

Tech & Bus Jpn Translation

Last Updated: Mon, 01/05/2026

Course prefix: JAPN

Course number: 4123

Section: A

CRN

34724

Instructor first name: Masato

Instructor last name: Kikuchi

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

This course delves into the intricate art and science of translating and localizing diverse Japanese and English texts. Our source materials (ST) span a wide range, from traditional texts to digital content in movies, TV shows, anime, websites, and software, ensuring a rich and varied learning experience.

Engage with a mix of technical, business, and creative documents, providing a well-rounded perspective on translation challenges. This course is not just about converting words; it's about conveying meanings, emotions, and cultural nuances. Prepare for engaging mini-translation assignments and two major projects - a mid-term and a final - where you'll showcase your translation prowess and analyze the nuances between the ST and the target texts (TT).

A unique feature of this course is the exploration of AI-generated translation. We'll critically examine its capabilities, discussing where it excels and where human intuition remains irreplaceable. Your active participation is key, both in class and on our Canvas forums. Share your insights, debate viewpoints, and learn collaboratively through class interaction and exchange. The instruction is conducted mostly in Japanese mixed with some English to supplement your understanding, immersing you in the language and culture you are mastering. Join us on this exciting journey to become skilled translators in this interconnected world.

The class discussion will be conducted primarily in Japanese with occasional English clarification as needed.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

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.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

JAPN 4123: Technical and Business Translation in Japanese

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Humanities area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I interpret human experience through creative, linguistic, and philosophical works?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze and interpret the meaning, cultural significance, and ethical implications of literary/philosophical texts or of works in the visual/performing arts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Ethical Reasoning
- Information Literacy
- Intercultural Competence