



KANSAI UNIVERSITY GLOBAL FRONTIER

Course Guide 2018



**KANSAI
UNIVERSITY**





KUGF Curriculum

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

Module 1 Engineering Approach to Urban Issues	Module 5 Language Teaching & Communication	Skill Up for Studying Abroad
Module 2 Food Science & Biotechnology	Module 6 Studies on Foreign Affairs	Japanese as a Second Language
Module 3 International Business & Entrepreneurship	Module 7 Fundamentals for Social Science Studies	
Module 4 Japan Studies	Module 8 Applied Science and Engineering	

Contents

Course Schedule	1	Module6. Studies on Foreign Affairs	10
Module1. Engineering Approach to Urban Issues	2	Module7. Fundamentals for Social Science Studies	11
Module2. Food Science & Biotechnology.....	3	Module8. Applied Science and Engineering	12
Module3. International Business & Entrepreneurship	4	Skill Up for Studying Abroad	13–14
Module4. Japan Studies	5–8	Japanese as a Second Language	15–17
Module5. Language Teaching & Communication	9		

Course Schedule

Language Requirements

■ GTEC 280~, TOEFL ITP 520~, TOEFL IBT 72~, TOEIC 600~, CEFR B1-B2
 ▲ GTEC 180~260, TOEFL ITP 430~497, TOEFL IBT 40~60, TOEIC 375~580

◆ GTEC 260~, TOEFL ITP 505~, TOEFL IBT 60~, TOEIC 580~, CEFR B1
 ● GTEC~180, TOEFL ITP~430, TOEFL IBT Test~40, TOEIC (L&R)Test~375

Spring Semester

April 1st - September 20th, 2018

	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 (5-a)	Japanese (5-b)	Japanese (5-a)	Japanese (5-b)	
		Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts◆	Structure of Language (Discourse and Meaning)■		
			Cross-Cultural Competence (A2)●		
2nd period 10:40 - 12:10	Japanese (2-a)	Japanese (2-b)	Japanese (2-a)	Japanese (2-b)	Science of Washoku (Japanese Cuisine)◆
	Japanese (4-a)	Japanese (4-b)	Japanese (4-a)	Japanese (4-b)	Comparative Asian Cultures Studies◆
	Japanese (6-a)-1	Japanese (6-b)-1	Japanese (6-a)-1	Japanese (6-b)-1	Early Foreign Language Education■
	Japanese (6-a)-2	Japanese (6-b)-2	Japanese (6-a)-2	Japanese (6-b)-2	Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication)◆
	Social Decision Making in Systems Design Engineering◆	Second Language Acquisition■	Disaster Transport Planning◆		
	Environmental Biology◆	Information and Communication Technologies◆	Natural Disaster Risks ◆		
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch Break				
3rd period 13:00 - 14:30	Japanese Literature (Intro. to Classical JPN Literature)◆	Japanese History (The History and Culture of Medieval Japan)◆	Foundation for Academic English▲	Seminar in Japanology (War and Conflict through JPN Film)◆	Japanese Arts◆
	Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. to Kendo)◆	Research Methods for Social Sciences ◆	Presentation Skills (A2)▲	Communication in Japanese Society (Business Japanese)	Japanese Culture (JPN Culture and Contemporary Literature)◆
	International Business Communication■	Cross-Cultural Competence(A1) ▲			ASEAN Studies▲
	Contemporary Japan (Understanding Japan)	Contemporary Japan (Japan in Mass Media I)			
4th period 14:40 - 16:10	KUGF Independent Study (Doing a research in English)▲	Area Studies (Europe I)◆	Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues◆	Japanese Popular Culture (Postwar Japanese Culture)◆	Global Sociology◆
	Communication in Japanese Society (JPN Corporate Culture)	Academic Writing Practice●	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (A2)●	Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society)◆	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (A1)●
		Academic Discussions & Debates▲		Area Studies (India)◆	Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai I)
		Contemporary Japan (Researching Japan)		Field-Based Learning (Society and Workplace Culture in Japan)	
5th period 16:20 - 17:50	International Development◆	Presentation Skills (A1)▲	TOEFL Score up Training I (A2)●	Japanese Industries and Companies (The Global Competition)◆	
	TOEFL Score up Training I (A1)●	Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai II)	TOEFL Score up Training II (A1)▲		
	TOEFL Score up Training II (A2)▲				

