

JPN 461 – Introduction to Classical Japanese Grammar; Fall 2019

Instructor: Robert Huey

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 10:30-Noon, or by appointment

Final Exam: 12/16/2019 (Monday); 2:15 – 4:15 pm, Moore 102

JPN 461 will introduce the basic structure of classical Japanese, focusing primarily on the literary language of the Heian period. While JPN 302 is a prerequisite for this course, students should be aware that classical Japanese is in many ways as far removed from modern Japanese as it is from modern English.

In the first part of the semester we will systematically explore orthography, verb forms, adjectival forms, auxiliary verbs, *keigo*, and particle usage. All points will be illustrated with examples from classical texts, mostly from the Heian period. We will also learn how to use classical Japanese dictionaries, which contain much information beyond just definitions of words.

Since another goal of this course is to begin developing reading proficiency, we will spend the latter part of the semester reading and translating longer passages from various classical works, possibly including *Ise Monogatari*, *Genji Monogatari*, *Makura no Sōshi* (*The Pillow Book*), and *Kokinshū*.

Course Goals:

These goals will be used both by the instructor to assess the students, and by the students to assess the instructor.

1. To learn pre-modern Japanese orthography.
2. To learn the basic grammar of Classical Japanese.
3. To learn some of the socio-linguistics aspects of Classical Japanese.
4. To learn the literary discourse of Heian and Kamakura period Japan.
5. To learn the relationship between Classical Japanese (古語) and *bungo* (文語).
6. To learn how to use Japanese language dictionaries, especially classical ones.
7. To work in teams with other students to reinforce understanding of key concepts in classical Japanese.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. The student will be able to read pre-modern orthography.
2. The student will be able to recognize the various elements of a dictionary definition.
3. The student will be able to recognize and distinguish between the basic verb classifications in Classical Japanese.
4. The student will be able to recognize and distinguish between the basic verb forms of Classical Japanese.

5. The student will be able to recognize and distinguish between the basic adjectival forms of Classical Japanese.
6. The student will be able to recognize by grammatical and lexical cues, various levels of *keigo* in Classical Japanese.
7. The student will be able to read out loud and parse, as well as roughly translate, poems and short prose passages written in Classical Japanese.
8. Students will learn to work in teams to find multiple plausible solutions to problems posed by classical Japanese texts.

In addition, the following EALL departmental SLOs apply, at least in part, to this course:

1. [SLO5: RESEARCH] Conduct independent research on topics in Japanese literature and/or linguistics, and effectively communicate the results.
2. [SLO6: LINGUISTICS] Demonstrate an understanding of phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics through analysis of words, phrases, and clauses from authentic Japanese samples.
3. [SLO7: LITERATURE] Identify and describe major authors, works, features, forms, and styles of Japanese literature, both pre-modern and modern.
4. [SLO9: LITERATURE] Situate and evaluate Japanese literature in its social, historical, intellectual, and religious contexts.

Tentative schedule:

Week 1 – Basic introduction; classical orthography
 Week 2 – Verb types and bases; adjectival forms
 Weeks 3-8 – Auxiliary verbs
 Week 9-10 – *Keigo*
 Week 11 – Particles; miscellaneous points
 Week 12 – (cushion)
 Week 13-16 – Readings from various classical works

Grading:

(1) In-class performance 20%
 (2) Homework 30%
 (3) Quizzes 30%
 (4) Mid-term and Final Exams 20%

Attendance policy:

This class is very intensive. Any missed class time will set you back considerably. Furthermore, collaborative work with other students is a key component. Missing class or being frequently late may result in a lower grade.

Texts:

- Iwanami's *Kogo Jiten* (**required**)
- Ikeda Tadashi, *Classical Japanese Grammar Illustrated with Texts* (optional)
- various supplementary materials posted on Laulima

OTHER ISSUES:

- Students are expected to adhere to the student conduct code:

http://www.studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/

- Kokua Program: Equal Opportunity for Students with Disabilities

<https://www.hawaii.edu/kokua/>

- Title IX Office: Handles complaints of sex discrimination or harassment for faculty, staff and students

<https://manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/>