

JAPN 4113/8803 Syllabus

Advanced Reading and Listening, 3 credits

Fall 2026

Instructor Information

Instructor: Masato Kikuchi

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General Course Information

Description

This course is a synchronous online course designed for learners of Japanese who have completed JAPN 3001 (Advanced Japanese I) or equivalent and wish to strengthen their reading and listening skills to comprehend complex language materials. Emphasis is placed on developing the level of competence equivalent to the Japanese Language Proficiency in reading and listening equivalent to the JLPT N3 levels as shown by → below. For details about the JLPT levels, please visit the main [JLPT Website](#).

- o N1: Understand Japanese used in a variety of circumstances (Full-time work/Graduate school)
- o N2: Understand Japanese used in everyday situations, and in a variety of circumstances to a certain degree (College/Vocational school)
- o → N3: Understand Japanese used in everyday situations to a certain degree (Good enough for part-time work)
- o N4: Understand basic Japanese (familiar everyday situations)
- o N5: Understand some basic Japanese (survival level)

Although we will emphasize reading and listening skills, some conversational and writing skills—which cover a wide range of vocabulary and grammatical functions—will also be included.

Students are encouraged (but not required) to take the official JLPT (<https://jlpt.us/>) on the first Sunday of December in the US. Registration opens in August (It may fill up quickly). If you are planning to take it, register for it ASAP.

This course will count toward your major (ALIS, IAML, GEML), minor or certificate. If you have not taken JAPN 2002 at GT or are unsure about your proficiency level, please take our online placement test at <https://gatech.instructure.com/courses/108472> and follow its recommendations. No native or heritage speakers of Japanese are allowed to take this course.

Pre- &/or Co-Requisites

None.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Learn advanced and complex structural patterns and vocabulary for JLPT N3
2. Be familiar with the test format of JLPT N3
3. Review kanji covered through 3001 and more
4. Increase their familiarity with Japanese culture and society
5. Increase the delivery skills in presenting intermediate level Japanese discourse content

Graduate students taking JAPN 8803 have additional requirements (i.e., Two presentations on the content equivalent to the JLPT N2-level materials). See the course schedule for the details.

Required Course Materials

All materials are provided on Canvas. These include reading and listening materials, vocabulary and grammar explanations, quizzes and exams, and assignments.

Grading Policy:

Grading is on a 100-point scale: A $\geq$ 90%, B $\geq$ 80%, C $\geq$ 70%, D $\geq$ 60%

Assignment	Weight (Percentage)
Active Class Participation	10%
Quizzes (short/every day quizzes)	12%
Homework (Grammar, Vocabulary, Reading)	12%
2 Bunpo & Dokkai Tests 2 Podcast Presentations	36%
Listening Tests (4)	12%
Practice JLPT Tests—Pretest (If you take this, you will get 9% of the grade automatically.)	9%
Final written exam	9%
Taking the official JLPT test (Bring the registration form)	Extra 1%
If at least 80% of students fill out the CIOS evaluations at the end of the course.	Extra 1% to all students

Notes: Tests and quizzes are given as early as 10 minutes after the class starts. Please be on time. In actual JLPT, you will not be allowed to take the test if you are late.

Course Policies

Course Modality

This course is designed as an online course. Lectures and class discussions will be recorded, but watching the recorded classes will NOT count as attendance. If you are ill for any reason (e.g., migraine, flu, COVID-19) or in quarantine, you should follow course policies regarding student absences due to illness.

Student Illness or Absence

Occasionally it may be necessary for students to be absent from scheduled classes or laboratories for personal reasons, including illness, institute-approved activities, and major religious observances. Students should discuss planned absences with their instructor as soon as possible after the beginning of an academic term. Work missed may be made up at the discretion of the instructor.

Missing Classes for Personal Emergencies

Students may need to miss classes due to personal emergencies such as being hospitalized or being in a car accident. The Office of the Vice President and Dean of Students can assist students with documented emergencies by contacting professors on behalf of the student. For more information, please call the Office of the Vice President and Dean of Students or complete the [Request Assistance Form](#).

Institute Approved Activities

Students who are absent because of participation in approved Institute activities (e.g., field trips, athletic events) will be permitted to make up the work missed during their absences. Approval of such activities will be granted by the Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee of the Academic Senate, and statements of the approved absence may be obtained from the [Office of the Registrar](#). Please contact the Office of the Registrar for more information.

Instructor Illness

Faculty may cancel a class if they have an illness or emergency and cover any missed material at their own discretion. If an instructor needs to cancel a class, they will notify students as early as possible.

CARE Center, Counseling Center, Stamps Health Services, & the Student Center

These uncertain times can be difficult, and many students may need help in dealing with stress and mental health. The [CARE Center](#) and the [Counseling Center](#), and [Stamps Health Services](#) will offer both in-person and virtual appointments. Student Center services and operations are available on the [Student Center](#) website.

For more information on these and other student services, contact the Vice President and Dean of Students or the [Division of Student Life](#).

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with learning needs that require special accommodation, contact the Office of Disability Services at (404)894-2563 or <http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>, as soon as possible, to make an appointment to discuss your special needs and to obtain an accommodations letter. Please also e-mail me as soon as possible in to set up a time to discuss your learning needs.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Attendance and/or Participation

Students are expected to come to class fully prepared to participate in class activities. If students engage in activities that indicate their inattention or non-participation in the classroom activities (e.g. falling asleep, text-messaging, doing homework, reading irrelevant materials, etc.), they will receive a score of 7 or below. Students are not allowed to use their computers, cellphones in class unless otherwise requested to do so by the instructor. Failure to comply with this will result in lowering their participation and performance grades. Students are allowed to miss a class without penalty up to two times.

At the same time, the GT' rules and regulations (<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/4/>) will be honored, which allow the absences due to the participations in institute activities, attendance in funerals, participation in particular religious observation, jury duties, etc.

Students who miss class due to illness or emergency should notify the instructor when they can and then should file an [IAA form](#) with the Registrar's Office. The instructor will be notified by e-mail if the absence is approved.

Daily participation grades can be accessed through Canvas's Gradebook weekly.

Collaboration & Group Work

Students should complete all homework assignments and projects by themselves unless instructed otherwise by the instructor.

Extensions, Late Assignments, & Re-Scheduled/Missed Exams

Late assignments will be accepted in case of illness or emergency. If you know you will miss assignments due to illness or emergency, please arrange to re-schedule.

Campus Resources

Georgia Tech offers many resources for students in need including counseling services, personalized research assistance, tutoring, and academic support. Please check out http://ctl.gatech.edu/sites/default/files/documents/campus_resources_students.pdf for more details, and feel free to ask me if you need any assistance in finding these resources.

Diversity Statement

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities that may also manifest here as they do in the broader society.

Class Schedule

Please see the Home page of your Canvas course for the most updated schedule.