Fall Semester

September 21st, 2018 - March 31st, 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1st period 9:00 - 10:30	Japanese (1-a)	Japanese (1-b)	Japanese (1-a)	Japanese (1-b)	Japanese Popular Culture (Postwar Japanese Culture)◆
	Japanese (3-a)	Japanese (3-b)	Japanese (3-a)	Japanese (3-b)	
	Japanese (5-a)	Japanese (5-b)	Japanese (5-a)	Japanese (5-b)	
	International Development◆		Planning and Modelling for Sustainable Society◆	Polysaccharide Science◆	
			Cross-Cultural Competence (B2)●		
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 (6-a)-1	Japanese (6-b)-1	Japanese (6-a)-1	Japanese (6-b)-1	Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication)◆
	Japanese (6-a)-2	Japanese (6-b)-2	Japanese (6-a)-2	Japanese (6-b)-2	
	Environmental Biology◆		Japanese Science and Technology◆	Information and Communication Technologies◆	
	TOEFL Score up Training II (B1)▲				
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch Break				
3rd period 13:00 - 14:30	Seminar in Japanology (Japanese Budo: An Intro. To Naginata)◆	Japanese History (Bushido: The Way of the Warrior)◆	Foundation for Academic English▲	Marketing in Japan (B1)▲	Japanese Society◆
	Contemporary Japan (Understanding Japan)	Japanese Law and Politics◆	Academic Discussions & Debates▲	Japanese Culture (Modern culture and Post-war History)◆	Linguistic Analysis (English)■
	Field-Based Learning (Society and Workplace Culture in Japan)	Individual Differences in Language Learning■	Presentation Skills (B2)▲	Communication in Japanese Society (Business Japanese)	ASEAN Studies▲
		Japan in International Affairs◆			
4th period 14:40 - 16:10	Food Production and Supply in Global Societies◆	Japanese Religion◆	Marketing of Food, Alcohol and Cosmetics◆	Marketing in Japan (B2)◆	Biotechnology and Bioethics◆
	Japanese Economy (Topics in Japanese Economy and Discussion)◆	Research Methods for Social Sciences◆	Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues◆	Japanese Literature (Survey of Post-1945)◆	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (B1)●
	TOEFL Score up Training II (B2)▲	Japanese Computerization and Society◆	KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development) (B2)●	Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society)◆	KUGF Independent Study (Doing a research in English)▲
	Communication in Japanese Society (JPN Corporate Culture)	Academic Writing Practice●		Linguistic Analysis (Japanese)■	Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai I)
		Contemporary Japan (Researching Japan)		Contemporary Japan (Japan in Mass Media II)	
5th period 16:20 - 17:50	Business & Japanese People ◆	Area Studies (Europe II)◆		International Business for Entrepreneurs◆	
	TOEFL Score up Training I (B1)●	Presentation Skills (B1)▲		TOEFL Score up Training I (B2)●	
	Cross-Cultural Competence (B1)▲	Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai II)			

Each course is convened weekly for 90 minutes and worth 2 credits.

*Please refer to the specific credit transfer regulations at your home institution.

※ This schedule is subject to change

Module 1

Engineering Approach to Urban Issues

Disaster Transport Planning

2 credits

Spring Semester

The transport planning techniques are discussed in terms of disaster prevention and mitigation. Since the fundamental analysis techniques are summarized for normal condition, the transport planning methods in disasters can be developed. The essential topics for disaster transport planning are discussed for practical problem solution.

Natural Disaster Risks

2 credits

Spring Semester

We are prone to many kinds of natural disaster in Japan. Earthquakes, typhoons, flooding, tsunami etc. cause serious damage to local communities every year. Three researchers will outline the state of flood, slope failure, liquefaction and damages of structure.

Social Decision Making in Systems Design Engineering

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course is designated to develop knowledge and skills in order to make better decision in systems design engineering. For that purpose, students will study several techniques, focusing on how they can be applied in practice to problems, interpreted their outputs, and leveraged in decision making. If necessary, we will practice using software such as Excel and SPSS to improve understanding for this course. Elementary Statistics and Mathematics is prerequisite for this course.

Planning and Modelling for Sustainable Society

2 credits

Fall Semester

This course addresses the sustainability of modern society and its methodologies in terms of an engineering point of view.

One of the major approaches is an abstraction of the problems so that the computational tools can be applied to find a solution.

The other approach is to visit the historical clues and to observe the actual phenomena to study the cultural and logical reasons that bring the current circumstances to be analyzed.

The essential and practical topics for modeling, planning, and analysis are discussed for sustainability in the society.



Module 2

Food Science & Biotechnology

Science of Washoku (Japanese Cuisine)

2 credits

Spring Semester

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.

Biotechnology and Bioethics

2 credits

Fall Semester

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 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. Nevertheless, all these promises commence several inevitable ethical 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.

This course invites all students from all disciplines. Biotechnology and Bioethics influence the life of humankind in one way or another. To be aware of what it is all about might even pave the way for your future endeavour.

Food Safety

2 credits

Fall Semester

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.

Polysaccharide Science

2 credits

Fall Semester

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.

