:40-12:10		13:00-14:30	14:40-16:10	16:20-17:50

English Requirements

1	2	3	4
GTEC ~180 TOEFL ITP ~430 TOEFL iBT ~40 TOEIC ~375 IELTS 4.0 CEFR A2	GTEC 180~260 TOEFL ITP 430~505 TOEFL iBT 40~60 TOEIC 375~580 IELTS 4.5 CEFR A2-B1	GTEC 260~ TOEFL ITP 505~ TOEFL iBT 60~ TOEIC 580~ IELTS 5.0 CEFR B1	GTEC 280~ TOEFL ITP 520~ TOEFL iBT 72~ TOEIC 600~ IELTS 5.5 CEFR B1-B2

Icons Description

Classes may be changed. Please confirm the Kansai University Syllabus System for the latest information.
実施対象クラスは変更になる可能性があります。最新情報は関西大学シラバスシステムよりご確認ください。

COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning)



COIL is an innovative pedagogy involving collaborative teaching and learning facilitated by online communication via ICT (such as Zoom etc.) that allows students to work together to complete assignments that meet shared learning objectives through student-centered Problem Based Learning (PBL) in addition to improving their cross-cultural understanding and intercultural communication skills.

COILとは、ZoomなどのICTツールを用いて国内にしながら海外の学生達とオンラインで連携し、さまざまな分野のプロジェクトに取り組む学習方法です。異文化理解や異文化間コミュニケーションスキルの他、学生中心の課題解決型学習(PBL)により、メディア・リテラシーやチームワーク・スキルなど様々なスキルを身に付けることができます。

EOL (Engaged/Exchange Online Learning)



All EOL courses will be offered 100% online to connect with student peers at our partner universities around the globe to engage in interactive learning experiences and exchange constructive dialogue in a multicultural setting.

関西大学の海外パートナー大学の学生とオンラインでつながり、共に協働学習型活動を行うインタラクティブな授業科目です。日本にしながらにして、世界各国の学生と共に意見交換や価値観共有、異文化理解を培うことができます。

On-site / Live-Remote in classroom



Classes are conducted simultaneously using the Global Smart Classroom (GSC) installed on each campus. This on-site and online together classes create an environment where students can learn without campus boundaries.

教室配信科目

各キャンパス設置されているGlobal Smart Classroom(GSC)を活用し、いずれかのキャンパスから同時配信で授業を行います。対面+オンラインの授業形態で、キャンパスの垣根を超え、ともに学べる環境となっています。

CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning)



In this course, depending on the students' level of understanding of English, the instructor may use students' mother tongue (e.g., Japanese) or use slides supplemented with Japanese when regarded appropriate (e.g., when explaining assignments, directions for a task).

CLIL(日本語も適宜活用しつつ行う内容と外国語の統合学習)

受講生の英語の理解度に合わせて、担任者が日本語使用について適切だと判断した場合(課題説明時など)に、日本語への切り替えや日本語で補足した教材スライドを使用します。



Summer Intensive Course



Winter Intensive Course



English Requirement

Student Voices

Freshman at the time of enrollment / Foreign Languages Major at Kansai University



Courses

- Marketing in Japan
- Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues
- International Business for Entrepreneurs

I took these courses in order to become familiar with classes conducted in English in preparation for my study abroad program starting in my second year. In the classes, we studied subjects like business which is not my major, so I was able to acquire skills other than just English language. It was also a great opportunity to meet and deepen my friendship with international students. It was very stimulative for me to see their ability to speak up and the wide knowledge.

2年次から始まる留学に向け、英語で行われる授業に慣れておきたいと思い履修しました。授業ではビジネスなど専攻以外の科目を学ぶことができ、英語力以外のスキルも同時に得ることができたと感じています。また留学生と仲を深めるきっかけにもなり、彼らのもつ発言力や豊富な知識量から多くの刺激を受けることができました。〈外国語学部 受講時1年生〉

Sophomore at the time of enrollment / Health and Well-being Major at Kansai University



Courses

- Presentation Skills
- TOEFL Score Up Training II (Current : TOEFL/IELTS を通した英語学習II)
- Cross-Cultural Competence (Current : Understanding Cross-Cultural Communication)

I attended "Presentation skills" class for the first time and it was completely different from English classes I had taken in high school where I learned English as a language. The class was taught using English as a tool and it was far more difficult but also fun. The teacher told me, "I want to hear your opinion, not your English," and I learned the importance of expressing my own opinion even if it is not in perfect English.

初めて履修した「Presentation Skills」は、高校までの「英語を学ぶ」授業とは全く違い「英語で学ぶ」難しさを知りましたが、同時にその楽しさを教えてくれた科目でもあります。先生から「あなたの英語ではなく、あなたの意見が聞きたい」と言われ、完璧な英語じゃなくても自分の意見を言う大切さを学びました。〈人間健康学部 受講時2年生〉

Exchange Student



Courses

- Communication in Japanese Society
- Contemporary Japan

I attended "Business Japanese" class as I was thinking about working for a Japanese company. It is an exercise-type class with not just solving problems on work sheet but also role-playing. The teacher's explanations and corrections are very thorough and easy to understand, so I would recommend this class to foreign students who are thinking about working for a Japanese company or in Japan.

日系企業への就職を考えていたのでビジネス日本語の授業を取りました。演習型の授業ですが、問題を解くだけでなくロールプレイもあり、充実しています。先生の説明や添削も丁寧で分かりやすいので、日系企業や日本での就職を考える留学生におすすめしたい授業です。〈交換留学生〉

KUGF courses
introductory video



GLOBAL FRONTIER Module 1

Engineering Approach to Urban Issues

Disaster Transport Planning

This course will not be offered in FY2023.

The urban transport system and planning for disaster in urban area is discussed. Since the fundamental analysis techniques are summarized for normal condition, the transport planning methods in disasters can be developed. In particular, the mechanism of earthquakes is mentioned as a major type of disaster in Japan. The essential topics for disaster transport planning are discussed for practical problem solution. Finally, urban transport planning is summarized in terms of disaster prevention and mitigation. The impact of COVID-19 to the urban transport system would be discussed as a recent specific topic.



International students and Japanese students studying at Kansai University engage in group work on a specialized topic.



Taking part in lectures with international students.



Food Science & Biotechnology

Biotechnology and Bioethics

Fall Semester

Tue 3

Biotechnology, the field dealing with the transformation of living and inanimate matter to produce products beneficial to humankind, is a fast-paced science that is continuously expanding to an extent of engulfing almost all major sciences. It is a chain of collaboration among major biological sciences, technology, production, and regulation. It has become the 'PILOT' that maneuvers the world's society and moves the global economy. In short, Biotechnology opens great horizons, from job opportunities to entrepreneurship, in food, energy resources, diagnostic tools, medicines, therapies, information technology and others. Nevertheless, all these promises commence several inevitable bioethical issues that command immediate attention to be addressed. Bioethics, hence, is an important factor to keep the humankind safe from the emerging applications of Biotechnology. Biotechnology and Bioethics influence the life of humankind in one way or another. Accordingly, this course offers an introductory to the basic concepts, foundation, and applications of Biotechnology, and a gateway to be aware and discuss the bioethical issues behind that surfaced from the expeditious advancement in the field. Active learning approach will be applied to this course for students to develop skills on critical thinking, academic writing, and presentation. Awareness of what it is all about may even pave the way of one to partake in the evolving science of Biotechnology towards the path of building a secured world for all and have an interesting future endeavour with one's major. Consequently, this course invites all students from multidisciplinary fields.



