



John F. Kennedy High School

Department of World Languages

Japanese Level 1 Course Syllabus (にほんごいち)

2017-2018

Instructor

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General Information

Welcome to Japanese Level 1!! I am so glad you made the decision to journey with me on a discovery of the fascinating language and culture of Japan!! I am Mr. Suzuki your Japanese language instructor. (Please call me Sensei) I consider it a great honor and privilege to teach the wonderful students of John F. Kennedy High School. It is my goal that through this course you will not only gain confidence in speaking, reading and writing the Japanese language, but you will also become enchanted with the culture itself. I hope that you find this class to be a positive learning experience and I look forward to spending the year with you!

Course Description

Japanese 1 is an introductory course in which students master two sets of phonetically written syllables (Hiragana and Katakana) as well as understanding the Romanized pronunciations of Japanese words (Romaji). Students develop an understanding of grammatical structures and begin studying verb tenses in the polite form of speech.

Instructional Strategies

Students will learn basic vocabulary and useful idiomatic expressions based on several different themes and perform a number of interactive and role playing activities. Students acquire communicative skills to convey and comprehend information on a variety of topics. Students will also be familiarized with many elements of Japanese culture. They will study the Japanese lifestyle, annual holidays, food and traditional arts.

Textbook for Japanese 1

Adventures in Japanese Volume 1: Cheng & Tsui Company

Materials

Students will need: pencils, erasers, a 3-ring binder and plenty of standard white lined paper.

Homework

Homework assignments must be completed on time. Homework will be collected at the beginning of the class. It is the student's responsibility to request any makeup assignments due to an excused absence.

Class Assessment

There will be a variety of evaluations through which the student's work will be assessed. Students will be given homework assignments, small quizzes, chapter tests, various student activities, projects and two major exams. Class participation is critical to learning a second language. Students will be expected to participate in dialogues, role-plays, and oral exercises.

Grading Policy

The semester grade will be made up from the following categories:

Homework	20%
Participation	20%
Quizzes/ Tests/	
Projects	40%
Final Exam	20%

Grading Scale

89.5 - 100	= A
89.5 - 89	= B
69.5 - 79	= C
59.5 - 69	= D
0 - 59	= F

Classroom Policy

- It is the policy of this classroom that each student is to be an active participant in the learning process. Mutual respect is imperative to a cooperative learning atmosphere. Achieving excellence comes through self-preparedness, a willingness to take risks in learning and a positive, enthusiastic attitude.
- In order to have a successful learning experience, proper attention needs to be paid to classroom discussion and lecture. The personal use of electronic equipment such as iPods, cell phones, games etc. is prohibited during class time.
- Excessive talking and inappropriate language will result in a loss of points.

- Academic success begins with punctuality. Tardiness will result in a loss of points.
- Please make sure to bring your homework assignments and textbooks to class every day.

Final Word

Thank you for taking the time to read this syllabus. Please sign below and have your parent or guardian sign to acknowledge that you have read and understand the grading procedures and policies of this class. Now let's get ready for some great "Adventures in Japanese!!"



Print Student's Name and Date _____

Parent or Guardian's Signature and Date _____

In the Japanese culture, honor and integrity go hand in hand with a life that is filled with meaning and purpose. To walk in truth and respect others, to treat them with fairness and dignity, to learn to serve and be humble, to have respect for the elderly, to take responsibility for one's actions, to help the helpless, to do your best and finish well, these are the characteristics that make a community beautiful and help to make life truly worth living.

Just something to think about...