Marketing of Food, Alcohol and Cosmetics

2 credits

Fall Semester

In order to understand the meaning, evolution, vocabulary and theory of marketing, this course will analyze the entirety of marketing using examples from the cosmetic and food industries. Specifically the course will delve into 1. Marketing strategy and basic theory; 2. Branding as a way to creative and communicate value; 3. Examples from the food and cosmetic industry; 4. Other type of marketing.

Food Production and Supply in Global Societies

2 credits

Fall Semester

This course will introduce the issue of food security and is designed to help students look at current food systems and think critically about the effects our food choices have on the environment, the economy, society, and ourselves. Focusing both on agriculture (in Japan and overseas) and on food supply chains in other parts of the world, this course will examine how food has shaped our environmental and social landscapes. Case studies will be drawn from Japanese and international contexts to examine humanity's changing relationship with production, supply chain, ecological, economic and socio-cultural systems fundamental to the provision of food.



Module 3

International Business & Entrepreneurship

Japanese Industries and Companies (The Global Competition)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This lecture is structured to explain the corporate system, industrial organisation and global management of Japanese companies. Major Japanese companies stormed the world in the 1980s; however, they turned adrift in these two decades. This lecture discusses the current position and future prospective of Japanese companies.

An unique lecture style is proposed; a monthly debate session is planned in which Japanese students are invited to discuss the current issues related Japanese company and management in English.

International Business for Entrepreneurs

2 credits

Fall Semester

In this course, a series of omnibus lectures will be given by 6 business persons experienced in international business. This is intended for the students who are seeking out fresh business ideas and inspiration to become entrepreneurs with an interest in the current developments in industry and international business. The class can provide the students with some useful information and knowledge on the new trends of industry and the international business to help them broaden their perspectives and possibly get some clues or hints for direction and strategy in preparation for starting their own business in future.

The lecturers will explain the current situations of Japan and the major economies of the world including USA, China and EU as well as newly growing economies. The students are also to learn the frameworks and institutions to administer and coordinate the trade and finance of the international business. Studying the risks associated with the global business and analyzing the current issues facing the world, students are encouraged to try to have an insight into future prospects of industries in Japan and the world.



Business and Japanese People

2 credits

Fall Semester

The course will include lectures on features of Japanese economy, its business practices, and the views and opinions of Japanese business professionals with vast and diversified experience in developing global business. The course is arranged as a series of omnibus lectures by business professionals from wide array of business sectors and with extensive international careers. Topics covered include an overview of Japanese economic growth after WWII, the essence of Japanese management practices, the delicacy and difficulty in cross-cultural thinking from Japanese viewpoint, future relationship between Asia and Japan, views on globalization and multi-national companies, and on how to acquire global personality. Though not with rigorous theoretical approach to the subject matters, lecturers will present case studies experienced firsthand by themselves which will surely be of high interest to those students who wish to acquire introductory knowledge of Japanese business practices and their international perspectives.

Marketing in Japan

2 credits

Fall Semester

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.



Module 4

Japan Studies

Japanese Philosophy and Thoughts

2 credits

Spring Semester

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 Arts

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course introduces students to the history of the visual and performing arts of Japan. The arts will be treated chronologically, from the earliest times to the present. Subjects covered will include paintings, sculpture, architecture, tea, literature, clothing, Noh, Kabuki, Bunraku, Shingeki, and music.

Japanese History (The History and Culture of Medieval Japan)

2 credits

Spring Semester

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 Literature (Intro. to Classical JPN Literature)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course is designed as an introduction into the classical Japanese literature but the focus will be on three representing works: Man'yoshu, Kojiki, and Oku no Hosomichi. There are particular reasons for these historical cuts. The voluminous poem collection Man'yoshu, which presumably was finished in the second half of the eighth century, marks the very beginning of the Japanese literature. This is not only true in regard to lyrical poetry but to story telling (narration) as well. During the last years a couple of theses on this poem collection were written in English or other western languages and some of them published as a book. Therefore it is no exaggeration to assert a kind of a "Man'yoshu boom", what can be said for the Kojiki as well. The Kojiki from the early 8th century is Japan's oldest work of prose literature and consists of myths and history. The first translation into English by B.H. Chamberlain is from 1882, the newest one by G. Heldt from 2014. The Oku no Hosomichi, a short travelogue from the late seventeenth century by Matsuo Basho, is without any doubt one of the most famous works of the Japanese literature. This is also made clear by the fact that between 1933 and 2005 about eleven translations into English were published. Nevertheless — and interestingly enough — there is almost no research in English or other western languages, and we have to ask for the reasons for this contradiction.