Food Safety

Fall Semester

Fri 2

Food safety is an essential part of our life, but is not placed as much importance as it actually deserves. This is because people are not provided with appropriate level of knowledge that makes them understand what will be a consequence if basic rule of food safety is not followed. In this course, we will take a look of how food safety concept has been established in our society, and major changes in our way of life that was induced by the accumulated knowledge of food safety. Toward the end of this course, attendants are guided to formulate a simplified HACCP for their food so that they will know what they must cast a big attention in the aspect of food safety.



Marketing of Food, Alcohol and Cosmetics

Fall Semester

Fri 3

In order to understand what can be added by Marketing to our business, we will study the history of Marketing, theory, and practical examples in which Marketing has demonstrated its significance.



Polysaccharide Science

Fall Semester

Wed 3

Carbohydrates or saccharides are the most abundant class of biomolecules and they are used to store energy, as well as serving other important functions. Saccharides, especially polysaccharides are important class of nutrient. The course will provide student to learn and understand the fundamentals of several polysaccharides such as Starch, Alginate, Pectin, Carrageenan, Chitin/chitosan as well as the fundamental knowledge of saccharides. Requirements for taking this course: The course mainly contains the explanation of polysaccharides based on chemistry, so it is essential to have basic knowledge of chemistry.



Science of Washoku (Japanese Cuisine)

Spring Semester

Fri 3

Washoku was registered an Intangible World Heritage, and ever since belief has wide spread that Washoku is genuinely a healthy diet. Some belief has a sound basis, and others do not. In this course, we try to explain both merit and demerit of Washoku, and guide you to a point of becoming able to compose healthy diet for your own based on what have been learnt during the course.



Field-work in Japanese Shopping Streets.



International Business & Entrepreneurship

Business & Japanese People

Fall Semester

Tue 4

This course is for students who want to learn about the Japanese business environment, what it's like to work for a company in Japan, and how businesses are started here. We will examine the business practices and management styles of small companies like startup companies to large corporations. This class also provides the unique opportunity for students to learn from various guest speakers about their careers from starting businesses, to working for various companies, to changing jobs in Japan. This course will help prepare you for work in Japan whether you are considering starting your own business here or want to work for a Japanese company in the future.



Business for SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals)

Spring Semester

Tue 4

1. Business for SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) is an introductory course to learn and expand students' knowledge and understanding of SDGs.
2. The course provides an overview of the SDGs that comprise the core materials of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for governments, businesses, civil society and global citizens.
3. The particular focus of the course will be on how SDGs can be incorporated into business activities, including product and service innovation, marketing, the development of new business models and systems, and entrepreneurship.
4. A combination of lectures, case studies, class discussions, assigned readings, self-reflection essays, and team presentations are the main methods of teaching used on this course.
5. Students are not required to have the prerequisite knowledge on the topic.
6. There is no formal textbook.



International Business for Entrepreneurs

Fall Semester

Tue 5

This course is for students who are seeking new business ideas and practical knowledge for starting their own businesses. This class provides an opportunity for hands-on learning and to have an entrepreneurial experience. Students will be able to work in groups to develop their business ideas by going out there and gathering data from customers, partners, and competitors. This class is team based and the customer discovery process should be done in teams. The teams will share their customer discovery process, feedback will be gathered, and agile development will be used to iterate the product or service into something customers would want to use or buy. It is encouraged that you come to the first day of class with some problems that you want to solve or ideas you wish to explore.



Japanese Industries and Companies (The Global Competition)

Spring Semester

Tue 5

Fall Semester

Wed 5

Japanese Industries and Companies under the Global Competition

This lecture intends to explain the corporate system, industrial organisation and global management strategy of major Japanese companies. In this lecture, the current position and future prospective of Japanese economy and companies are discussed. Major Japanese companies stormed the world economy in the 1980s; however, they are turned adrift in these three decades (this often referred as the "lost three decades"). What is the fundamental source of Japanese companies' competitiveness? Why they are losing their competitive advantage? This may be related to their unique corporate structure and culture that remain substantially unchanged for a long time. A number of companies from emerging economies such as South Korea, Taiwan and China appeared as unbeatable competitors for Japanese companies. This lecture also intends to explain the current picture of global competitions between Japanese and other Asian companies.

The medium of teaching language is English with infrequent use of Japanese, when necessary. Every lecture ends with a group discussion, in which Japanese students are invited to discuss the current issues related Japanese company and management.



Marketing in Japan (B1)

Fall Semester

Thu 3

1. Marketing in Japan is a fundamental course to learn and expand students' knowledge and understanding of marketing.
2. This course starts with the basics and will take student to a reasonably medium level of marketing.
3. This course provides the concepts, practical knowledge and toolkit of marketing from 4W2H aspects: Why (business), What (products and services), Who (customers), Where (channels), How (promotion), and How much (pricing).
4. A combination of lectures, case examples, class discussion, assigned readings, self-reflection essays, COIL approach, and team presentation are the main methods of teaching used on this course.
5. Students are not required to have prerequisite knowledge on the topic.
6. There is no formal textbook.
7. The course is part of exchange online learning programme (KU-EOL) and will be offered ONLINE via ZOOM.



Marketing in Japan (B2)

Fall Semester

Thu 4

This is an interactive course which focuses on recent developments in marketing with attention to actual processes and strategies in each industry. It aims to introduce the practical views and opinions of experienced players in the field of marketing.





Japan Studies

Comparative Asian Cultures Studies

Spring Semester

Wed 3

This is a survey course that introduces students to the cultures of Japan, China, and Korea. The course does not assume prior knowledge of the languages or cultures of East Asia; it provides a general background for further study. Excerpts from the textbook a variety of sources will be used as reading material. Students are expected to read them handouts before coming to class in order to participate in class discussion.



Japanese Arts

Spring Semester

Fri 3

This course provides an overview of the rich history of Japanese arts and culture from ancient times to the present day. Students will explore the various forms of Japanese visual arts, including traditional arts such as Ukiyo-e, Noh theater, and tea ceremony ceramics, as well as modern art movements and contemporary manga. The course will also examine the cultural context in which these art forms emerged and evolved, including the influence of religion, politics, and social change on Japanese art and culture. The course will also explore the impact of Japanese art and culture on the world and how it has been received and interpreted internationally.



Japanese Culture

(JPN Culture and Contemporary Literature)

Spring Semester

Mon 5

This Japanese Culture and Contemporary Literature course examines contemporary Japanese literature, including works written by Haruki Murakami 村上春樹 and Yoko Tawada 多和田葉子. These two writers spent living abroad and are often referred to as “globally oriented Japanese authors” whose writing styles are considered non-traditional by the Japanese literary establishment. In fact, Murakami himself states that he is an “outcast,” and Tawada seems to identify with “outsiders” whom she portrays in her works. However, at the same time, many Western critics and readers find that Japanese culture is very much a part of their works. By reading stories of these Japanese writers who have strong connections with the Western world, students explore historical and cultural issues that have dominated Japanese society and examines crucial ideas and positions currently shaping Japanese thought?which are viewed from both the inside and outside of Japan.

This course is mainly student-driven, and thus students are expected to actively engage with others in the course and prepare to discuss various topics in class. Since it is a communication intensive course in which students are required to have a series of discussion and deliver group presentations, class attendance and participation are mandatory.



Japanese Culture

(Modern Culture and Post-war History)

Fall Semester

Thu 3

Japanese Culture (Modern Culture and Post-war History) is a combination lecture that examines Japanese post-war history from the end of WWII to the present day. This course is designed to provide a comprehensive overview of key events and developments of the post-war that include intellectual trends and social movements, material culture, political and economic changes, gender relations, and issues affecting the ordinary person. In our investigation of Japanese post-war history and culture, we will draw on a number of mediums such as television, film, manga, online interviews and social media.



