

# **COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**

Courses Taught in English  
Bilingual Seminars  
Courses Designed Specifically for International Students  
Japanese Language Courses

J-PAC

2014-2015

CHIBA UNIVERSITY

The Course Descriptions from page 5 offer information on courses taught in English, bilingual seminars (courses where both Japanese and English are used), courses designed specifically for international students and Japanese language courses.

The courses taught in plain Japanese are also listed and their course descriptions will be available on our following website in early April:

**<http://www.chiba-u.ac.jp/student/syllabus/index.html>**

The details for regular courses instructed in Japanese which Chiba University offers from October 2014 to March 2015 will be also available on our website. The URL is the same as above.

### **Compulsory subjects**

#### **a. Undergraduate Exchange Program**

All students in this program whose Japanese language competence is equivalent Japanese 5xx at Chiba University or lower have to take at least three subjects in English or in English/Japanese (bilingual seminars) in each semester.

JASSO scholarship recipients also have to register for Project Work for Exchange Student.

#### **b. Japanese Studies Program**

##### MEXT scholarship recipients

Seminar on Cultural Diversity in Japan

Research Work (Humanities) I & II

##### JASSO scholarship recipients

Project Work for Exchange Student

Research Work (Humanities) I & II or Research Work III & IV

##### Other students

Research Work (Humanities) I & II or Research Work III & IV

### **Japanese Studies**

The aim of courses categorized under the rubric "Japanese Studies" is to teach about the world, using Japan as a case-study. In Japanese Studies courses we do not just provide students with foundational knowledge about Japanese culture and society, but we also offer an environment that allows students to reconsider their image of Japan by reflecting on their own experiences and cultures, and to acquire new perspectives and a deeper awareness of a variety of global phenomena.

### **Cancellation of courses**

The following six courses listed on pp. 8-9 of the J-PAC brochure have been cancelled.

- Transnational human mobility in the contemporary world: Japanese people crossing borders
- Globalizing Japan: Society and Culture
- Regional Development in Japan
- Rediscovering everyday life: Contemporary Japanese society from an anthropological perspective
- Tourism and Culture in Japan
- Family and Gender in Contemporary Japan

# Course Offerings (2014-2015)

## 1. Fall Semester (October-March)

### (1) Courses which deepen understanding of Japanese society and culture

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
Courses taught in English		
Japanese Studies:		
Glimpses of Science in Modern Japan (18th~20th centuries)	2	1
Deviance and Taboo in Japan	2	1
Language Learning and Bilingual Education	2	1
Comparative Study of Equity and Diversity in Education	2	1
Immigrants and Ethnic Communities	2	1
Introduction to Japanese Language	2	1
Japanese and Society 2	2	1
Introduction to Japanese Traditional Foods	2	1
Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy (Seminar Ib) *	2	1
Bilingual Seminars (Courses where both Japanese and English are used)		
Religion and Society in Contemporary Japan (現代日本の宗教と社会)	2	1
Courses taught in plain Japanese		
Introduction to Japanese Culture (日本事情):		
Contemporary Japanese Lifestyles (現代日本人の生活様式)	2	1
Postwar Japanese Diet II (戦後日本の食生活)	2	1
Japan viewed through Current Events II (時事から日本を考える)	2	1
Seminar on Cultural Diversity in Japan (隣人を知る)	2	1
Japanese Grammatical System (日本語の文法)	2	1
The Japanese Language in its diversity (日本語の諸相)	2	1
History of Cultural Relations between Japan and Asia (日本アジア文化交流史)	2	1
Understanding Cultural Relations between Modern Japan and China (近代日中の文化と思想を考える)	2	1
Intercultural Contacts b* (多言語多文化接触論)	2	1
Seminar on International Education II* (国際理解教育演習)	2	1
Education Affairs in Japan II* (日本の教育事情)	2	1
Reading Articles on Education II* (教育記事を読む)	2	1
Japanese Politics* (日本の政治)	2	1
History of Japanese Architecture* (日本建築史)	2	1
Courses designed specifically for international students		
Research Work (Humanities) I	2	1
Research Work III	2	1
Introduction to Japanese Studies c*	2	1

Courses marked with \* are specialized courses for faculty students.

