

Japanese Language Courses for Special International Students

- **The Rikkyo University Japanese language courses range from J0 (Basic level) to J8 (Advanced level) for Special International Students.**
- If you wish to take Japanese language courses, you must take a placement test during orientation. You will be tested on grammar, reading, writing and speaking ability through online test of grammar, vocabulary and kanji, composition test and interview. Students with little or no prior learning experience with Japanese will be tested for *Hiragana/Katakana* and speaking only.
- **You will be placed in the appropriate level based strictly on the placement test results. You cannot take classes in any other level, except the one in which you are placed. You are not allowed to audit classes in any level.** At Rikkyo University, students' level is not solely determined by their knowledge or learning experience. Rather, we examine your ability by performance to use correct words appropriately in context. While you may be dissatisfied with your class placement, it is not possible to change. **Hence, if you wish to take higher level of the Japanese language courses, we advise you to study hard before you take the placement test.**
- If you have never studied Japanese or have no experience in learning Japanese and wish to be enrolled above J1 level, we recommend self-study using the website below.
 - ① Drill <http://www.coscom.co.jp/hiragana-katakana/index.html>
 - ② Hiragana Writing Practice <http://u-biq.org/hiragana/aka.html>
 - ③ Katakana Writing Practice <http://u-biq.org/katakana/an.html>

You need to be able to read and write at least *Hiragana* and *Katakana*, at the minimum in order to take J1 classes. You will be tested for your *Hiragana* and *Katakana* reading/writing skill as a placement test. (If you are not able to read and write *Hiragana* and *Katakana*, you will be enrolled in J0.)

Levels for Japanese Language Courses

Level	Requirements to Attend the Courses
J0	Designed for students who have no prior learning experience in Japanese and want to learn daily-life Japanese expression and vocabulary.
J1, J1S	Designed for students who have no prior learning experience in Japanese but can read/write Hiragana and Katakana or those who have prior experience with only a limited knowledge (not yet mastered basic conjugations of verbs and adjectives or vocabulary of less than 500 words, etc.).
J2, J2S	Designed for students who have a very basic knowledge of Japanese (basic conjugations of verbs and adjectives and a vocabulary of 500 words).
J3, J3S	Designed for students who have already mastered the first half of fundamental sentence structure and a fundamental vocabulary (about 1000 words).
J4	Designed for students who can communicate with close friends, or who can deal with very popular, well-known topics in Japanese.
J5	Designed for students who can deal with everyday situations in Japanese.
J6	Designed for students with average daily Japanese comprehension. Students can read magazines or newspapers by using a dictionary, and write their opinion in appropriate Japanese.
J7	Designed for students who can express their opinion about politics, economics, international affairs, and so on in high-level Japanese. Students can read magazines or newspapers without using a dictionary, and write their opinion in appropriate, sophisticated Japanese.
J8	Designed for students who have mastered a high level of grammar, Kanji and vocabulary and are also able to study or do research in Japanese.
Seminar on Japanese Language and Culture 1-3	(for J2-J5 students only) For students in J2-J5 levels, the seminar is conducted in Japanese as much as possible with Japanese vocabularies and sentence patterns that participants have already learned. This class aims to enhance the students' understanding of the Japanese language by using varieties of materials such as animation, films, <i>manga</i> and novels.

Japanese L&C *1, Japanese L&S *2	(for J0-J3 students only) Students will be able to learn about the vocabulary, spelling, and idioms of the Japanese language while referring to the cultural and historical context. The class is taught in English and simple Japanese.
Kanji	(for J4-J8 students only) The target material for the course is the Rikkyo Kanji Certification Examination (RKCE) (Stages B1–B6, IA-IG, AA-AG). For Stages B6–B4, students will learn the JLPT N5 level kanji (total number of kanji: 209). For Stages B3-B1, students will learn the JLPT N4 level kanji (total number of kanji: 241). For Stages IA-IG, students will learn the JLPT N3 or N2 level kanji (total number of kanji: 775). For Stages AA-AG, students will learn the JLPT N1 level kanji (total number of kanji: 852). Students will study kanji in line with the individual areas of interest decided by each student.

*1 Japanese L&C = Japanese Language and Japanese Culture

*2 Japanese L&S = Japanese Language and Japanese Society

Course Contents of Each Level

Level	Contents of Each Level	
J0	Grammar & Vocabulary, Listening & Conversation, and Total skills	
J1, J1S	Grammar, Listening & Conversation, Reading, Writing and Total Skills	Japanese L&C, Japanese L&S 0~3
J2, J2S		
J3, J3S		
J4	Grammar, Listening & Conversation, Reading, and Writing	Integrated Japanese 4-6
J5		
J6		
J7		
J8	J8-AA,AB, AC: Japanese Society and Culture A, B, C J8-BA, BB: Language and Society in Japan A, B J8-C : Academic Japanese: Reading Research Papers J8-D : Academic Japanese: Writing Research Papers J8-EA, EB: Japanese for Careers A, B J8-FA, FB: Business Japanese: Listening and Discussion A,B J8-G : Business Japanese : Reading and Writing	Kanji 4~8

Syllabus: <https://cjle.rikkyo.ac.jp/english/syllabus/>

* J1-J3 and J1S-J3S have a different speed of progression. However, those classes have the same attainment targets.

* The level you will be placed in is based on the placement test results. Please understand that your level might be different from what you have expected.

- J0 and J1S - J3S students have to take classes 3 times a week.
- J1-J3 students have to take all 5 classes per week.
- Students who are J4 and higher take the respective level of classes according to the placement test results. **Students cannot take or audit classes in any other level, except the one in which they are placed.**
- For J1 and J1S, classes are conducted mainly in English. As classes progress, instructions in Japanese will be gradually added.
- In the classes other than Kanji class offered at Niiza Campus, students learn *Kanji* as part of their vocabulary in each class. Students can take a “*Kanji Test*” conducted once every two weeks in class after self-studying about 30 words assigned every week from the handouts. The *Kanji* test score will not be included in students’ grade for the semester.
- “Rikkyo Kanji Certificate Examination” is offered twice per semester for the students who desire to study *Kanji*.
- Students who wish to study Japanese outside classes can borrow workbooks at the Center for Japanese Language Education.

Others

- **Since participation in activities within class are important, students will not receive any credits/grades in a case there are many absences or late arrivals.**
- Mid-term/Final test, assignments, and quizzes/presentations/discussions in class will all be graded.