Japanese Economy

(Topics in Japanese Economy and Discussion)

Fall Semester

Mon 2

While looking at the development of Japan's post-World War II political economy, this course especially focuses on policy-related issues in the Japanese economy and financial markets since the 1990s. Japan's transition from the high-growth period to a matured economy around the end of the 1970s, trade disputes with advanced industrial economies and international economic coordination in the 1970s and 80s, the bursting of the bubble / financial crisis / and economic stagnation in the 1990s are key events to be discussed. Students will also learn about recent economic policies, such as Abenomics, and economic situation in Japan.



Japanese History

(Bushido: The Way of the Warrior)

Fall Semester

Tue 3

The warrior culture of Japan is viewed with fascination by Japanese and non-Japanese alike, and in recent years there has been a distinct resurgence of interest in samurai ethics and philosophy (bushido). In many ways, the reverence of ‘the Way of the warrior’ is glorified nonsense. Some scholars have even described samurai as being no more than ‘valorous butchers’, and beautified notions of samurai morality as being overstated if not totally invented. There is a significant element of truth to this cynical analysis, but I also believe that there are many aspects of samurai culture which can add to our lives today. People around the world are searching for ethical anchors in an age when honour, integrity, bravery, sincerity, and self-sacrifice for the greater good are virtues hidden by the tidal-wave of political scandal, corruption, crime, and greed. Reinterpretations of bushido are seen as one possible moral anchor. In this course I will outline the history and components (both fact and fiction) of the seemingly timeless, and in some ways border-less culture of Japan's samurai warriors.



Japanese History

(The History and Culture of Medieval Japan)

Spring Semester

Tue 3

This course will look at society and culture in Japan roughly between 1200 and 1600. Medieval Japan was influenced at all levels by the rise in power of the samurai, and their distinctive culture holds much fascination for students of Japanese history and society. Social and cultural contributions by warriors are a central theme throughout the course. However, peasants and those outside the periphery of power were also an extremely important factor in the development of medieval Japanese culture. Various facets such as the arts and religion will be considered in my series of lectures. By the end of the course, students will have learned about the unfolding of historical processes during this turbulent time in Japanese history, as well as the evolution of many aspects of traditional culture and ideals.



Japanese Law and Politics

This course will not be offered in FY2023.

This is an introductory course on Japanese legal system. The course will begin with a general introduction on the specificity of Japanese law and the debate it has given rise from a comparative perspective. It also provides a general overview on the way the legal system has developed in history and how it is currently structured from a source of law perspective. Then, various aspects of the Japanese legal system will be introduced with a special focus on constitutional law, private (civil) law, dispute resolution and private international law. The course will be provided in the form of lectures during which students are encouraged to discuss various aspects of Japanese law from legal and social perspectives. Overall, the course is designed to familiarize students with the law in Japan.



Japanese Literature

(Intro. to Classical JPN Literature)

Spring Semester

Fri 4

This course offers a survey of classical Japanese literature, from the Nara period (700-794) to the Edo period (1603-1868). We will explore the major genres, themes, and techniques that have shaped this rich and complex literary tradition, including poetry, fiction, drama, and historical narratives. Through close reading and analysis of primary texts, as well as secondary scholarship, we will examine the cultural, social, and political contexts in which these works were produced and consumed.



Japanese Literature

(Survey of Post-1945)

This course will not be offered in FY2023.

This course is a survey of post-1945 Japanese literature. We will study representative works of Japanese literature, literary movements, and genres of this period with the main focus being on how literature is an integral part of society and culture. Classes will include a mixture of lectures, discussions and close readings of selected texts in English.



Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts

Spring Semester

Tue 1

This Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts course explores main philosophical thoughts in Japan from ancient to modern times. This course traces some of the influences of social, political, and economical factors on the development of the philosophical ideas. It also gives students an opportunity to study these concepts through an examination of various contemporary issues Japan is faced with today. This course will mainly be student-driven, and thus students are expected to actively engage with others in the course and prepare to discuss the topics in class. They will also have an opportunity to prepare and deliver an individual or group presentation towards the end of the semester.

Some topics examined in this course include “wa, nationalism, internationalism, and globalism,” “Kamakura Buddhism and apocalyptic thought,” and “Confucianism, Neo-Confucianism, feudalism, and Bushido.” No prior knowledge of Japanese philosophy and thoughts required.



Japanese Popular Culture

(Postwar Japanese Culture)

Spring Semester

Thu 3

Fall Semester

Thu 5

“We all see the world through cultural glasses. The lens through which your brain sees the world shapes your reality. If you can change the lens, not only can you change the way people see reality, but you can change the way people relate to cultural differences.”

Julien S Bourrelle TEDxTrondheim 2015

Japanese pop culture, also known as “Japan pop,” refers to the cultural movement that originated in Japan and spread to other countries in the form of music, movies, television shows, and other forms of entertainment. After World War II, Japan underwent a period of rapid economic growth and modernisation, which led to the emergence of a new youth culture that embraced Western-style music, fashion, and other forms of entertainment. In recent years, Japanese pop culture has had a significant influence on global popular culture and has created several subcultures and subgenres around the world.

But what is culture? What is popular culture? & What constitutes distinctly Japanese popular culture?

In this course, we will examine Japanese popular culture, its origins, how it has evolved since the second world war, and how it has influenced and been influenced by other cultures. As we interact with cultures other than our own, we become more aware of the differences and commonalities between others and our own. The more we study another culture, the better we become at understanding our own. Thus, for both the Japanese and foreign students taking this course, not only will you learn about Japanese popular culture but also about your own cultural lens.

Note that this course is designated as a COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) course. The COIL designation could feature collaborative project work undertaken with students attending a university in another country. When applicable, this feature of the course will be used to allow students from different cultures to collaborate on projects that examine the differences and similarities between them.

Participation in the online COIL project will grant an automatic pass for the entire course (higher grades are obtained by completing additional course-related tasks and activities).



Japanese Religion

Fall Semester
Thu 4

This will be an exploration of the religious traditions of Japan, their historical development as well as their role in contemporary society. Much attention shall be paid to Shinto, which comes closest to being the “indigenous” Japanese religion, and Buddhism, the global faith that began in India and entered Japan in the 6th century. We will also touch upon the roles of Confucianism, Christianity, and so-called New Religions. An attempt will be made to cover the social, artistic, philosophical, and doctrinal characteristics of these religions, and thus we will be looking at their artistic and literary expressions as well as reading classic and contemporary texts. There will be reading material for each week, including classic texts in English translation as well as more recent scholarly articles. Classes will be a mixture of lecture by the instructor and class discussion, so students should come prepared to engage in discussion each week.



Japanese Society

Fall Semester
Mon 4

This course introduces students to important issues in contemporary Japanese society. Topics covered include demographic and generational variations; business and the workplace; education; gender and ethnicity; the political system; popular culture; and social control and dissent. The course takes an interdisciplinary approach and draws upon psychological, sociological, anthropological and other human sciences approaches to the study of culture and social interaction.



Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. to Kendo)

Spring Semester
Mon 3

The most visible vestige of samurai culture remaining in Japan today is budo—the traditional martial arts. Considering the tremendous international popularity of martial arts such as judo and karate, budo is undoubtedly one of Japan’s most successful cultural exports. People around the world practice these arts not only for self-defence or as sports, but also as a pursuit for spiritual development and enlightenment. This course will offer the student an insight into the history of the Japanese martial arts with actual hands-on experience. The first three lectures will be conducted in the classroom and the remainder will be conducted in the gymnasium where students will be given an introduction into the art of kendo. Each class will commence with a lecture on an important concept followed with a practical lesson. Schedule permitting, the students will be given the opportunity to sit in an actual grading examination. (For safety reasons student numbers will be limited to 25 people).



Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. To Naginata)

Fall Semester
Mon 3

The most visible vestige of samurai culture remaining in Japan today is budo—the traditional martial arts. Considering the tremendous international popularity of martial arts such as Judo and Karate, budo is undoubtedly one of Japan’s most successful cultural exports. People around the world practice these arts not only for self-defence or as a sport, but also as a pursuit for spiritual development and enlightenment. A relatively unknown traditional Japanese martial art is Naginata. The naginata is a weapon comprising of a wooden shaft approximately 1.2 to 2.4 meters in length with a curved blade (30 to 60 centimetres) attached to the end. It was the principal weapon of foot soldiers from the eleventh until the fifteenth centuries, and was also widely used by warrior-monks. With the onset of peace in the seventeenth century, Naginata became established as a martial art primarily studied by women. It survives today as an exciting sport and budo discipline similar in many ways to kendo, but also retains many distinguishing characteristics. This course will offer the student an insight into the history of the Japanese martial arts with actual hands-on experience. Naginata classes will be conducted in the gym. Each class will commence with a lecture on an important concept in Naginata followed with a practical lesson. (For safety reasons student numbers will be limited to 20 people).



Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society)

Spring Semester
Tue 3

Fall Semester
Tue 3

In this seminar, we are going to cover various topics relating to the Japanese language and society, such as dialects, gender, honorifics, all of which you may often encounter in your daily life in Japan. In order to understand these topics, it is not enough to examine the language system, which is composed of phonology, morphology and syntax, because the language system functions only in relation to its speakers and the society where it is spoken. This academic discipline which tackles the relationship between language and society is called sociolinguistics. You will be encouraged to share your own experiences and observations with regard to the Japanese language.



Seminar in Japanology (War and Conflict through JPN Film)

Spring Semester
Thu 3

This course will explore important aspects of contemporary Japanese society and culture through film. Students will learn to critically evaluate and investigate how Japanese society and culture are portrayed in selected films. Through class discussions, students will look at and analyze films from various points of view. Through this course, we will explore the cultural representation and the ideas of ‘Japaneseness’ in order to understand the construction of national identity in media discourse. All films will be shown in Japanese with English subtitles.



GLOBAL FRONTIER Module 5

Language Teaching & Communication

Second Language Acquisition

Spring Semester
Tue 4

In this course, students learn theories and concepts of second language acquisition (SLA) / second language learning processes. The issues discussed in the course are (1) our knowledge of the language, (2) current theories of second language acquisition and related controversies/discussions, and (3) examples of theory application in second language teaching.

This course is an immersion class. The lecture is given in English and assigned reading materials are written in English.



Individual Differences in Language Learning

Spring Semester
Fri 5

This course will provide an overview of the individual differences that impact language learning, including cognitive, affective, and personality variables. The course will explore how these differences can affect language learning strategies, motivation, and performance. Students will gain an understanding of how to accommodate individual differences in language learning through appropriate teaching practices and assessment strategies.



Ed. Tech. & Materials Development in FLT

Fall Semester
Fri 2

The participants in this course will study the role of ‘media’ in foreign language teaching and learning. Foreign language teaching and learning needs to move from a one-way lecture or ‘Chalk-and-Talk’ style to a more interactive style where students communicate and learn using ICT and other mediating tools. Participants in this course will be able to demonstrate both theoretical knowledge and practical skills for using media in foreign language teaching.



Structure of Language (discourse and meaning)

Spring Semester
Wed 1

When we talk with others, we attempt to convey various information such as facts and observations about the world we live in. However, we also convey a variety of social information about ourselves and our understandings of the relationships we have with others through the way we talk. For example, the person we are talking to may make assumptions about our gender, age, the type of personality we have, the mood we are in, and the type of community we were brought up in, all based on the way we speak.

Students taking this course will learn about the various types of meanings we assign to language in order to express ourselves to others. They will also learn about how we speak in specific ways to convey social information about ourselves and others, and to achieve a variety of communicative goals as we interact with others.



International Business Communication

Fall Semester
Mon 3

This is an immersion class—conducted entirely in English—that aims to introduce students to the foundations of intercultural business communication. No prior experience studying business will be necessary because this is an introductory course.

This course follows three approaches to improving students’ intercultural business communication skills. First, the course takes a student-centred critical-thinking approach: students are encouraged to think about problems, discuss them, and devise their unique solutions. Second, the course takes an intercultural approach to develop new ways of thinking: students are encouraged to reflect on cultural values and business practices worldwide. Third, the course helps students to develop the communication skills that are necessary to convey their ideas, negotiate, and persuade their target listeners.

As a KUGF course, international students and students from other faculties who are interested in intercultural communication with a business focus are welcome to join this course.



Early Foreign Language Education

Fall Semester
Thu 2

Students are going to learn a variety of issues involved in English language learning for young learners, especially in Japanese public schools.



Japanese and international students collaborating in Kendo class



Studies on Foreign Affairs

Area Studies (Europe I)

Spring Semester

Wed 4

The aim of this introductory course is to give students a basic understanding of the broader trends of modern European history. Throughout the course, we will focus on a few important themes – such as the evolution of the modern states and economic systems in Europe – while examining primary and secondary sources in order to understand the political and social foundations that helped shape the world we live in today. We will also look at the current issues and challenges that Europe is facing and debate how they can be overcome. Thus, the students will develop a number of basic skills for historical research and analysis.

There will be reading material for each week. Classes will be a mixture of lectures by the instructor and student presentation followed by class discussion, so students should come prepared to present on their assigned topics and to engage in discussions.



Area Studies (Europe II)

Fall Semester

Tue 5

“What is Europe?”, “Europe and Asia” have been the two major topics in the history of the modern world. They apply to the contemporary world taking into consideration the enlargement of the EU and the rapidly developed Asian economy. Moreover, since the end of the cold war, the concept of Euro-American western world is beginning to change due to the deepening of economic globalization and confrontation between Europe and America concerning politics, economy and security problems. The lecture will examine the role of Europe and its key issues in the contemporary world.



Area Studies (India)

Spring Semester

Mon 3

This lecture series aims to discuss the ‘Ideas of India’ and how the history and present are ceaselessly transforming India which is one of the ancient civilisations of the world. Today in the twenty-first century how the world looks at India and how India as a young republic sees the rest of the world is a fascinating story to discuss. This lecture essentially visits the historical transformation of India and explores some of the key milestones in its long journey to emerge on the global platform. The lecture is designed to give an insight into the dynamic story of the country with its contributions and role in the uncertain world.



International Development

Spring Semester

Thu 5

Fall Semester

Mon 1

This course introduces basic theories, institutional structures, and practice of international development. Through an interdisciplinary approach, the course addresses and examines some important questions: What does development mean? What are the contemporary theories/approaches and issues of development? Why some countries are poorer than others? How does development take place in national, regional, and international level? Who are the development actors/stakeholders and how have they sought to address the issues and challenges of development over time? This course is aimed at exploring answers to such questions by providing an overview of existing knowledge in the field of international development. It will focus on the role of different actors in various development issues and practice, which would allow students to develop their knowledge in contemporary development studies.



Japan in International Affairs

Fall Semester

Fri 3

This course is designed to give students opportunities to consider how Japan is situated with regard to key contemporary social issues in international settings, taking both international and domestic perspectives. We will examine a range of broad themes relating to foreign policy, international law, trade and finance, and defense and security. In addition, we will explore more specific areas of contemporary interest, for example aspects of popular culture, health and wellbeing, and gender issues. The course aims to be topical and draw upon themes and materials as they develop, so there will likely be changes to the course structure each semester in order that we can examine a range of breaking issues and stories as they occur. Note that course is delivered online as a LIVE Remote Class using live video conferencing with additional online resources. While the syllabus may make reference to in-class activities, these are conducted entirely online. Note that this course is also designed to be delivered as a COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) offering and will feature collaborative project work undertaken with students attending university in another country. Participation in the online COIL project will grant an automatic pass for the entire course (higher grades are obtained by completion of additional course related tasks and activities).



