

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, ST. AUGUSTINE**  
**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION**  
**CENTRE FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING**

**COURSE DOCUMENTATION**

**COURSE TITLE: LEVEL 1B JAPANESE**

**SEMESTER: 2**

**LEVEL: 1**

**PREREQUISITES: LEVEL 1A JAPANESE**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Level 1B Japanese is the second part of the introductory Japanese programme continuing the work begun in Level 1A Japanese. Online synchronous sessions are conducted as far as possible in the target language to give students maximum exposure to the language and culture during class time. During the course, students develop the ability to communicate in Japanese in basic situations relating to their personal lives.

Upon completion of this course, students should have the knowledge and skills and demonstrate the attitudes expected at Level A1 of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

[http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework\\_en.pdf/](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/linguistic/Source/Framework_en.pdf/) JF Standard  
[http://jfstandard.jp/pdf/jfs2010\\_all\\_en.pdf](http://jfstandard.jp/pdf/jfs2010_all_en.pdf) in listening and speaking.

The course consists four contact hours per week over the course of the semester. In addition, students are expected to spend time on self-study to prepare for sessions and to review and consolidate work done during sessions. Students are also encouraged to develop a repertoire of strategies to promote their autonomy as language learners.

**COURSE RATIONALE:**

Mastery of Japanese, and an awareness of its culture, are assets for those in higher education, in business and in international trade and diplomacy. You have an initial communicative ability in this language. Having done an introductory course in Japanese, students understand the importance of this world language and its culture. The aim of this course, as of every other language course at the CLL, is to enable students to participate in the target language at the level specified.

Emphasis in this course is placed equally on the language and its culture. While the focus is mainly on speaking and listening skills as was the case in the level 1A, reading and writing skills will play a more important role than in the first course. Work on pronunciation, sentence patterns, vocabulary and so on will equip students to function successfully at this level and provide a solid base for further study of the language. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be eligible to begin Level 2A Japanese.

#### **INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION:**

**Name of instructor:** Shiho Arakawa

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**Office hours:** By appointment

#### **Tutor information**

**Name:** Christenne Lyons

**Email:** [christennelyonsJFL@gmail.com](mailto:christennelyonsJFL@gmail.com)

#### **LETTER TO THE STUDENT**

Dear Student,

Welcome to the Level 1B Japanese course. This is a beginners' language course for persons who have completed one semester or approximately 50 hours of Japanese. We hope that you have enjoyed your introduction to the Japanese language and culture in Level 1A and will continue to enjoy your exposure to the language and culture of Japan.

Students of Japanese require a longer instructional period to reach the higher proficiency levels, in comparison to the time required of learners of a Category I language such as French or Spanish. You should therefore plan to spend twice as much time in self-study, working on the language, as you spend during the synchronous sessions.

As this course will be taught remotely, we wish to remind you that learning a language is a social experience, which usually involves verbal and non-verbal communication. When teaching and learning remotely, it is even more important that we ensure that both types of communication can be had, allowing for that human element in every session. Therefore, in as much as your circumstances

allow, we would like to encourage you to turn your camera on during the sessions so that your tutor and classmates can interact with you.

Your tutors are here to support you in your learning, so do not hesitate to seek their advice. There are many online resources suitable even for beginning learners like you. Remember to use those resources, as well.

Enjoy your Japanese language adventure!

Warm regards,  
Your tutor

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE TO STUDENTS**

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### **CONTENT:**

This course focuses on situations and activities that students will most likely encounter early in the language learning process. Below is an indicative list of communicative skills and grammar.

*The course calendar presents information on all aspects of the course in greater detail.*

#### **Communicative skills**

- Topics such as shopping, holidays, seasons and weather, my family, my town and my hobbies
- Making a polite request
- Asking for and giving directions
- Doing some shopping
- Reading and writing a short email/blog

#### **Grammar/sentence structure**

- Verb conjugations (past tense, affirmative/negative)
- Adjective conjugations (present/past tense, affirmative/negative)

- Use of conjunctions to make a longer sentence
- Verb conjugation (te-form)
- Direction and location words

### **GOALS/AIMS:**

This course aims to help students:

- Develop certain competence in the four skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing)
- Acquire simple basic grammatical structure and construction of sentences
- Build upon their initial ability to communicate in Japanese
- Gain an insight into some aspects of Japanese life and culture

### **GENERAL OBJECTIVES:**

This course intends to help students perform at a high level of the JF Standard Basic User A1.