In this course we are going to examine these works, particularly the use of characters and writing, and compare the different translations. Another important issue will be a closer look on the research on these works conducted in English. However, presentations (group or single), which are one way to reach the full grade score, can be dedicated to other works or themes as well (Ise or Genji Monogatari, Kokin Wakashu, story telling/narration, western research on Japanese classical literature, literature theory and so on). Of course, Japanese students are welcome, too, but we expect active participation.

Japanese Culture (JPN Culture and Contemporary Literature)

2 credits

Spring Semester

In this course we will investigate the issue of gender in Japanese society since the end of WWII as femininity and masculinity are represented in fiction and film.

Module 4

Japan Studies

Japanese Popular Culture (Postwar Japanese Culture)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

Japan has sometimes been described as a “soft superpower,” referring to the difference between so-called hard power (usually in the form of military capability) and so-called soft power (or cultural influence). This course introduces students to the historical contexts and social implications behind contemporary popular culture in Japan. We will explore a wide variety of artistic media, ranging from manga, anime, and literature to fashion, film, and music. Of particular concern will be the way culture has developed in the postwar period and how Japanese culture has influenced global trends. Topics include Godzilla and atomic energy, Miyazaki Hayao and environmentalism, gender roles, and social activism.

Comparative Asian Cultures Studies

2 credits

Spring Semester

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 a variety of sources will be used as reading material. Students are expected to read the handouts before coming to class in order to participate in class discussion.

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

2 credits

Spring Semester

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.

Seminar in Japanology (War and Conflict through JPN Film)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course will draw on Japan's rich film tradition to explore war and conflict in international and domestic contexts during the modern era. Students will critically screen selected films that examine the causes and effects of this larger theme, paying particular attention to the development of the nation-state and the role marginalized peoples played in that process. Other topics associated with the main theme and related to nation-state building include industrialization, identity formation, imperialism, social movements, gender, and modernity. Students should be aware that many of these films deal with mature subject matter and may contain explicit language and adult content. All films will be shown in Japanese (with English subtitles).

Seminar in Japanology (The Japanese Language and Society)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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.



Japanese Religion

2 credits

Fall Semester

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 History (Bushido: The Way of the Warrior)

2 credits

Fall Semester

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 Literature (Survey of Post-1945)

2 credits

Fall Semester

This course is a survey of post-1945 Japanese literature. The main focus is on how literature is an integral part of society and culture. All classes will include a mixture of lecture and close readings of selected texts in both English and Japanese.



Japanese Culture (Modern culture and Post-war History)

2 credits

Fall Semester

Japanese Culture (Modern Culture and Post-war History) is a combination lecture and seminar-style course 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 the main 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 including television, film, manga, video games, and social media. This course will engage in international collaborative online learning activities (COIL).

Japanese Law and Politics

2 credits

Fall Semester

The main purpose of this Japanese Law and Politics course is to give an institutional, historical and cultural survey of contemporary Japanese law and politics, mainly basing on laws. In order to attain this purpose, I will first of all give a general view of modern Japanese legal history, mainly basing on the pre-war Imperial and post-war Japanese Constitutions (1889 and 1947) and in particular focusing on the Ten-no (Emperor) system. Secondly I will give a general view of the Japanese judicial system, in particular criminal law (courts) and newly established Japanese Jury system (Saiban-in System) from 2009. At the first class of this topic we will move to the moot court (inside building No.1-D). After discussing these general topics, I will give lectures on various topics about Japanese legal cultures, mainly concerning to family law and criminal law. In these topics, I will also adopt the comparative approach, namely comparison between Japanese and other Asian/Western legal cultures. As to the topics of 13th-15th classes we will chose following to attendants' concern.

Module 4

Japan Studies

Japanese Economy (Topics in Japanese Economy and Discussion)

2 credits

Fall Semester

While looking at the development of Japan's post-WWII 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, and recent economic reforms during the Koizumi and Abe governments are key events to be analyzed and discussed.

Japanese Society

2 credits

Fall Semester

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. Neighborhoods, communities, and rituals will also be covered.

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

2 credits

Fall Semester

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.



Module 5

Language Teaching & Communication

Second Language Acquisition

2 credits

Spring Semester

In this course, students learn several fundamental concepts in the field of second language acquisition (SLA) studies which explain how people acquire a second or foreign language. Students will understand important factors that influence success in attaining an additional language.

Early Foreign Language Education

2 credits

Spring Semester

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

International Business Communication

2 credits

Spring Semester

This is an immersion class-conducted entirely in English-that aims to help students to become first-class business professionals in this globalised world. This course follows three approaches to achieve this aim. First, the course takes a student-centred critical-thinking approach: students are encouraged to think about problems, discuss them, and devise their own 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 from around the world. Third, the course helps students to develop the communication skills that are necessary to convey their ideas, to negotiate, and to persuade their target listeners.