Fundamentals for Social Science Studies

Contemporary Gender Studies

Spring Semester

Wed 3

Fall Semester

Fri 3

This course will consider how gender, as a sociological, psychological, and discursive concept is produced and constructed in social contexts and settings. We will explore various aspects of gender and sexuality, such as feminist movements, gender roles, and LGBTQ+ issues. We will also examine the intersectionality of gender with other social factors such as race, class, and religion. Through the examination of texts, films, and other media, we will gain a deeper understanding of the ways in which gender and sexuality are constructed and represented with particular emphasis on Japanese cultural settings. The course will be conducted in a seminar format and is designed to be highly interactive.



Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues

Spring Semester

Wed 4

Fall Semester

Wed 4

This course provides students with a range of tools and strategies for developing critical thinking skills that can be utilized in both university and everyday settings. The course draws on a range of disciplines to examine truth and knowledge claims by examining logic and reasoning, rhetoric and argumentation, perspective taking, propaganda and the integration and synthesis of ideas. In addition, the course will utilize ideas from enquiry based learning (EBL) to enable students to blend and generate ideas and empirical evidence from many different domains to enable an integrated approach to evaluating, challenging and generating claims. The course will also consider the role of critical thinking in relation to moral and ethical issues. Students will undertake a blend of individual and group-based activities examining truth claims in scholarly and mainstream media materials. The course is interdisciplinary in scope and will draw on a range of disciplines including education, psychology and philosophy, and will consider materials drawn from both academic and everyday settings.



Global Sociology

Spring Semester

Fri 4

The course is an introduction of sociology as an academic discipline of global relevance. This topic is an interdisciplinary social science course with a multi-perspective approach to the study of human society.

This explains a global perspective on society grounded in sociological theory and research. It expounds the divisions and dynamics of the global society and its challenges for the future. Discussions will explore and focus from global to local (Japanese) perspective. Related to the global perspective, the course also strives to understand different global issues from a cross-cultural view.

The aim of the course is to contribute to a critical understanding of social changes in the contemporary world. These changes are associated with concepts such as modernity, globalization, post-colonialism, cultural and gender identities.



Japanese Computerization and Society

Fall Semester

Mon 3

With the rapid onset of digital technologies has come significant social change - this course seeks to explore how such change is manifest and how developments in computerization and information and communication technologies (ICT) may confer both benefits and harms to a wide variety of social and cultural forms of life. The course will focus on applications of ICT in various industries, and how people can become empowered with ICT. In addition, students will explore different specific areas of interest including Internet of Things, Machine Learning, and Smart City initiatives.

Students can choose areas of their own interests to conduct general analysis and present to the class. A final project will be required.



Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication)

Spring Semester

Fri 2

Fall Semester

Fri 2

The use of language appears to be universal in that it makes our daily interaction with others possible. But depending on the languages we use, the ways in which we code our ideas can vary slightly or even greatly. Looking at English and Japanese in comparative terms, we are going to see how their lexical and grammatical items differ. Or putting the relevant expressions in a context, such as the relationships of the conversational participants, we may see similar ways or different ways in which the message is coded into language. The former is related to a semantic analysis of language, and the latter to a pragmatic one. Thus in this course students are expected to get accustomed to some key ideas of semantics and pragmatics while looking at examples from English and Japanese.



Research Methods for Social Sciences

Spring Semester

Wed 4

Fall Semester

Mon 5

This course covers a range of conceptual and practical issues relating to designing, implementing and evaluating social science research projects. With a focus on qualitative approaches to social science research, the course will introduce students to a number of basic skills required in interpreting, evaluating and undertaking social science research. It provides students with an introductory understanding of a range of qualitative analysis methods. In addition, a range of qualitative data collection methodologies will be examined, including interviews, focus groups, unstructured observation and ethnography, participant observation and naturally occurring data collection strategies. The course will provide more detailed coverage and practical workshops on key approaches depending on student interest and experience. As the course is conducted in a seminar format, and depends on the nature of student projects and research interests, detailed information on the course structure and content is not detailed in this syllabus.





Applied Science and Engineering

Environmental Biology

Fall Semester

Wed 3

This course introduces basic concepts of environmental biology (ecology, bio-geochemistry) and how they relate to our society and everyday life. Every environmental issue has two sides with opposing opinions. In this class, you will learn, think critically, and share opinions with others regarding the natural environment and environmental issues. The course will focus on Japan, but you will be required to think globally, as well as locally, about various environmental issues.



Information and Communication Technologies

Spring Semester

Tue 2

Fall Semester

Tue 3

1. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) course is a fundamental course to learn and expand students' knowledge and understanding of ICT. The course starts with the basics and will take student to a reasonably medium level.
2. The course will focus on applications of ICT in various industries, and how people can become empowered with ICT. In addition, students will learn about specific knowledge such as the Internet of Things, Machine Learning, and Smart City.
3. Students can choose areas of their own interests to conduct general analysis and present to the class. A final team project will be required.
4. A combination of lectures, case studies, class discussion, assigned readings, self-reflection essays, and team presentations are the main methods of teaching used on this course.
5. Students are not required to have prerequisite knowledge on the topic.
6. There is no formal textbook.



Introduction to Applied Science

Fall Semester

Fri 3

As scientists are rapidly accumulating evidences for mechanisms underlying birth and maintenance of organismal lives and ecosystems, there is a growing concern on the prospective changes of application of the technologies developed for life sciences. This course covers the interdisciplinary topics in molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, immunology and global ecological issues. Wide ranges of topics from cellular and organismal models, experimental strategies and genome science are chosen to address the essential issues of life science research and its application. The contents are organized into discussions over environmental and health sciences.



Japanese Science and Technology

Fall Semester

Wed 2

Various topics related to Japanese science and technology will be presented by multiple professors representing biomedical sciences and the four different engineering fields of Environmental and Urban Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Communications Engineering, and Chemistry and Materials Engineering. Each professor will introduce their specialized area, and explain state-of-the-art technology currently being developed in each field.



Skill Up for Studying Abroad

Academic Discussions & Debates

Spring Semester

Thu 4 / Thu 2

Fall Semester

Fri 3 / Thu 2

Academic Discussions and Debates are key elements of both academic and political discussion and the key methods of promoting an issue through rational, civilized discourse. This course introduces the key ideas and principles of modern formal discussions. It analyzes the history and development of debate and shows students how to participate in formal debates by teaching the core structures and strategies of the art. Students will learn to create, support and refute arguments, study the different forms of discussions and participate as teams in direct competitive debate on subjects of topical importance.

Each weeks lesson will consist of two sections: discussion of topical issues from Japanese and world news, and study of how debate works as a skill.



Academic Writing Practice

Spring Semester

Tue 4

Fall Semester

Tue 4

Winter

In this course, students will learn how to write essays in English for academic purposes. We will learn the fundamentals of paragraph writing, and will extend them to essay writing. We will first focus on how to organize information in English, noting that its organization differs from the Japanese language. Second, we will learn what good writing is by reading academic papers in students' areas of interest. Third, students will learn to become competent and independent writers by engaging in the process of writing and by being encouraged to explore and organize their ideas in writing.