The A1 user can:

- Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type;
- Introduce him/herself and others and ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has;
- Interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Recognize familiar words and phrases related to the topics listed above in spoken language if the other person speaks slowly and clearly;
- Interact orally in a simple way to address their immediate needs or exchange information on the topics listed above (e.g. with a shop assistant to do some shopping) if the other person speaks slowly and clearly and are prepared to repeat;
- Read and understand simple texts containing frequently encountered vocabulary written in *hiragana/katakana/Kanji*;
- Write a short simple text about topics such as your family, your days off or your hobby.
- Describe some characteristics of Japanese life and culture.

## **COURSE ASSESSMENT:**

<b>ALL STUDENTS (100% course work)</b>	
Continuous Assessment (3 assignments)	50% of the overall mark
Final Test* (Speaking 30%, Listening 40%, Reading 20%, Writing 10%)	50% of the overall mark

\*Marks will be converted to 50%

### **Assignments for all students**

Students pursuing a Japanese course are required to complete three assignments, which contribute toward 50% of their total mark for all students. The assignments include the following items:

1. Journals (5 marks/entry, total 30 marks)

A journal entry is to be submitted per Topic. It should include your objectives, Can-do Check (a self-assessment), comments in English on your study (you are free to write about anything you like), and answers to exercises/tasks given in class. The journal is in the form of a Word/PDF/Google doc document and to be submitted via the platform of your tutor's choice. There should be a total of 6 entries.

2. A presentation (10 marks)

Make a presentation to class in Japanese using one of the topics listed below. The presentation should be between 60 seconds and two minutes in length, and use a presentation program such as Power Point, Google Slides and Canva to create your slides. Your presentation must be accompanied by visual aids and verbal explanation. There is an option of submitting the draft for feedback. You are required to make the presentation to your classmates during Week 10 - 12 also give some feedback to any three classmates about their presentations.

- My days off
- My last trip
- My family
- My favourite season
- The town I live in

3. A presentation about experiences with Japanese language or culture (10 marks)

Make a presentation to class in English about your cultural or language experiences you had this semester. Choose one from the ideas listed below, experience it, and make a presentation about it using a presentation program such as PowerPoint, Google Slides, or Canva. It should be 2-3 minutes in length. Your slides must be accompanied by photos or videos as visual aids. You are required to make the presentation to your classmates during Week 6-9. This assignment should also be submitted by Week 9 via the platform of your tutor's choice.

- A movie directed by a Japanese director
- A short story, tale or poem written by a Japanese author
- A Japanese dish I ate/made for the first time
- A Japanese event I participated
- A Japanese person I interacted with

### **COURSE EVALUATION:**

Summative evaluation will be conducted using The UWI's SECL System. The CLL will disseminate a mid- and end-of-semester student feedback questionnaire.

### **TEACHING/LEARNING STRATEGIES:**

*Interactive sessions:* While some of the class will involve direct teaching, language classes are not lecture-type classes, but sessions requiring the active participation of all learners. Classes will therefore be highly interactive with teachers using and encouraging the use of the target language.

*Use of target language:* A defining characteristic of a modern communicative language programme is the use of the target language as a gateway to the study of the societies and cultures in which it is used. Students will be expected to recognise and use Japanese in a way which is consistent with the competence of an A2 learner.

*Development of learner autonomy:* An explicit expectation of language students is a measure of learner autonomy and responsibility for the development of their language competence. This autonomy will be guided and developed alongside their classroom learning. At this level, for example, students are encouraged to self-evaluate their progress by comparing their current level with their performance in Level 1A or their personal goals. Students' learning experience will usually involve exposure to various forms of language learning technology both in and out of class.

*Collaborative work:* Finally, students will be expected to work in cooperative and collaborative ways

with an attitude of mutual consideration and respect towards their peers.

## RESOURCES:

### Texts: Required

- *MARUGOTO Japanese Language and Culture Starter A1 : Course book for Communicative Language Activities.* Tomoyo Shibahara, Hiromi Kijima, Naomi Hatta, Japan Foundation (2013). Sanshusha Publishing Co., Ltd. ISBN-13: 978-4-384-05752-2

- *MARUGOTO Japanese Language and Culture Elementary 1 A2 : Course book for Communicative Language Activities.* Tomoyo Shibahara, Hiromi Kijima, Naomi Hatta, Japan Foundation (2013). Sanshusha Publishing Co., Ltd. ISBN-13: 978-4-384-05754-6

### Supplementary materials:

- \*Multimedia materials provided by the CLL as appropriate

- \*Additional Internet references will be supplied in class.