### (2) Courses in the areas of Chiba University's greatest strengths

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
Courses taught in English		
Introduction to Architectural Design	2	1
Environmental issues: Think Globally and Act Locally	2	1
Bilingual Seminars (Courses where both Japanese and English are used)		
Design Project Work (デザイン・プロジェクト・ワーク)	2	1

Courses taught in plain Japanese		
The Future of Global Environment (地球環境の行方)	2	1
Courses designed specifically for international students		
Research Work (Science and Engineering) I	2	1 or intensive

### (3) Courses promoting international understanding through exchanges with Japanese students

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
Bilingual Seminars (Courses where both Japanese and English are used)		
Japanese Culture from Intercultural Perspectives (異文化交流演習)	2	1
Intercultural Communication (異文化間コミュニケーション)	2	1

### (4) Japanese Language Courses

Course titles	credits	meetings per week
Japanese 101, 201, 301, 401, 501	3	3
Japanese 102, 104, 105, 202, 203, 204, 302, 303, 304, 305, 402, 403, 404	1	1
502, 503, 504, 505, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 608	1	1

## 2. Spring Semester (April-September)

Subject to change

### (1) Courses which deepen understanding of Japanese society and culture

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
Courses taught in English		
Japanese Studies:		
Introduction to Japanese Language	2	1
Introduction to Japanese Grammatical System 1	2	1
Health and Illness in Japanese Culture	2	1
Japanese Religions: An International Perspective	2	1
Identity Formation and Learning	2	1
“Race” Relations: Japanese Immigrants in the US	2	1
Representation of “Japanese” in Hollywood	2	1
Japanese and Society 1	2	1
Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy (Seminar Ia) *	2	1
Bilingual Seminars (Courses where both Japanese and English are used)		
Television in Japan (日本の「テレビ」)	2	1
Courses taught in plain Japanese		
Introduction to Japanese Culture (日本事情):		
Japanese Traditional Culture: The Spirit of Japan (日本人の精神・伝統文化)	2	1
Postwar Japanese Diet I (戦後日本の食生活)	2	1
Japan viewed through Current Events I (時事から日本を考える)	2	1
Selected Aspects of the Japanese Language 1 (日本語の特徴1)	2	1
Images of Japan (日本イメージの交錯)	2	1
Literacy Thought a* (文芸思想論)	2	1
Intercultural Contacts a* (多言語多文化接触論)	2	1
Seminar on International Education I * (国際理解教育演習)	2	1

Education Affairs in Japan I* (日本の教育事情)	2	1
Information Education in the International Society* (“国際社会”の中の情報教育)	2	1
Reading Articles on Education I* (教育記事を読む)	2	1
Courses designed specifically for international students		
Research Work (Humanities) II	2	1
Research Work IV	2	1

Courses marked with \* are specialized courses for faculty students.

## (2) Courses in the areas of Chiba University's greatest strengths

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
Courses taught in English		
Fundamentals of Imaging Science	2	1
Introduction to Design Science	2	1
Remote Sensing Application for Environmental Monitoring	2	1
Courses designed specifically for international students		
Research Work (Science and Engineering) II	2	1 or intensive

## (3) Courses promoting international understanding through exchanges with Japanese students

Categories and course titles	credits	meetings per week
Courses taught in English		
Intercultural Communication	2	1
Bilingual Seminars (Courses where both Japanese and English are used)		
Language and Culture Exchange (言語文化交流演習)	2	1
Courses taught in plain Japanese		
Cross-cultural Communication* (異文化とコミュニケーション)	2	1
Courses designed specifically for international students		
Project Work for Exchange Student	2	1

Courses marked with \* are specialized courses for faculty students.

## (4) Japanese Language Courses

Course titles	credits	meetings per week
Japanese 101, 201, 301, 401, 501	3	3
Japanese 102, 104, 105, 202, 203, 204, 302, 303, 304, 305, 402, 403, 405	1	1
502, 503, 504, 505, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 607, 608	1	1

# Course Descriptions (2014-2015)

## 1. Fall Semester (October-March)

### (1) Courses taught in English

#### ■ Japan Studies 6: Glimpses of Science in Modern Japan (18th~20th centuries) (Prof. I. Gaitanidis)

This course focuses on the ways science and technology were, in the early modern and modern periods, incorporated into Japanese popular imagination and, sometimes, adapted to suit Japanese cultural beliefs and preexisting scientific worldviews. By examining a few of these first Japanese encounters with modern scientific knowledge offered by, for example, the disciplines of medicine, seismology, biology or industrial management, this course will provide a chance to discover a fascinating period of Japanese history (from the 18th to the 20th centuries), and to debate on the significant impact that science and technology have on our worldviews.

#### ■ Japan Studies 29: Deviance and Taboo in Japan (Prof. I. Gaitanidis)

In this course, we will peer into areas of Japanese society that often form the subject of taboo or embarrassment in daily conversations. Organized crime, homelessness, conspiracy theories or beliefs considered “superstitious”, we will explore several examples of the forbidden, marginalized and ignored aspects of today’s Japan and will delve into comparisons with the way these subjects are dealt with in other countries. And since every time something is forbidden, something else is allowed, this course opens also a window on manners and rules regulating everyday life in contemporary Japan.