English Communication Skills for Business Contexts

Spring Semester

Fri 5

Fall Semester

Fri 4

This course will look into various business situations and practice English expressions through class as well as homework activities. The course will include scenes such as telephone interaction, making requests/offers, and online presentations, while paying attention to the levels of formality in English. In addition to getting accustomed to English business expressions, the participants are expected to read materials on international business communication, so that they can understand and discuss how communication behavior differs across cultures.



Foundation for Academic English

Spring Semester

Wed 2

Fall Semester

Thu 1

Summer

This course develops English proficiency and academic study skills needed for those interested in taking English-mediated content courses at Kansai University or study-abroad destination. The course makes use of mini-lecture series based on the KUGF curriculum (Global Frontier subjects), draws on academic journal articles of various subject areas, and integrates online resources and tools for independent learning and out-of-class practice. Students are strongly recommended to have at least TOEIC Score 530 (TOEFL iBT Score 55/PBT Score 480) or G-TEC score 235 in order to obtain a passing grade from this course. Those who do not have the requested scores but wish to enroll need to consult with the instructor prior to registering.



Global Awareness I / II

Spring Semester

Fri 1

Fall Semester

Mon 3

This course will deepen Kansai University students' global awareness by introducing them to an interdisciplinary approach to international and global studies, and drawing on real-world examples from diverse cultural regions to illustrate 21st-century trends and challenges through Collaborative Online International Learning exchange. In COIL projects, Kansai University students will work collaboratively with students from overseas universities to complete tasks given throughout the project.

The student who successfully completed this course is eligible to participate in short-term study abroad program the U.S. (the partner institution only). Scholarship may be available for participating students. More details on the scholarship can be found on Global NAVI website.

This short visiting study abroad program is a faculty-led program and the instructor will supervise and provide language assistance (English) to the participating students during their short visit.



Connecting with universities in the U.S. to discuss SDG-related projects through COIL.

KUGF Independent Study (Doing a Research in English)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 3	Fri 4

This course will help students develop skills necessary for research so that they can become independent researchers. The class will cover topics that help students to think critically and foster skills that are essential when writing research papers and presenting in English. Through class assignments, the class will encourage students to express their opinions and explain their ideas using references. Over the semester, students will increase their knowledge about researching in English and will conduct their own research. At the end of the semester, students are expected to present their research to class and hand in an academic paper to the adviser.



KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 4 / Fri 4	Mon 3 / Wed 4

This class aims to develop all areas of English skills through various formats. Students will learn how to write an academic paragraph and give a presentation. They will also be required to participate in discussions and debates in class. Students will be required to study independently, attend Mi-room sessions and collaborate with other class members. Students wanting to join this class must have a positive mind, a will to cooperate and collaborate with others, and a strong work ethic. This is a foundation class, so returning exchange students and final-year students are advised to join more suitable KUGF courses according to their needs and abilities.



Presentation Skills

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 4 / Wed 5	Mon 2 / Wed 3

This class introduces you to the basic principles for delivering effective oral presentations by developing clear, well-organized, and audible speeches, engaging and gauging your audience, using effective delivery techniques, and using PowerPoint. Students will practice these skills in a variety of situations, from short impromptu talks to polished scripted speeches.



TOEFL/IELTS を通した英語学習 I

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 3 / Mon 5	Mon 5 / Wed 3

This course is designed to help students prepare for standardized tests of the English language. Its main objective is to help students get started in their preparation to take their 1st TOEFL・IELTS test, which is widely used by foreign universities as an evaluation criterion of a prospective student's English fluency in the academic context.

In this class, students will familiarize themselves with various types of tasks concerning grammar, reading, listening, writing, and speaking, placing special emphasis on strategies to deal with the TOEFL iBT or IELTS.

The training provided in this course is not simply test-taking strategies; rather, the course focuses on building one's general academic English skills as foundation for those who plan to study abroad in the near future.



TOEFL/IELTS を通した英語学習 II

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 4 / Fri 3	Tue 2 / Fri 2

This course is designed to prepare students for the standardized English language tests. The main purpose of this course is to provide an opportunity for those who have already taken or are well prepared for the TOEFL/IELTS to further develop their skills. Students who are considering or preparing for the TOEFL/IELTS are not eligible to take this course. Please register for "English Language Study through TOEFL/IELTS I".

The training provided in this course is not simply test-taking strategies; rather, the course focuses on building one's general academic English skills as foundation for those who plan to study abroad in the near future.



Understanding Cross-Cultural Communication

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 5 / Wed 1	Wed 2 / Wed 1

In this course, students are given opportunities to develop cross-cultural and intercultural competence through various activities, such as contrasting and comparing aspects of various culture, or participating in discussions among participants from different backgrounds. It enhances students' abilities to understand, evaluate, and provide culturally sensitive and competent human services to members of diverse groups. This course gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their own cultural development and to be more sensitive to others. This course will engage in international collaborative (on-line) learning activities, which is called COIL (Kansai University/ Collaborative Online International Learning).



留学のための英語スキルアップ

Spring Semester	Fall Semester	Winter
Wed 2 / Thu 3	Mon 4	

This intensive English skills development course is designed to help students at intermediate to high-intermediate level of English to prepare for study abroad experience. Its main objective is to help students feel confident and well-prepared when taking TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS tests, which are widely used by foreign universities as an evaluation criterion of a prospective student's English fluency in the academic context. Furthermore, this course builds skills for General Academic English skills, which one would be expected to have while they study abroad for a mid to long term period (e.g., student exchange).

In this class, students will be able to:

For General Academic Reading:

Improve reading and vocabulary-building skills

Acquire the ability to quickly recognize the text's main ideas and key information.

Speaking: Anticipate the first question, support their answers, understand the task, adapt notes, prepare key phrases, and pace themselves.

Writing: Respond to the topic, use an outline sentence, identify sources, make connections, include a variety of structures, and edit their writing.

Listening: To get organized, preview, use visuals, read screen text, and understand campus context.



Japanese as a Second Language

Japanese as a Second Language

Japanese (1-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 1 / Wed 1	Mon 1 / Wed 1

This course is designed for students who have had less than 50 hours of Japanese classes. In this course, students will master the basic expressions and phrases necessary for daily communication in Japan. The course content focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., listening and speaking in Japanese. The course will enable students to gain the skills required to manage Japanese language interactions they will encounter in daily life and classroom situations, and also become able to pick up necessary information from short conversations when spoken slowly.

Japanese (1-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 1 / Thu 1	Tue 1 / Thu 1

This course is designed for students who have had less than 50 hours of Japanese classes. In this course, students will master the basic expressions and phrases necessary for daily communication in Japan. The course is centered around developing basic Japanese grammar and building proficiency in reading and writing Hiragana, Katakana (Japanese alphabetical systems), and basic Kanji (Chinese characters used in Japanese).

The course will enable students to gain the skills required to manage Japanese language interactions they will encounter in daily life and classroom situations, and also become able to pick up necessary information from short essays.

Japanese (2-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 2 / Wed 2	Mon 2 / Wed 2

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese for around 150 hours or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will develop their understanding of elementary level grammar, useful expressions and phrases in Japanese beyond the very basics.

This course will focus on oral communication skills, i.e., listening and speaking in Japanese. The students will practice using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts. They will further develop skills in comprehending and participating in conversations about topics regularly encountered in daily life and classroom situations. With some use of communication strategies and teacher's assistance, they will be able to construct their own message at a paragraph level with good accuracy and fluency.

Japanese (2-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2 / Thu 2	Tue 2 / Thu 2

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese for around 150 hours or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will develop their understanding of elementary level grammar, useful expressions and phrases in Japanese beyond the very basics.

This course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese. Students will practice Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts. And the students will become able to write short essays using previously studied grammar and gain the ability to read and understand short written passages on various topics.