Structure of Language (Discourse and Meaning)

2 credits

Spring Semester

As we interact with others in our daily lives, we convey a variety of information. However, not all of the information that is conveyed is factual in nature. The way in which we talk, for example, conveys a lot of information related to the context of the interaction such as the gender of ourselves and those we are speaking to, our age group, the mood we are in, the relationships we have with the people around us, and the community we live in all play a part in determining the way we say things.

In this course, students will learn about how people use spoken language in specific ways to achieve a variety of goals through their interactions with others in their daily lives.

Individual Differences in Language Learning

2 credits

Fall Semester

The aim of this course is to understand English language teaching/learning from learners perspectives especially by focusing on individual differences such as motivation, learning strategies, learning styles which are claimed to influence English language learning. Students first understand the definitions, concepts, and their influences on learning/teaching through literature review. Then, they will learn how to develop effective strategy training materials.

Ed. Tech. & Materials Development in FLT

2 credits

Fall Semester

The participants study the roles of 'media' in school. Foreign language teaching/learning needs to shift its style from one-way lecture, or "Chalk and Talk", to more contingent and interactive one in which students communicate to learn and learn to communicate by using ICT and other mediation tools. The participants will be able to demonstrate both theoretical and practical knowledge about media in language classroom.

Linguistic Analysis (English)

2 credits

Fall Semester

This course introduces how to analyze English from linguistic point of view. The course explores the underlying systematic rules of English usage mainly from syntactic and semantic points of view. Since the course will consist of both lecture/discussion and problem-solving/analysis sessions in which English and Japanese data are always examined contrastively, students should have some knowledge of both English and Japanese grammar and grammatical terms.

Linguistic Analysis (Japanese)

2 credits

Fall Semester

Most of you have probably grown up speaking Japanese and have never really thought about how speakers of other languages learn Japanese. In this course, you will learn to look at the structure of Japanese - what sounds there are, how the sounds influence one another, how words are built, how sentences are built and how words and sentences are used. The course will be useful for students who are interested in a future career in teaching Japanese to speakers of other languages.

Module 6

Studies on Foreign Affairs

International Development

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

Around half of the world population still lives on \$2 a day, one in nine of the world's population suffers from hunger, and one in six of the world's adults are illiterate. Our world is facing many challenges to be tackled, and in order to transform our world and achieve sustainable societies, global partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society are urgently required.

Students in this course are required to consider and understand the structure and dynamics of international development. The course is taught in a didactic manner and through group work, with an emphasis on the latter. In group work, students discuss topics related to development issues. The topics are picked up from the key words in each lecture. Students also prepare and make group presentations; the presentation themes are related to global partnerships for sustainable development.

Area Studies (Europe I)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course will include lectures on development of capitalism and accumulation of wealth in Europe which led to the development of the modern world.

The thoughts and society of modern Europe played a crucial role in shaping the international order and world view in international society.

Modern Japan in the Meiji Era imported science, technology and strengthened its economic development and national power.

After the two world wars Europe was divided into two: the West and the East. Moreover, in the post-cold war era Europe became unified and formed the European Union.

In this lecture we examine the universal values of democracy, human rights, liberty, equality, on which European society is based in the contemporary world.

We also examine the role of Europe in the globalization age and discuss topics dealing with [Europe and America], [Europe and Asia], and [Europe and Japan].

Area Studies (India)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This is an introductory course for the area studies in India. Although the global market's attention to India is immensely growing due to the rapid economy development after 1990s, India is still regarded as a country of "mysteries". This course will modify the distorted image of India by analyzing various aspects of contemporary Indian society, and help students to understand dynamism of the post-colonial Indian society. This course will also give the opportunity for students to learn the current situations of Indian migrants in the world.

Area Studies (Europe II)

2 credits

Fall Semester

"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.

Japan in International Affairs

2 credits

Fall Semester

The aim of this course is to understand basic knowledge of Japan's diplomacy in the field of international politics. The course will deal with serious political and security issues such as the article 9 of Japan's constitution, nuclear proliferation and so on. In order to gain a better understanding Japan's diplomacy, this course will also provide you with basic theories of International Relations.

Module 7

Fundamentals for Social Science Studies

Critical Thinking for Social and Global Issues

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

Critical Thinking is the foundation of all academic activity; whether researching data, analyzing the views of others or presenting your own, abiding by the rules of logic and adopting a critical perspective will help make your work more robust. More particularly, the modern world is filled with examples of illogical and uncritical thought, in all avenues of life, from universities and boardrooms, to newspapers and governments. Understanding the problems of modern society and the methods with which to address them require the refinement of an open and critical mindset. Each week's class will have two elements: the first, an analysis of an element of critical thinking, and the second a critical examination of an aspect of society to assess how it influences our objective assessment of the world.