#### ■ Japan Studies 25: Language Learning and Bilingual Education (Prof. S. Kobayashi)

The goal of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of various sociocultural and linguistic approaches to the study of language learning and bilingual education. First, students will be introduced to theories and practices of language acquisition, language learning, English education, bilingualism, multilingualism and bilingual education. Through discussions and projects, students will examine the status quo of language education, language ideologies, and English politics in Japan. Along with learning the basic concepts, all students will collaboratively undertake a semester-long research project about the topic they decide to study.

#### ■ Japan Studies 26: Comparative Study of Equity and Diversity in Education (Prof. S. Kobayashi)

This course offers an introduction to educational issues immigrants encounter in both historical and contemporary international society. First, students will be introduced to situations in different countries such as the US, and then reflectively examine issues of educational equity and diversity in Japan. In particular, we will focus on topics that impact native-born and immigrant students including education policies, racial implications within the public education system, and cross- and intra-racial and ethnic peer relationships within K-12 and post-secondary education. The class will discuss topics and issues such as English as a Second Language education, affirmative action, and social relationships and identities among immigrant students within and across school, community and cyberspace contexts.

#### ■ Japan Studies 27: Immigrants and Ethnic Communities (Prof. S. Kobayashi)

In this class, students will gain an overview of the demographic, social, cultural, structural, and historical aspects of immigrants and ethnic communities in the United States, and then compare it with the situation in Japan. In particular, comparative immigrant features among Asian ethnic groups and their relationships with other cultural and ethnic groups will be examined. Topics including family formation, parenting styles, communication styles, values, traditions, beliefs and identities will be examined across ethnic backgrounds, class and immigration histories. Students should develop and demonstrate an advanced competency in 1) the history, culture and experience of Asian communities in the United States and Japan; and 2) working from a social justice approach to race, class, ethnicity, gender and sexuality, students will develop and apply their critical thinking skills.

#### ■ Introduction to Japanese Language (Prof. M. Holda)

This class is meant to give the student an overview of the Japanese language regarding its grammatical,

lexical and phonological system including a number of sociolinguistic issues. The aim of the course is to broaden the student's linguistic perspective and raise his/her awareness of the position of Japanese among other languages of the world. Japanese language proficiency is not required as a prerequisite.

### ■ Japanese and Society 2 (Lecturer: R. Ohri)

This course aims to create in-depth awareness about 1)the role of language in society, 2)how we use language for communication and, 3)factors that affect our communication. Students will get hands-on experience of what it is like to communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds in the classroom and via various case studies that will be introduced in class.

### ■ Introduction to Japanese traditional foods (Prof. A. Ando)

In Japan, there are many traditional (fermented) foods, for example 'Natto'. They have the cultural and food technological backgrounds. Making easy introductory lectures, we actually try these traditional foods.

### ■ Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy (Prof. H. Ishido)

#### 1. Course Description

The aim of this course is to help the participants gain some basic concepts and global and Japanese economy. While international trade and poverty reduction is the main focus, the course will also touch upon the uniqueness of the Japanese economy (including “culture”). The participants are expected to learn what trade and investment theory is, how those concepts are actually related to the issue of “North-South problem” (i.e., income gap between the rich and the poorer countries), and how poverty reduction could be achieved globally. Along the way, the participants are encouraged to interact among themselves on the issue of “the uniqueness of Japan/East Asia (in terms of economy and culture)”.

#### 2. Schedule

- (1) Introduction to global and Japanese economy (including culture)
- (2) Basic concepts of international trade and investment theories
- (3) Toward a public philosophy of the global and Japanese economy

#### 3. References

Study materials will be distributed before the course starts.

#### 4. Conditions

Class size: Japanese economics-major students (already fixed) and several JPAC students. Evaluation will be done on the basis of attendance (50%) and essay writing (50%; see the final page of this handout).

### ■ Introduction to Architectural Design (Prof. K. Yanagisawa)

This course will cover various topics in traditional and contemporary architecture. I will give you a lecture, showing many slides. After a lecture, we will discuss about the topic shown in the slide. Besides regular classes, we would like to visit to the site of traditional and contemporary Japanese architecture as a field excursion.

#### Course Contents

The topics in lecture and discussion are follows.

Type of Dwelling in Different Countries.

Design of Traditional Architecture

Study Tour "Visit to History Museum and Samurai House"

Japanese Architecture: Lectured by Prof. Morris Martin

Design of Modern Architecture

Human Behavior and Design

Environmental Design

Design of Educational Facility

Design of Healthcare facility

Design of Residential facility

Design of Workplace

Urban Design and Regulation

### ■ Environmental issues: Think Globally and Act Locally (Lecturer: Y. Ohkura)

Many environmental issues concerned, nowadays, are not just one nation's problems but most likely the problems that need to be solved with cooperation amongst the societies in the world. Moreover, actions of individuals can be a key to conserve the quality of environment.

