The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology
UG Course Syllabus Spring 25-26

Japanese Vocabulary and Grammar Essentials II
LANG2202
1 credit
Pre-requisites: LANG1212
Co-requisites: N/A
Exclusion: LANG2200

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Office Hours of Course Leader: Available by appointment only. Students should contact their section instructor directly with any questions.

Course Description

LANG2202 is a continuation of LANG1212. This new **1-credit** self-paced online course is designed to provide a flexible and focused learning experience in vocabulary and grammar at the upper-beginner level. It runs over **8 weeks** and adopts **a pass/fail grading system**.

Who Should Enroll:

- **Upper-beginners**: This course is ideal for upper-beginners who:
  - Want to build on LANG1212: Japanese Vocabulary and Grammar Essentials I, to expand vocabulary and deepen understanding of grammar structures, and prepare themselves for intermediate-level Japanese studies.

- Students are also encouraged to take the 2-credit course **LANG2201: Communicative Japanese for Beginners II (2 credits)** alongside LANG2202 to reinforce their learning through face-to-face conversational practice and real-life scenarios.

- Upper-beginners who prefer a regular pace of study and aim to develop comprehensive skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) may consider **LANG2200: Japanese Language and Culture for Beginners II (3 credits)**.

Course content:

- The course consists of six self-paced online modules, featuring video lectures, interactive chatbot exercises, and online quizzes to reinforce sentence structures, word usage, and grammar patterns.

- Comprehensive grammar explanations and vocabulary exercises to build a strong foundation in Japanese sentence construction, word usage, and language patterns—without live class participation.

- **Textbook Recommendation**: The content of this course is **closely aligned** with Lessons

13–25 of the textbook 『大家的日本語 初級 II 改訂版』 (*Minna no Nihongo Shokyu II* 2nd Edition, 大新書局, 2015). While the course provides comprehensive online learning materials, students are **strongly encouraged** to obtain a copy of the textbook to **supplement their learning** through additional practice, exercises, and reference.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

By the end of this course, students should be able to:
1. Formulate sentences and short paragraphs to describe everyday activities, experiences, and changes, using approximately 1,000 vocabulary words.
2. Construct grammatically accurate sentences using *te*-form, *nai*-form, *ru*-form, and *ta*-form to express actions, requests, obligations, and prohibitions.
3. Differentiate and apply polite and plain speech appropriately in various contexts.
4. Form complex sentences by incorporating conjunctions, relative clauses, reported speech, and hypothetical statements.
5. Express opinions, describe experiences, and discuss giving and receiving in structured sentences.

Assessment and Grading

This course adopts a **Pass/Fail grading system** to support a low-pressure and learner-centered environment. Students must complete all required tasks and demonstrate achievement of the course's Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) to pass.

LANG 2202 Assessment Overview

Assessment Task	Contribution to Overall Course grade (%)	Details
Online Quizzes (x5)	25%	Multiple-choice and short-answer questions assessing vocabulary and grammar.
Chatbot Interaction Worksheets (x5)	25%	Submit worksheets based on chatbot practice in Modules 1–5.
Final Exam (In-person, Week 10)	50%	Proctored written exam assessing overall mastery of vocabulary and grammar.

Mapping of Course ILOs to Assessment Tasks

Assessment Task	Mapped ILOs	Explanation
Online Quizzes (x5)	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	Assess students' understanding of vocabulary and grammar through multiple-choice and short-answer questions.
Chatbot Interaction Worksheets (x5)	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	Evaluate students' ability to apply vocabulary and grammar in constructing basic sentences and short paragraphs through interactive practice.
Final Exam (In-person, Week 10)	ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5	Comprehensive assessment of all ILOs through written tasks involving vocabulary, grammar, sentence construction, and reading comprehension.

Grading Rubrics

This course uses a Pass/Fail grading system. To pass, students must demonstrate consistent engagement and satisfactory achievement of the course's Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) across all assessment components.

Pass Criteria:
- Complete all required chatbot interaction worksheets (Modules 1–5), demonstrating effort and understanding.
- Achieve a minimum threshold score on online quizzes (Modules 1–5), showing comprehension of vocabulary and grammar.
- Attend and complete the final exam with evidence of basic proficiency in sentence construction, vocabulary usage, and grammar application.
- Show progress and engagement through self-paced activities, including video lectures and practice tasks.

Fail Criteria:
Students may fail the course if they:
- Consistently fail to submit key assignments.
- Score significantly below the threshold on multiple online quizzes.
- Do not attend or complete the final exam.
- Demonstrate insufficient understanding of core course content or lack of engagement.

In addition to the criteria above, students must achieve a minimum overall score of **50%** to pass the course.

Feedback and Support:
- Instructors will provide individualized feedback via Canvas throughout the course.
- Students are encouraged to attend the Week 7 consultation to clarify doubts and receive guidance before the final exam.

Course AI Policy

At HKUST, we embrace innovation and technology, including Generative AI. Some of the assignments in this course aim to foster innovative thinking by using chatbots for both language learning and cultural exploration.

Our approach relies firmly on pedagogical principles, with an ethical commitment to ensure fairness in the use of AI. If students use AI tools in course assessments, they must adhere to the principles of academic integrity.

To learn more about how to use GenAI tools appropriately in language courses, students are required to complete a Canvas learning module developed by the Center for Language Education. This module can be found on the course Canvas site. Students should ensure they have completed it before attending class.

Communication and Feedback

Assessment marks for individual assessed tasks will be communicated via Canvas within two weeks of submission. Feedback on assignments will include strengths and areas for improvement where relevant. Students who have further questions about the feedback including marks should consult the instructor within five working days after the feedback is received.

Resubmission Policy

Resubmissions are not accepted, except in exceptional circumstances.

Required Texts and Materials

Course materials and additional resources are provided via Canvas.

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to adhere to the university's academic integrity policy. Students are expected to uphold HKUST's Academic Honor Code and to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. The University has zero tolerance of academic misconduct. Please refer to Academic Integrity | HKUST – Academic Registry for the University's definition of plagiarism and ways to avoid cheating and plagiarism.