Japanese (3-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 1 / Wed 1	Mon 1 / Wed 1

This course is designed for students who have already studied pre intermediate Japanese at Kansai University (up to level 2-a, 2-b), or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will study intermediate level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for intermediate proficiency, N3 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test).

The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., speaking and listening in Japanese. In addition to using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts, students will gain the ability to make short speeches on both casual and academic topics. And the students will further develop interactional competence through various communication activities, such as open role-plays, guest lectures, discussions, and debates in groups.

Japanese (3-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 1 / Thu 1	Tue 1 / Thu 1

This course is designed for students who have already studied pre intermediate Japanese at Kansai University (up to level 2-a, 2-b), or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will study intermediate level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for intermediate proficiency, N3 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test).

The course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese. In addition to using Japanese in interpersonal as well as presentational communicative contexts, students will become able to understand and manage the Japanese used in everyday situations with more accurate and complex language skills. And the students will learn to read and comprehend written materials such as newspaper headline articles and short editorials (with multiple paragraphs) on specific contents concerning everyday topics.

Japanese (4-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 2 / Wed 2	Mon 2 / Wed 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 3 of the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will further improve grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for Upper-Intermediate proficiency up to entry to N2 in the Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test).

The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., speaking and listening in Japanese. Students will further develop interactional competence through various communication activities such as open role-play, guest lectures and discussions, and debates in groups. In addition, the course is designed to guide students to learn beyond just the communication needed for daily life in Japan. For example, students will learn how to present their opinions in groups, or manage decision-marking interaction in Japanese.

Japanese (4-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2 / Thu 2	Tue 2 / Thu 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 3 of the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, students will further improve their grammar and learn the expressions and phrases required for Upper-Intermediate proficiency up to entry to N2 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test).

The course focuses on literacy skills, i.e., reading and writing in Japanese. Students will practice reading short newspaper articles, essays and reports on various topics, and critically discuss the issues mentioned in the text. Students will also be taught how to research a topic of interest to them, and write a short report using appropriate Japanese writing style.

Japanese (5-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 2 / Wed 2	Mon 2 / Wed 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 4 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N2 or more in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures a more advanced competence necessary for taking regular courses in a Japanese university. The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., integration of speaking and listening in Japanese. Students will learn to comprehend orally presented materials such as coherent conversations, news reports, and lectures spoken at natural speed in a broad variety of settings. In addition, students will learn how to follow the ideas presented in these materials and summarize in their own words. Finally, students will learn about various socio-pragmatic aspects of Japanese communication, such as various formality levels in speech, style-mixing strategies, and dynamism of interaction among different communities within Japan.

Japanese (5-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 2 / Thu 2	Tue 2 / Thu 2

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 4 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N2 or more in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures a more advanced competence necessary for taking regular courses in a Japanese university. The course particularly focuses on literacy skills, i.e., integration of reading and writing in Japanese. Students will develop skills in reading writings with logical complexity and/or an editorial and critiques, and be able to comprehend both their structures and contents on various topics and follow their narratives as well. In addition, students will demonstrate skills in reading written materials profoundly and in understanding the intent of the writers.

Japanese (6-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon2/Wed2/Mon1/Wed1	Mon2/Wed2/Mon1/Wed1

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 5 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve upper-advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for upper-advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N1 in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures more advanced competence necessary for taking regular courses in a Japanese university.

The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., integration of speaking and listening in Japanese. Students will learn to comprehend orally presented materials such as coherent conversations, news reports, and lectures spoken at natural speed in a broad variety of settings. In addition, students will learn how to follow the ideas presented in these materials and summarize in their own words. Finally, students will learn about various socio-pragmatic aspects of Japanese communication, such as various formality levels in speech, style-mixing strategies, and dynamism of interaction among different communities within Japan.

Japanese (6-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue2/Thu 2/Tue 1/Thu1	Tue2/Thu 2/Tue 1/Thu1

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 5 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or to an equivalent level elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve upper-advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for upper-advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N1 in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures a more advanced competence necessary for taking regular courses in a Japanese university.

The course particularly focuses on literacy skills, i.e., integration of reading and writing in Japanese. Students will develop skills in reading/writing with logical complexity and/or an editorials and critiques, and be able to comprehend both their structures and contents on various topics and follow their narratives as well. In addition, students will demonstrate skills in reading written materials profoundly and in understanding the intent of the writers.

Japanese (7-a)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 1 / Wed 1	Mon 1 / Wed 1

In this class, rather than simply focusing on listening and speaking skills, we will be focusing on academic listening and presentation skills. ‘Listening’ will be practiced in a number of different ways, to prepare you for studying/working in a variety of different fields. Additionally, the course will provide a bridge to the level of listening comprehension required to access classes at university level. ‘Speaking’ refers to learning the skills required to make effective presentations in Japanese, including the ability to use PowerPoints. This will involve the reading and synthesizing of newspapers, magazines, books and web pages into presentations using PowerPoint.

Japanese (7-b)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 1 / Thu 1	Tue 1 / Thu 1

This class focuses on reading and writing and aims to develop the basics of academic reading and writing. In reading you will read texts and articles to improve your vocabulary in Japanese; find necessary information (scanning), and develop your reading comprehension ability to grasp intentions (skimming). In writing, you will learn how to properly use expressions where mistakes are often made. You will also learn the characteristics of the Japanese style, and the text expression techniques necessary for writing reports and writing papers, and create reports of around 1000 characters.

Contemporary Japan
(Japan in Mass Media I /Japan in Mass Media II)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Wed 3	Wed 3

In this course, students will learn about Japan and how various aspects of Japan (e.g., culture, contemporary living styles, social issues, people, art, etc) are portrayed in mass media. The course will take a broad view of what constitutes ‘mass media’, and will consider such sources and materials as radio, television, paper-based media such as newspapers and magazines, internet-based mediums (e.g., podcast, online newspapers), mobile phone-based mediums (e.g., websites specialized for cell-phone access), film, and various forms of animation. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 5 or above Japanese language courses concurrently with this class. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given permission to register upon consultation with the instructor.

Contemporary Japan (Understanding Japan)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Mon 3	Mon 3

In this course students will pursue a small research project on a topic of interest selected from various Japanese social and cultural issues. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 3 Japanese language courses concurrently with this class. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given permission to register upon consultation with the instructor.

Contemporary Japan (Researching Japan)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Tue 4	Tue 4

This course is aimed at providing tools for improving academic writing skills in Japanese. In addition, students will learn basic principles of academic writing and develop critical reading skills for writing academic papers in students’ areas of interest.

Required Levels: Students must be taking level 4 Japanese language courses or above concurrently with this course. Those who do not meet this requirement may be given a permission to register upon a consultation with the instructor.

Communication in Japanese Society
(Business Japanese)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Thu 3	Thu 3

After studying Japanese to the extent that one is able to communicate with Japanese people (such as students and teachers), the next step is to take on the challenge of learning Japanese that can be used in working society. This is an introductory level class designed to help you acquire communication skills that can be used in various ‘business scenes’ you may encounter in getting a job at a Japanese company, working with Japanese bosses and colleagues, or in dealing with Japanese companies based on the merit of your study abroad experience as an employee of a company in your home country.

★IMPORTANT★

In order to enroll in this course, you must be enrolled in a LEVEL 5 or higher class in Kansai University’s Japanese Language Skill Up Unit course, OR have JLPT N2, or CFER B2 certifications.

★ If you do not have the relevant qualifications, please consult with the course instructor.