Research Methods for Social Sciences

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who wish to gain an introductory overview of approaches to social science research and will cover broad topics: the foundations of social science, research design, data collection, and data analysis. It will equip students with an understanding of qualitative and quantitative research designs. Social research is a craft, and like any other craft, it takes practice to do it well. Therefore, our approach will be hands-on right from the start. The course will also provide instruction with an emphasis on methodology, including statistical analysis and computer applications. Examples will be presented of scientific research in the fields of sociology, political science, education, communication, and psychology.

Global Sociology

2 credits

Spring Semester

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.



Methods of Comparative Analysis (ENG and JPN Communication)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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.

Japanese Computerization and Society

2 credits

Fall Semester

This course introduces students to the role of information and communication technologies (ICT) in Japanese society. Students will be able to research their own interests in fields utilizing ICT such as business, entertainment, or education. Topics of study include Japanese companies that utilize ICT, the latest news about technology in Japan, Japanese language computing, Internet, mobile technologies, social media, economics, immigration to Japan, tourism, Japanese culture, and modern society. We will analyze data on ICT in daily life, business and education. We will also examine Japanese attitudes toward technology and communication through various media, including distance and online education. Students will receive guidelines on academic writing for the short semester paper, and for the creation and delivery of presentations. There will be a class Facebook Group and a Website with links to readings on ICT in Japan.

Module 8

Applied Science and Engineering

Environmental Biology

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course introduces basic concept of ecology. Based on the understanding of ecological processes, contemporary environmental issues will be discussed. Topics include population and community ecology, conservation ecology, environmental risk assessment, and biodiversity.

Information and Communication Technologies

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are instrumental to daily life, work, and society. This course will focus on the academic study of ICT, focusing on the C in ICT (Communication over mechanical aspects of IT), and how people become empowered with online content creation skills. Students will learn about applications of ICT to various sectors of society in Japan and the world. They will also learn about specific technologies and platforms such as the Internet of Things and social media. Students will receive guidelines on academic writing for the short semester paper, and for the creation and delivery of presentations. Students may choose areas of their own interest to research and present to the class.

Japanese Science and Technology

2 credits

Fall Semester

Various topics related to Japanese science and technology will be presented by multiple professors representing the five 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

Foundation for Academic English

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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.

Academic Writing Practice

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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.

Academic Discussions & Debates

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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 week's lesson will consist of two sections: Discussion of topical issues from Japanese and world news, and study of how discussion works as a skill.

Presentation Skills

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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 Score up Training I

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed to help students prepare for standardized tests of the English language. Its main objective is to help students feel confident and well-prepared when taking TOEFL test (primarily focusing on the TOEFL Internet-based Test [iBT]), 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. This course provides students with an opportunity to take TOEFL trial test of all four sections during the class hours. Furthermore, the material covered in class will help them improve their English communication for use in academic and professional setting. The students are expected to know their learning styles and gain new strategies effective to generate improved scores in TOEFL and other standardized English tests.

TOEFL Score up Training II

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This intensive English skills development course is designed to help students at intermediate to high-intermediate level of English to prepare for standardized tests of the English language. Its main objective is to help students feel confident and well-prepared when taking TOEFL/TOEIC tests, which are widely used by foreign universities as an evaluation criterion of a prospective student's English fluency in the academic context. This course provides students with an opportunity to take TOEFL/TOEIC trial tests followed by discussions on the answers. Each class session will be devoted to the study of a particular skill and test-taking strategy, and the material covered in class will help them improve their English communication for use in academic and professional setting. In this class, students will be able to:

- Reading: Preview, read faster, use contexts, make references, skim and scan, make connections, and summarize.
- 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.

ASEAN Studies

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

In this course, students will learn about the culture and society of countries in ASEAN (Association of South-East Asian Nations) Region. Students will work in groups, with each group choosing one of the ten countries to study in more details.

Areas of study may range across a number of dimensions, including history, ethnic demography, gender roles, societal changes in the contemporary area, relationship with Japan, youth culture, social welfare, education system, and social issues specific to the country. Each group will share the results of their investigations with other group members.

The course will feature (i) guest speakers who are from the ASEAN countries during the semester, and (ii) virtual communication with the peers in these countries with the use of ICT tools specifically COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning).

Cross-Cultural Competence

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

In this class, students will learn to develop cross-cultural competence through class activities. Students will interact and discuss about various topics with classmates from different backgrounds. Understanding various concepts and issues from diverse perspective will help students to enhance skills that are necessary in the globalized society. Through this course, students will learn to understand about their own culture and become more sensitive to other cultures.

KUGF Field Study (Business Experience Abroad)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course will enable Kansai University students to experience Business field overseas. In AY2018, students will spend approximately two weeks in Thailand.

