

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* 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* 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 (or limited) prior learning experience in Japanese and want to learn Japanese expressions, and vocabulary for every day, such as for shopping or ordering at restaurant etc. Students will learn Hiragana and Katakana while learning Japanese expressions for every day. This course would fit for the students who will stay in Japan for half a year and is interested in what kind of language Japanese is like, or fit for the students who will stay in Japan for a year and wish to start to learn Japanese from Hiragana and Katakana and other fundamental Japanese, before moving to J1 level.
J1, J1S	Designed for students who have no prior learning experience in Japanese at school etc., but can read / write Hiragana and Katakana, or for students who have prior experience, but only a limited knowledge, or for students who have studied at school but not mastered basic conjugations of verbs and adjectives or particles yet and be willing to master them. * Reading and writing ability of Hiragana and Katakana is required for J1 level students. Passing Hiragana test at Japanese Language Placement Test is required to take J1 classes.
J2, J2S	Designed for students who mastered basic conjugation of verbs and adjectives and acquire a vocabulary of 500 words, and can talk or write in Japanese using them. And for students who can have conversation in the classroom, state hobby, like and dislike etc. in Japanese, also for students who understand the essay in Japanese with Hiragana, Katakana and basic Kanji.
J3, J3S	Designed for students who have already mastered basic sentence structure and about 1,000 vocabulary in Japanese and can communicate in Japanese for a simple daily occasion, or for the students who can understand and express what they want to say in Japanese at certain level if it is slow.
J4	Designed for students who have mastered the beginner level and can deal with well-known topics in Japanese while still having difficulty in communicating with native Japanese speakers with ordinal speed or writing essays in Japanese with 800 characters using mix writing (Kana and Kanji) etc.
J5	Designed for students who can deal with everyday situations in Japanese properly and accurately, and for the students who can write essay in Japanese with 1,000 characters with mix writing (Kanji and Kana) using a dictionary although having not studied writing papers or report in Japanese.

J6	Designed for students who can understand newspapers or news articles on the internet almost without using dictionary, also for students who can write essay in Japanese with 1,500 characters about the topic that they are interested in and can give their opinion on a general topic in appropriate Japanese.
J7	Designed for students who can understand not only newspapers and novels, but also specialized papers and books in Japanese without using a dictionary, and for students who can write a report of about 2,000 characters, also for students who can discuss academic matters and make presentations in Japanese.
J8	Designed for students who have mastered a high level of grammar, kanji and vocabulary and who are also able to study or perform research using 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			
J5	Grammar, Listening & Conversation, Reading, and Writing	Integrated Japanese 4-6	
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	Integrated Japanese 6-8	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

rest 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*.

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.