

EAS151H1F / EAS1351H1F Modern Standard Japanese I-a

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This beginner-level Japanese course is designed for students with no or little Japanese language background. The emphasis is placed on the communicative aspects of the language so that students can actively function in Japanese. All classes, including lectures, are conducted in an interactive manner, encouraging students to engage with both the instructor and their peers. Your attendance and active participation are required components of this course and essential to your learning experience.

ELIGIBILITY

All students who wish to enrol must take the Level Check A. If the Level Check indicates it is necessary, students must have been placed into the course based on the Placement Interview and/or Test conducted in May or August of the current year. If it is later discovered that a student has intentionally underperformed on the Level Check and/or the Placement Interview and Test, the Department of East Asian Studies has the right to remove the student from the course at any time during the academic year. Please note that this course is not eligible for CR/NCR option.

COURSE OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

In this course, students will build a solid foundation in the four language skills- listening, speaking, reading and writing – while gaining basic understanding of culture and customs in Japan. Students will learn to read and write *hiragana* and *katakana*, and study 58 basic *kanji* characters. By the end of the course, students will be able to handle simple communicative tasks such as:

- Describing people, places, and things in simple terms
- Making simple purchases by stating what they want and asking about prices
- Discussing plans such as what to do, where to go, and making arrangements to meet
- Describing past events and personal experiences
- Making and responding to invitations
- Expressing suggestions and requests and asking for permission politely

They will also be able to write short passages using familiar vocabulary and sentence patterns. This course covers Lesson 1 through 6 from the textbook used in this course.

HOURS & INSTRUCTORS

To learn Japanese effectively, it is important to build a solid foundation and reinforce it through regular practice. For this reason, attendance in both lectures and tutorials is **mandatory**. You may not register for another course that overlaps with either your lecture or tutorial section. Also, you are not allowed to attend a lecture or tutorial other than your own.

Section	Hours	Instructor
LEC 0101	Mon. 9:00 am - 11:00 am	Ikuko Komuro-Lee, Office: RL*14-143
TUT 0101	Tue. & Thu. 9:00 am - 10:00 am	Email: ikuko.komuro.lee@utoronto.ca
TUT 0201	Tue. & Thu. 10:00 am - 11:00 am	Office Hours: Online: Mondays 3:30pm - 4:30 pm In-person: Thursdays 3:30pm - 4:30 pm Marking TA: Koji Hartley
LEC 0201	Mon. 11:00am - 1:00 pm	Yukiko Yoshizumi, Office: RL14-233
TUT 0202	Tue. & Thu. 10:00 am - 11:00 am	Email: yukiko.yoshizumi@utoronto.ca
TUT 0301	Tue. & Thu. 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Office Hours: In-person: Mondays 2:00 – 4:00 pm Online: By appointment Marking TA: Shoryu Matsumoto
LEC 0301	Mon. 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Jisuk Park, Office: RL14-138A
TUT 0401	Tue. & Thu. 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Email: jisuk.park@utoronto.ca
TUT 0501	Tue. & Thu. 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Office Hours: In-person: Wednesdays 3:00 - 4:00 pm Online by appointment Marking TA: Izumi Niki Tutorial Instructor: Yukiko Yoshizumi
LEC 0401	Mon. 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Jotaro Arimori, Office: 14-088
TUT 0601	Tue. & Thu. 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Email: jotaro.arimori@utoronto.ca
TUT 0701	Tue. & Thu. 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Office Hours: In-person: Tuesdays, 12:30 - 2:30 pm Online: By appointment Marking TA: Mizusa Morii

*RL = Robarts Library

COURSE MATERIALS

Required Materials

- For all the sections: *Genki I. Third Edition*. Tokyo: The Japan Times, 2020.
- For LEC0101: Self-Learning Modules on Quercus (Access will be provided by the instructor.)
- For LEC0201, LEC0301, & LEC0401: *Genki I Workbook. Third Edition*. Tokyo: The Japan Times, 2020.
- Other supplemental materials will be posted on Quercus.