Students have to participate the training held in June to July before their trips to Thailand in August, and they will generate a report on a particular theme related to their experience in business field in Thailand.

Students will be hosted by CP ALL Public Company and Panyapiwat Institute of Management (PIM) both located in Bangkok city. The main activity for this course is to experience what it is like to work in Thailand, by being present and assisting the employees in the CP ALL Bangkok office.

The students will also have opportunities to visit to affiliated company of CP ALL Public Company during their stay.

The instructor will supervise and provide language assistance (English) to the participating students during the approximately two weeks long trip. After the training in Thailand, students have to participate the training after the dispatch held in beginning of September.

KUGF Independent Study (English Skills Development)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This class encourages students to build an individual study plan for the semester in order to improve their English proficiency and to make use of various ICT tools as well as e-learning programs on the web. The course will involve the use of two kinds of training in each class session. The first half will integrate COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning), communicating with peers overseas in English. The second half of the class will focus on students' independent study, which will be designed and supervised by the instructor.

KUGF Independent Study (Doing a Research in English)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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. The course will use COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) and work with other universities abroad.

KUGF Field Study (International Collaborative Learning)

2 credits

Spring Semester

This course will enable students in Japan to collaboratively learn with peers overseas, particularly in two countries in Asia and South East Asia-for AY2018, Taiwan and Thailand. One sub-group, aka Three University Collaborative Study group (maximum of 6 students), will visit Taiwan for approximately 10 days. The students from three universities (Kansai University, Cheng-Shiu University, and Panyapiwat Institute of Management) will work together to pursue a PBL(Project-Based Learning) activity in Taiwan (Kaohsiung). Another sub-group, aka Japanese Language Teaching group, will visit Thailand for 11 days to participate in Japanese language program in the local university (PIM) and its affiliated high school to assist in their Japanese language classes or to introduce Japanese culture to the local students in English.

At the end of the field study, both sub-groups will be asked to generate a report on a particular theme related to cross-cultural issues in either a) business, b) environment, c) diversity, or d) education in their society. During their stay abroad, they will receive lectures from these institutions in English/Japanese on various topics. The instructor will supervise and provide language assistance (English) to the participating students during the trip.

Participation in this course will require to pay the partial expense of their trip to Taiwan or Thailand. See Division of International Affairs for the details.

Japanese as a Second Language

※ Japanese (a) = oral communication skill training class (listening and speaking)

※ Japanese (b) = literacy skill training class (reading and writing)

Japanese (1-a)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have less than 50 hours of Japanese instruction. In this course, students will master the basic expressions and phrases necessary in daily communication in Japan. The course content focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., listening and speaking in Japanese. The class is limited to a small number of students in order to provide personal attention to each student's improvement.

Japanese (1-b)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have less than 50 hours of Japanese instruction. In this course, students will master the basic expressions and phrases necessary in daily communication in Japan. The course is centered around developing basic Japanese grammar and building proficiency of reading and writing Hiragana, Katakana (Japanese alphabetical systems), and basic Kanji (Chinese characters used in Japanese). The class is limited to a small number of students in order to provide personal attention to each student's improvement.

Japanese (2-a)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have studied up to 150 hours of Japanese instruction. In this course, students will develop their understanding of elementary level grammar, useful expressions and phrases in Japanese beyond the basic Japanese level. 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 without much difficulty about topics regularly encountered in daily life and classroom situations.

Japanese (2-b)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have up to 150 hours of Japanese instruction. In this course, students will develop their understanding of elementary level grammar, useful expressions and phrases in Japanese beyond the basic Japanese level. 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. The learners will become able to read and understand typical expressions and sentences written in Hiragana, Katakana, and basic Kanji without difficulty.

Japanese (3-a)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied elementary Japanese in this program (up to level 2-a, 2-b) or equivalent content elsewhere. In this course students will develop their understanding of grammar, useful expressions and phrases for low intermediate proficiency up to entry to N3 Level 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 topics familiar to them.

Japanese (3-b)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied elementary Japanese in this program (up to level 2-a, 2-b) or equivalent content elsewhere. In this course students will develop their understanding of grammar, useful expressions and phrases for low intermediate proficiency up to entry to N3 Level 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 gain the ability to read short written passages on various topics. They will also practice writing short essays using previously studied grammar.

Japanese (4-a)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied low intermediate Japanese in this program (up to level 3-a, 3-b), or equivalent content 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. They will develop further interactional competence through various communication activities, such as open role-plays, guest lectures, discussions, and debates in groups. With some use of communication strategies and teacher's assistance, they will be able to construct their own message at multiple paragraph level.

Japanese (4-b)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied low intermediate Japanese in this program (up to level 3-a, 3-b), or equivalent content 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 Japanese used in everyday situations with more accurate and complex language skills.

