

JAPANESE (JPN)

Course Descriptions

JPN 128 Beginning Japanese I 5 Credit Hours

Japanese instruction at the beginning level. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hilone, Shiga, Japan. Seven contact hours per week. (F).

JPN 129 Beginning Japanese II 5 Credit Hours

Continuation of JPN 128. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga, Japan. Seven contact hours per week. (W).

JPN 134 JCMU Experience 1 Credit Hour

The purpose of the JCMU Experience course is to help students develop strategies for thriving in Japan and beyond. Students will learn valuable skills including intercultural communications strategies, cultural shock awareness, and acculturation strategies. These skills will help students enjoy their time in Japan. Students will also learn and develop skills that will enable them to reflect on their experiences and use them for future employment. (F, W, S).

JPN 178 Accelerated Japanese I 5 Credit Hours

A demanding course that brings a student with little or no knowledge of Japanese through the beginning level into the intermediate level. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga, Japan. Seven contact hours per week. (F).

JPN 225 Accelerated Japanese II 5 Credit Hours

Continuation of JPN 128. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga, Japan. Seven contact hours per week. (F).

JPN 228 Intermediate Japanese I 5 Credit Hours

Japanese instruction at the intermediate level. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga, Japan. Seven contact hours per week. (F).

JPN 229 Intermediate Japanese II 5 Credit Hours

Continuation of JPN 228. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga, Japan. Seven contact hours per week. (W).

JPN 230 Contemp Iss Japanese Politics 3 Credit Hours

This course introduces students to modern Japanese politics. It combines a comprehensive survey of Japanese political systems and structures with an introduction to some of the key areas of controversy and debate in Japan today ranging from debates about the environment to Japan's place in the world.

JPN 231 Intro. to Japanese Lang. & Cul 3 Credit Hours

During the first three weeks of the program, students participate in a beginner-level Japanese language and culture course. This course integrates classroom learning with practice of new language skills and cultural knowledge during cultural activities, field trips and other activities.

JPN 232 Comparative Health Care 3 Credit Hours

This course acquaints students with Japan's unique health care system and how it compares to other models. Team-taught by professionals from Japan and the U.S., the course is augmented with a variety of site visits and guest lecturers.

JPN 233 Observ. Health Care Exp. 2 Credit Hours

Coordinated and supervised by the Shiga University of Medical Science (SUMS), students will spend a week in the SUMS teaching hospital observing and learning from doctors, nurses, graduate students, researchers and professors in their field of interest. Past observational studies have included experiences in nursing, radiology, physical therapy, intensive care, surgical units and more.

JPN 234 Japanese Economy & Business 3 Credit Hours

In this course, students can obtain fundamental knowledge on stylized facts of Japanese economy and Japanese firm systems as compared with those in the US and some other countries, and understand economic theories to put profound interpretations on them. Stylized facts seem to be old and some of them may have been obsolete, although they contain essential logical points. However, they are still useful for understanding Japanese economic systems. Thus, students are required to discuss current conditions on Japanese economy and firm system, considering stylized facts and theoretical backgrounds. It is essential to distinguish between changing phenomena and unchanged principles. Students have an opportunity to take a tour to a factory in a leading company. In the final class, students have to give team presentations and individually submit a short essay on the topics provided or the ones they come up with. As for the structure of classes, we cover fundamental stylized facts, economic theories (or theoretical frameworks), and data analyses (historically and currently). This course is composed of three parts: (1) Japanese economic system, (2) Japanese firm system and (3) Japanese macroeconomic conditions.

JPN 395 Japanese Society & Culture I 4 Credit Hours

Focused on modern Japan, the course will include Japanese geography and ethnography, with an emphasis on the Japanese idea of homogeneity. Japan's role in the international context will also be examined. Classroom work will be combined with field trips, in a writing-intensive approach. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga Prefecture, Japan.

JPN 396 Japanese Society & Culture II 4 Credit Hours

The prehistoric and historic roots of Japan. Political economy of contemporary Japan and future directions for the country. Classroom work will be combined with field trips, in a writing-intensive approach. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities, Hikone, Shiga Prefecture, Japan.

JPN 397 Cross-Cult Business Comm/Japan 3 Credit Hours

This course is to immerse students in cross-cultural communications within a Japanese context. The students explore the dimensions of culture through classroom/community activities, case studies, worksites, panel discussions, peer-led activities and simulations. Taught at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities.

Restriction(s):

Can enroll if Class is Freshman or Sophomore or Junior or Senior

*An asterisk denotes that a course may be taken concurrently.

Frequency of Offering

The following abbreviations are used to denote the frequency of offering: (F) fall term; (W) winter term; (S) summer term; (F, W) fall and winter terms; (YR) once a year; (AY) alternating years; (OC) offered occasionally