The textbook and workbook are available at the [U of T Bookstore](#).

Recommended References

-Genki Self-study Room: <https://genki3.japantimes.co.jp/en/student/>

-Official Genki apps (vocab cards, kanji cards, and conjugation cards) Available for both iOS and Android.

EVALUATION

1) Weekly Assignments (15%)

There are two types of assignments due at the beginning of class on Mondays and Thursdays. Late submissions will be accepted up to twice, but only if they are turned in within 24 hours of the original deadline.

If you submit the assignment by the due but are absent from the class on that day, you can earn no more than 50% of the total points. Additional deductions may apply if the work is incomplete.

Note: There will be no class on Monday, October 13 due to Thanksgiving. In that week, the assignment will be due on Tuesday and Thursday instead.

2) Weekly Quizzes (20%)

Quizzes will be given during the first five minutes of class every Tuesdays, as indicated in the schedule. No extra time will be given if you arrive late. If you come to class only to take the quiz and then leave, you will receive no credit for that quiz. No makeup quizzes will be offered for any reason.

3) Speaking Tests (10% - 5% x 2)

There will be two speaking tests in total: during the weeks of October 20 and November 24 outside of regular class hours. The format and grading criteria will be announced in class.

4) Term Test (20%)

A term test will be held on **Wednesday, October 15th between 10 am and 12 pm.** The location will be announced in class when the date approaches.

5) Final Exam (35%)

A cumulative exam covering Lessons 1 through 6 will be given during the December Final Exam period to assess your overall achievement. The in-person exam will include listening, vocabulary, grammar, reading, and writing. Further details will be announced in class.

Note 1: Students who miss a test, quiz, or assignment due to circumstances beyond their control should notify the instructor as soon as possible, and no later than one week after the scheduled date or deadline if they wish to be considered for accommodation.

Note 2: If you become ill and it affects your ability to do your academic work, you must consult your instructor right away. Normally, you will be asked for documentation in support of your specific medical circumstances. This documentation can be an Absence Declaration (via ACORN) or the University's Verification of Student Illness or Injury (VOI) form. The VOI indicates the impact and severity of the illness, while protecting your privacy about the details of the nature of the illness. For more information on the VOI, please see <http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca>. For information on Absence Declaration Tool for A&S students, please see <https://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/absence>. If you get a concussion, break your hand, or suffer some other acute injury, you should register with Accessibility Services as soon as possible. Please note that you may submit one absence declaration per academic term for a maximum period of seven consecutive calendar days.

Note 3: Students must have a final grade of at least 60% to be eligible to submit an enrolment request for EAS152H1S in the Winter 2026 semester. Advancement through the December placement test is not available.

Note 4: Graduate students must have a final grade of **70%** or above in order to earn a credit.

GUIDANCE

Learning Community

Class is a learning community where everyone should feel comfortable and safe. In order for everyone to be able to perform their best and feel welcome, it is important for individuals to respect and support one another and take responsibilities for creating the best learning environment for others and for yourself. Active participation in class activities is one of the key elements of this environment.

Coming to and Leaving Class

If you need to arrive late or leave early for a compelling reason, please notify your instructor in advance (e.g., by email, etc.). Doing so contributes to a smooth and supportive classroom environment for everyone, without interruption.

Accessibility Needs

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have an acute or ongoing disability issue or accommodation need, you should register with Accessibility Services (AS) at the beginning of the academic year by visiting <https://studentlife.utoronto.ca/departments/accessibility-services/>. Without registration, you will not be able to verify your situation with your instructors, and instructors will not be advised about your accommodation needs. AS will assess your situation, develop an accommodation plan with you, and support you in requesting accommodation for your course work. Remember that the

process of accommodation is private: AS will not share details of your needs or condition with any instructor, and your instructors will not reveal that you are registered with AS.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

The University of Toronto is committed to equity, human rights, and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect where all members of our community can express themselves, engage with each other, and respect one another's differences. U of T does not condone discrimination or harassment against any persons or communities. It is our intent to present materials and activities that are respectful of diversity, and your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated. If you experience barriers to your learning or feel that your identity or perspective is not being adequately respected, we invite you to speak with the instructor so that we can work together to create a more equitable and affirming learning environment.