Japanese (5-a)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 4 of the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or equivalent content elsewhere. In this course, students will further improve grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for pre-advanced proficiency up to entry to N2 in Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Proficiency Test). The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., speaking and listening in Japanese.

Japanese (5-b)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 4 of the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or equivalent content elsewhere. In this course, students will further improve grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for pre-advanced 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.

Japanese (6-a)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

This course is designed for students who have already studied up to level 5 in the Japanese language program at Kansai University, or equivalent content elsewhere. In this course, the students will further improve advanced level grammar, expressions and phrases in Japanese for advanced proficiency which is equivalent to N1 in Japanese Proficiency Language Test. It also measures more advanced competence which is necessary in order to take regular courses in a Japanese university. The course focuses on oral communication skills, i.e., integration of speaking and listening in Japanese.

Japanese (6-b)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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

Contemporary Japan (Understanding Japan)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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 or level 4 Japanese language courses concurrently with this class.

Contemporary Japan (Researching Japan)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

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 five Japanese language courses or above concurrently with this course.

Contemporary Japan (Japan in Mass Media I)

2 credits

Spring Semester

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.

Communication in Japanese Society (Business Japanese)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

The next challenge for those who have reached the proficiency in Japanese in terms of managing various academic contexts in the university is to cultivate a further pragmatic communication skills in work-based contexts.

Business Japanese requires one to have a good foundation of Japanese language knowledge and demands further competence in various social interactional tasks, such as negotiating, collaborating, making inquiries, synthesizing, and managing conflicts. Being able to handle these complex actions in Japanese as a foreign language in business settings would be a highly valued asset for the students who seek their career in a Japanese corporation or Japan-related organizations overseas.

Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai I)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

In this course, students will learn about community life and culture in the Kansai region. They will become most familiar with where they live, northern Osaka (e.g., Suita City) in terms of their people, geography, sociocultural history, social issues, and contemporary developments. The students will be given chances to communicate with the residents in the region during the course. Kansai-ben, or local dialects will also be a part of their learning in this class. Required level of Japanese: this class will be conducted in Japanese. LEVEL 3 or higher in the Kansai University Japanese language program (JLPT N4 or higher) is strongly recommended for those who are interested in taking this course.

Communication in Japanese Society (Learning Kansai II)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

In this course, students will learn about community life in the Kansai region. The focus of the classes will be on

- 1) suburban communities in Kansai,
- 2) how business is conducted in Osaka, and
- 3) how people established new businesses in the Kansai region, by reading related materials, visiting companies, and/or listening to business people.

Contemporary Japan (Japan in Mass Media II)

2 credits

Fall Semester

In this course, students will learn about Japan and how various aspects of Japan (e.g., culture, contemporary living styles, social issues, people, 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 television, paper-based media such as newspapers and magazines, internet-based mediums (e.g., online news, SNS), smartphone/tablet-based mediums (e.g., apps), film, and various forms of animation. Required Levels: Students must be taking level 5 or above Japanese language course concurrently with this class.

Communication in Japanese Society (JPN Corporate Culture)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

Having studied Japanese language in general during the university years, one will most likely be expected to make use of anyone who wishes to work for a Japanese company is most likely expected to use appropriate Japanese language skills in business situations. Pragmatic work-based communication skills may be different from "academic Japanese skills" in various ways. This class will help students develop Japanese business communicative competency. The students in this class will be exposed first to various business fields in Japan. There may be some guest speakers who are at the frontline in these fields during the semester. The students will prepare themselves by building vocabulary specific to business communication and various pragmatic communication styles that are used specifically to business interactional contexts. The purpose of this class is to get a general understanding of Japanese corporate culture(s), which will be highly useful for those who may seek employment in Japan or in Japan-related organizations and corporations overseas. The whole class will be conducted in Japanese language with some scaffolding assistance for language learning, adopting a pedagogical approach called CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning).

Field-Based Learning (Society and Workplace Culture in Japan)

2 credits

Spring Semester

Fall Semester

In this course the registered students will individually conduct a field research at an appropriate site such as in a Japanese company, a foreign company in Japan, or at other organizations (e.g., NPO) in Japan. The students will gain work-based experience through this field study. They will be able to cultivate their cultural literacy for Japanese business management, and furthermore, they will be able to develop their skills for practical business communication in practice. In the first half of the course, students will be given instructions on how to carry out a qualitative ethnographic research in a field; the students will be exposed to the methods such as participatory observation, data analysis approaches such as (critical) discourse analysis, conversation analysis, and various qualitative interpretation approaches. As a final task of this course, the students will be expected to produce a final research paper with a specific topic focus, based on the field experience. The workload hours for the field study will be determined individually, according to an agreement between each student and the hosting site.