Communication in Japanese Society
(JPN Corporate Culture)

Spring Semester	Fall Semester
Thu 3	Mon 4

When your Japanese proficiency level reaches at a certain fluency, you would now need to develop your competency so that you are able to handle business level Japanese communication at a workplace. This course provides the students with their first encounter to Japanese corporate system and culture. It equips you with key cultural concepts, special terms in different industries. This course invites guest speakers from various companies in Japan, which challenges you to comprehend authentic business communication in Japanese. The students will be trained to analyze a business field of their interest in the class. They will be asked to do a small research using such skills, and present in the class in Japanese language.

IMPORTANT NOTE: In order to enroll, you must be enrolled in LEVEL5 or above class at Kansai University Japanese Language Skill Up Unit course, or have JLPT N2, or CFER B2. This class is for international students only.



Japanese classes offered at various levels, beginner to advance.

Spring Semester

April 1st~September 20th, 2023

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st period 9:00-10:30	Japanese (1 - a)	Japanese (1 - b)	Japanese (1 - a)	Japanese (1 - b)	Global Awareness I ▲
	Japanese (3 - a)	Japanese (3 - b)	Japanese (3 - a)	Japanese (3 - b)	
	Japanese (6 - a) - 2	Japanese (6 - b) - 2	Japanese (6 - a) - 2	Japanese (6 - b) - 2	
	Japanese (7 - a)	Japanese (7 - b)	Japanese (7 - a)	Japanese (7 - b)	
		Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts ◆	Structure of Language (discourse and meaning) ■		
			Understanding Cross Cultural Communication (A2) ●		
2nd period 10:40-12:10	Japanese (2 - a)	Japanese (2 - b)	Japanese (2 - a)	Japanese (2 - b)	Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication) ◆
	Japanese (4 - a)	Japanese (4 - b)	Japanese (4 - a)	Japanese (4 - b)	
	Japanese (5 - a)	Japanese (5 - b)	Japanese (5 - a)	Japanese (5 - b)	
	Japanese (6 - a) - 1	Japanese (6 - b) - 1	Japanese (6 - a) - 1	Japanese (6 - b) - 1	
		Information and Communication Technologies ◆	Foundation for Academic English ▲	Academic Discussions & Debates (A2) ▲	
			留学のための英語スキルアップ (A1) ●		
12:10-13:00	Lunch Break				
3rd period 13:00-14:30	Contemporary Japan (Understanding Japan)	Japanese History (The History and Culture of Medieval Japan) ◆	Contemporary Japan (Japan in Mass Media I)	Communication in Japanese Society (Business Japanese)	Science of Washoku (Japanese Cuisine) ◆
	Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. to Kendo) ◆	Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society) ◆	Contemporary Gender Studies ◆	Communication in Japanese Society (JPN Corporate Culture)	Japanese Arts ◆
	Area Studies (India) ◆	ASEAN Studies ▲	Comparative Asian Cultures Studies ◆	Seminar in Japanology (War and Conflict through JPN Film) ◆	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 II (A1) ▲
	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 I (SA) ● (堺)		KUGF Independent Study (Doing a research in English) ▲	Japanese Popular Culture (Postwar Japanese Culture) ◆	
				留学のための英語スキルアップ (A2) ●	
4th period 14:40-16:10	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (A1) ●	Contemporary Japan (Researching Japan)	Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues ◆	Academic Discussions & Debates (A1) ▲	Japanese Literature (Intro. to Classical JPN Literature) ◆
	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 II (SA) ▲ (堺)	Business for SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) ◆	Research Methods for Social Sciences ◆		Global Sociology ◆
		Second Language Acquisition ■	Presentation Skills (A1) ▲		KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (A2) ▲
5th period 16:20-17:50	Japanese Culture (JPN Culture and Contemporary Literature) ◆	Japanese Industries and Companies (The Global Competition) ◆	Presentation Skills (A2) ▲	International Development ◆	English Communication Skills for Business Contexts▲
	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 I (A1) ●	Understanding Cross Cultural Communication (A1) ▲			Individual Differences in Language Learning ■

Module 1 Engineering Approach to Urban Issues	Module 2 Food Science & Biotechnology	Module 3 International Business & Entrepreneurship
Module 6 Studies on Foreign Affairs	Module 7 Fundamentals for Social Science Studies	Module 8 Applied Science and Engineering

Fall Semester

September 21st, 2023~March 31st, 2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st period 9:00-10:30	Japanese (1 - a)	Japanese (1 - b)	Japanese (1 - a)	Japanese (1 - b)	
	Japanese (3 - a)	Japanese (3 - b)	Japanese (3 - a)	Japanese (3 - b)	
	Japanese (6 - a) - 2	Japanese (6 - b) - 2	Japanese (6 - a) - 2	Japanese (6 - b) - 2	
	Japanese (7 - a)	Japanese (7 - b)	Japanese (7 - a)	Japanese (7 - b)	
	International Development ◆		Understanding Cross Cultural Communication (B2) ●	Foundation for Academic English ▲	
2nd period 10:40-12:10	Japanese (2 - a)	Japanese (2 - b)	Japanese (2 - a)	Japanese (2 - b)	Food Safety ◆
	Japanese (4 - a)	Japanese (4 - b)	Japanese (4 - a)	Japanese (4 - b)	Ed. Tech. & Materials Development in FLT ■
	Japanese (5 - a)	Japanese (5 - b)	Japanese (5 - a)	Japanese (5 - b)	Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication) ◆
	Japanese (6 - a) - 1	Japanese (6 - b) - 1	Japanese (6 - a) - 1	Japanese (6 - b) - 1	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 II (B2) ▲
	Japanese Economy (Topics in Japanese Economy and Discussion) ◆	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 II (B1) ▲	Japanese Science and Technology ◆	Early Foreign Language Education ■	
	Presentation Skills (B1) ▲		Understanding Cross Cultural Communication (B1) ▲	Academic Discussions & Debates (B2) ▲	
12:10-13:00	Lunch Break				
3rd period 13:00-14:30	Contemporary Japan (Understanding Japan)	Biotechnology and Bioethics ◆	Contemporary Japan (Japan in Mass Media II)	Communication in Japanese Society (Business Japanese)	Marketing of Food, Alcohol and Cosmetics ◆
	Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. To Naginata) ◆	Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society) ◆	Polysaccharide Science ◆	Marketing in Japan (B1) ▲	Japan in International Affairs ◆
	International Business Communication ■	Japanese History (Bushido: The Way of the Warrior) ◆	Environmental Biology ◆	Japanese Culture (Modern culture and Post-war History) ◆	Academic Discussions & Debates (B1) ▲
	Japanese Computerization and Society ◆	Information and Communication Technologies ◆	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 I (B1) ●	ASEAN Studies ▲	Contemporary Gender Studies ◆
	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (B1) ●		Presentation Skills (B2) ▲		Introduction to Applied Science ◆
	Global Awareness II ▲				
4th period 14:40-16:10	Communication in Japanese Society (JPN Corporate Culture)	Contemporary Japan (Researching Japan)	Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues ◆	Marketing in Japan (B2) ◆	KUGF Independent Study (Doing a research in English) ▲
	Japanese Society ◆	Business & Japanese People ◆	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (B2) ▲	Japanese Religion ◆	English Communication Skills for Business Contexts▲
	留学のための英語スキルアップ (B1) ●	Academic Writing Practice ●			
5th period 16:20-17:50	Research Methods for Social Sciences ◆	International Business for Entrepreneurs ◆	Japanese Industries and Companies (The Global Competition) ◆	Japanese Popular Culture (Postwar Japanese Culture) ◆	
	TOEFL/IELTSを通した英語学習 I (MB) ● (ミュース)	Area Studies (Europe II) ◆			

Module 4 Japan Studies	Module 5 Language Teaching & Communication
Skill Up for Studying Abroad	Japanese as a Second Language

English Requirements

1

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3

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LowHigh

Please see the table of contents page for more details about English Requirements.