



HIROSAKI
UNIVERSITY

Japanese Area Studies Course Catalog



I Course Description

This course is designed for international students who wish to explore various but distinct aspects of northern mainland Japan (aka. Tohoku). Some of the courses also take subject from issues in Japanese society and culture in a more general perspective. The classes in this course are mainly offered in English (with some instructions / materials in Japanese) and open to any students regardless of Japanese language proficiency.

It offers:

***Japanese Area Studies classes** explore themes related to Japanese regional culture and society in English mainly. Use of Japanese is allowed in some cases. This may include asking questions, submission and presentation of classwork, etc. Minimum of *FOUR classes* per term must be selected from the list below.

***Optional classes:** Minimum of *THREE* classes per term are to be selected from the rest of Japanese Area Studies classes, Japanese language classes (*incl. Everyday Spoken Japanese*), and/or other fulltime courses. Optional classes should not cause timetable conflict with Japanese Area Studies.

II List of classes

Spring Semester

1) Japanese Area Studies classes

- Anthropology of Japanese Social Structure
- Excursions in Aomori: Cultural Anthropology of Exhibitions
- Excursions in Aomori: Research in Communal Sustainability
- Food and Industrialization in Aomori: Cultural Anthropology of Local Food and Dietary Practice (A) *
- Regional-Project Seminar-an introduction to soundscape studies
- Workshop in Japanese Contemporary Dance and Regional Performative Arts*

*Title of course is tentative. Ask office for the exact name of this class upon enrollment.

Individual Studies

Students will complete a minor research paper based upon a qualitative and/or ethnographic research. An interview by instructor is required for enrollment.

2) Optional classes

Classes related to Japanese culture taught in English or with English language support

- Crafts of the Tsugaru region
- Japanese war literature
- The world of Japanese picture books
- Traditional Japanese sports
- Japanese food culture and green tourism

Internships

- Regional tourism in Japan
- Internship IA - implementing regional tourism
- Internship IB – planning regional tourism
- Internship IC – developing regional tourism
- Internship ID – customer service in the accommodation industry
- Internship IE - English teaching practice
- Internship IF – developing regional tourism (intensive)
- Internship IG – City promotion (intensive)

Regular courses

Regular courses are offered by each faculty for mainly Japanese students. The following majors have accepted International students recent years.

Japanese literature (modern, classical), Linguistics, Japanese language, Modern Japanese history, International relations theory, Economics, Business administration, Tourism, Sociology, Folklore studies, Psychology, Intercultural communication, Physics, Environmental chemistry, Biochemistry, Molecular biology, Food science, Materials engineering, Computer science, Information engineering

3) Japanese Language

- Basic Japanese A *6 classes / week
- Everyday Spoken Japanese IA *2 classes / week
- Upper Elementary Japanese A *6 classes / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Oral expression A) *2 classes / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Reading A) *1 class / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Writing A) *1 class / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Integrated A) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Oral expression A) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Reading A) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Writing A) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Grammar A) *1 class / week

- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Integrated A) *1 class / week
- Communicating with Native Speakers of Japanese in Easy Japanese
*1 class / week

Fall Semester

1) Japanese Area Studies classes

- Anthropology of Japanese Consumer Culture
- Excursions in Aomori: Making Ethnography in Local Issues
- Human Conditions: An Anthropological Perspective
- Food and Industrialization in Aomori: Cultural Anthropology of Local Food and Dietary Practice (B)
- Regional Project: An Introduction to the Tsugaru Shamisen

Individual Studies

Registered and credited as: Excursions in Aomori: Making Ethnography in Local Issues (Fall)

2) Optional classes

Classes related to Japanese culture taught in English or with English language support

- Survey of the modern cultural history of Tsugaru
- Modern Japanese literature and the formation of identity
- Japanese women writers and their literature
- Japanese food culture and white tourism
- Japanese consumption culture

Internships

- Internship IIA - implementing regional tourism
- Internship IIB – planning regional tourism
- Internship IIC – developing regional tourism
- Internship IID – customer service in the accommodation industry
- Internship IIE - English teaching practice
- Internship IIF – developing regional tourism (intensive)
- Internship IIG – City promotion (intensive)

Independent studies

Making ethnography of local issues_

Regular courses

Regular courses are offered by each faculty for mainly Japanese students. The following majors have accepted International students recent years.

Japanese literature (modern, classical), Linguistics, Japanese language, Modern Japanese history, International relations theory, Economics, Business administration, Tourism, Sociology, Folklore studies, Psychology, Intercultural communication, Physics, Environmental chemistry , Biochemistry, Molecular biology, Food science, Materials engineering, Computer science, Information engineering

3) Japanese Language

- Basic Japanese B *6 classes / week
- Everyday Spoken Japanese IB *2 classes / week
- Everyday Spoken Japanese IIB *2 classes / week
- Upper Elementary Japanese B *6 classes / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Oral expression B) *2 class / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Reading B) *1 class / week
- Intermediate Japanese (Writing B) *1 class / week
- Intermediate Japanese IB (Integrated B) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Oral Expression B) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Reading B) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Writing A) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Grammar B) *1 class / week
- Upper Intermediate Japanese (Integrated B) *1 class / week
- Communication Using Language We are Learning *1 class / week