- \*URL
  - MARUGOTO Website: <http://marugoto.org/en/index.html#>  
<http://www.marugotoweb.jp/>  
<http://words.marugotoweb.jp/>  
<http://a1.marugotoweb.jp/>  
<http://a2.marugotoweb.jp/en/>
  - Genki-Online: [http://genki.japantimes.co.jp/self\\_en](http://genki.japantimes.co.jp/self_en)
  - *Erin's Challenge!* I can speak Japanese. The Japan Foundation  
<https://www.erin.ne.jp/en/>
  - JF Japanese elearning Minato:  
<https://minato-jf.jp/Home/Index>

## COURSE CALENDAR

Textbook: Marugoto Starter A1 Katsudoo					
CEFR Level	Wk	Topic		Lesson	Can-dos & Kanji
A1	1~6	7. Towns	L.13	How are you going to get there?	33 Recognise station and taxi signs. 34 Show a taxi driver a note and say your destination. 35 Say how to get to a particular destination. 東 西 南 北 口
			L.14	It's a famous temple	36 Say how to get to s destination, using a map. 37 Say where you are now over the phone. 38 Recognise opening/closing times on shop noticeboards.
		8. Shopping	L.15	Cute!	39 Talk about what you want to buy 40 Talk about where to shop for something you want
			L.16	I'll take this	41 Make a brief comment on things in a shop 42 Read prices 43 Do some shopping 買 (金) (一) 百 千 万 円
		9.Holidays and Days off 2	L.17	It was fun	44 Read a short blog 45 Say what you did on your days off 46 Say briefly what you thought about your days off 47 Write a short blog about your days off
			L.18	I would like to visit Kyoto next time	48 Read a simple e-mail 49 Say what you did on your travels 50 Say where you want to go next time 行 来 会 休 日 本 東京
Textbook: Marugoto Elementary 1 A2 Katsudoo					
A2	8~12	1. My family and myself	L.1	We live in Tokyo	1 Talk briefly about you/your family live and what you/they do 2 Say what language you speak with your family and friends 私 父 母 子 男 女 人 何
			L.2	My hobby is listening to classical music	3 Talk about your hobbies 4 Read short simple comments about someone's self-introduction on a website 5 Write short simple comments about someone's self-introduction on a website 国 外国 ~語 好き 人 本 読書 何
		2. Seasons and weather	L.3	It's spring now in Japan	6 Talk about the change of seasons 7 Say what season you like and why 春 夏 秋 冬 今 海 川 山 花
			L.4		8 Greet people by talking about the weather



			It's a nice day isn't it?	9 Start a conversation over the phone by talking about the weather 今日 天気 晴れ 雨 雪 雲 風 空
		3. My town	L.5 This park is big and beautiful	10 Tell a friend about a place/area of your reccomendation using a map of your town 11 Tell a friend what a place that he/she is interested in is like and what to be careful about using a map 町 店 人気 多 少 高 安 広
			L.6 Please go straight	12 Telle someone how to get to a place nearby 13 Correct some information misunderstood by someone 14 Describe the features of buildings seen in the distance 道 通 右 左 赤 青 黒 白
13	<b>Final Test</b>			

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Students must attend 75% of classes in order to be eligible for the final test.

### HOW TO STUDY FOR THIS COURSE:

Attendance is compulsory, not only because students may be debarred from the final test if they are present for fewer than 75% of the classes, but also because language learning is incremental. Students need to work at their language learning regularly, both in class and out of class to consolidate what they have learnt. Japanese with its different writing systems represents a real challenge for the beginning learner.

Here are a few tips for studying for this course:

- Use all the resources at your disposal—your peers, your teachers and online materials to help you improve and build your confidence.
- Set small achievable goals for each week of the course.
- Reflect on your learning by recording personal goals, successful strategies, and new vocabulary and phrases.
- Remember to spend some time on all the skills.
- Explore Japanese language and culture Internet sites.
- Look and listen to Japanese language news broadcast on the Internet and on television.

## GRADING SYSTEM

The following is The UWI's mark scheme:

Grade	GPA	Mark%	Grade	GPA	Mark%
A+	4.3	90-100	C+	2.3	55-59
A	4.0	80-89	C	2.0	50-54
A-	3.7	75-79	F1	1.7	40-49
B+	3.3	70-74	F2	1.3	30-39
B	3.0	65-69	F3	0.0	0-29
B-	2.7	60-64			