Religious Accommodations

As a student at the University of Toronto, you are part of a diverse community that welcomes and includes students and faculty from a wide range of cultural and religious traditions. For my part, I will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other compulsory activities on religious holy days not captured by statutory holidays. Further to University Policy, if you anticipate being absent from class or missing a major course activity (such as a test or in-class assignment) due to a religious observance, please let me know as early in the course as possible, and with sufficient notice (at least two to three weeks), so that we can work together to make alternate arrangements.

Use of Generative AI

In this course, limited use of generative AI tools such as Copilot and ChatGPT will be allowed depending on the nature of each assignment. It is your responsibility to ask your instructor if you are unsure whether a technology tool is permissible to use on assignments. If AI is used for assignments where its usage is not permitted, it will result in a deduction of points, or you may be penalized for academic misconduct. Please be reminded that you are responsible for your own learning in this course and for all assignments submitted. It is essential to critically evaluate the generated content and regularly assess your own learning independently, without depending on generative AI tools. Relying too much on generative AI may give a false impression of how much you have actually learned and could potentially lead to a decline in your performance in this course, and subsequent courses.

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is essential to the pursuit of learning and scholarship in a university, and to ensuring that a degree from the University of Toronto is a strong signal of each student's individual academic achievement. As a result, the University treats cases of cheating and plagiarism very seriously. The University of Toronto's [Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters](#) outlines the behaviours that constitute academic dishonesty and the processes for addressing academic offences. Potential offences include, but are not limited to:

In papers and assignments:

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts.
- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment. (This includes working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work).

On quizzes, tests, and exams:

- Using or possessing unauthorized aids.
- Looking at/copying someone else's answers.
- Letting someone else look at/copy your answers.
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.

In academic work:

- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including (but not limited to) doctor's notes.

All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the *Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters*. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact your instructor. If you have questions about appropriate research and citation methods, you are expected to seek out additional information from your instructor or other available campus resources like the [College Writing Centres](#), the [Academic Success Centre](#), or the [U of T Writing Website](#).

Audio/Video Recordings of Class

Students creating unauthorized audio/video recording of lectures violate an instructor's intellectual property rights and the Canadian Copyright Act. Students violating this agreement will be subject to disciplinary actions under the Code of Student Conduct. Students may not create audio/video recordings of classes, with the exception of those students requiring an accommodation in accordance with university policy.

Communication with Instructors

Quercus: If you have a general question about the course (e.g., schedule, assignment deadlines, assignment contents, etc.), please check the syllabus, course schedule, and postings on Quercus first. Many of your question may already be answered there.

If you have any questions regarding course materials, please use the discussion board on Quercus instead of sending individual emails. This way, your question can be shared with your classmates, and they may be able to answer or help you as well.

Office Hours: You are more than welcome to visit your instructor's office during office hours if you have any questions, concerns, or simply wish to talk about course materials in person. Office hours are a great opportunity to receive individual support in a relaxed setting. Please don't hesitate to drop by— your instructor will be happy to talk with you during office hours.

Email: When you send an email to your instructor, please include your name, course code, and a clear subject line.

*For further details and policies, please refer to the course Quercus site.

Food in Class

Please try to avoid eating during class, as you will be speaking quite a bit due to the interactive nature of the course.

Events and Opportunities outside of class

The Department of East Asian Studies may organize events during the semester. You may also be informed of other opportunities that could be beneficial to students. Details will be given in class or posted on Quercus when the time approaches.

Resources

Chen Yu Tung East Asian Library (Robarts Library 8th floor) <https://east.library.utoronto.ca/>

The Japan Foundation Library (2 Bloor Street East, Suite 300, Toronto) <https://jftor.org/>