This course focuses on the two particular environmental issues concerned in Japan and the world, emphasis on the survey and observation methods used for the two field works (held on Sundays). Students

will learn the basics for working at the field first-handedly, as well as to see how their lifestyles and activities may relate to those issues, what actions taken by Japanese people and how they can contribute themselves to solve the problems in their countries and also in a global manner.

## **(2) Bilingual seminars**

### **■ Japanese Studies 12: Religion and Society in Contemporary Japan (Prof. I. Gaitanidis)**

This course deals with some fundamental subjects of debate about the relation between religion and society in contemporary Japan. We will, for example, talk about the issue of religious organizations engaging in politics, about the increasing social support offered by religious NGOs after 3.11, and about the impact of the tourist industry on famous pilgrimage routes. Through these and other examples, students will discover the role that religion plays in Japanese society today and will engage in discussions comparing these themes with similar situations abroad.

### **■ Design Project Work (Prof. M. Watanabe)**

This program aims to design new public service systems. This program extracts the problems from the user observation, and proposes new service systems. Sustainable society will be realized by new service systems. The course outline is as follows:

Target Setting

Fact Findings

User Observation

User Interview

Summary of Problem

User Scenario Making

Service Scenario Making

Service Design

Prepare Presentation

Presentation

Key words: Service, Design, Public, Sustainable

Evaluation: Presentation Results and Report

### **■ Japanese Culture from Intercultural Perspectives (Prof. K. Nishizumi)**

In this seminar, students work together with Japanese students in order to deepen their understanding and awareness of Japanese and their own cultures. They mainly discuss and give presentations on Japanese culture, custom, traditional ceremonies and life and family styles etc. in both Japanese and English from the cross-cultural perspectives.

### **■ Japan Studies 14: Intercultural Communication (Lecturer: R. Ohri)**

This course aims to create an in-depth awareness about the major issues involved in intercultural communication while emphasizing its importance in the Japanese context. By taking an insightful look at different cultural norms introduced in the class, students will get hands-on experience of what it is like to communicate with people from different cultural background in real life.

## **(3) Courses designed specifically for international students**

### **■ Research Work (Humanities) I (Prof. R. Niikura, Prof. A. Kaneda, Prof. T. Kenjo, Prof. K. Wada and Prof. A. Yoshino)**

This is a course for those who wish to carry out an independent research project in Japanese studies. The goal of this class is to select a research topic of interest in Japanese studies, acquire research methods, and to set up a plan of research. The students will go on to take Research Work (Humanities) II, in which they will write a report of 6,000 to 9,000 characters in length.

### **■ Research Work III (Prof. K. Wada)**

This course will focus on how to gain the most when visiting Japanese history and folklore museums. In their coursework students will design museum exhibition guide in the Japanese Language, which they will later translate into their own languages.

### **■ Research Work (Science and Engineering) I (Students' Academic Advisors)**



This course will be offered on an individual basis to science and engineering students who wish to pursue their research under their academic advisor at Chiba University. The language used for instruction depends on the student's language ability in both Japanese and English.

## 2. *Spring Semester*

### (1) Courses taught in English

#### ■ Japanese Studies 2: Health and Illness in Japanese Culture (Prof. I. Gaitanidis)

Students taking this course will have the chance to learn about the ways Japanese culture, society and politics influence conceptions of beauty and of a healthy lifestyle, the experience of life-cycle events, disease and death, and the diagnosis of contemporary health issues. They will also engage in comparisons with non-Japanese cases in order to understand the way our socio-cultural environment influences to a significant degree the way we choose to define the concepts of "health" and "illness".

#### ■ Japanese Studies 24: Japanese Religions: An International Perspective (Prof. I. Gaitanidis)

This course examines the Japanese religious landscape through an introduction to the fundamental aspects of Shinto, Buddhism, folk religion and new religious movements in contemporary Japan. However, contrary to courses about similar topics offered at other universities, in this course, we will start every class with a discussion on the ways the international press tends to portray and sometimes imagine religion in Japan, and more specifically the religious tradition that will subsequently form the subject of every lecture.

#### ■ Japanese Studies 9: Identity Formation and Learning (Prof. S. Kobayashi)

The goal of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of various sociocultural approaches to the study of identity formation and learning. First, students will be introduced to theories and practices of learning and identity formation in relation to ethnicity, ability, class, gender, environment, space and other social/educational factors. Along with learning the basic concepts, students will engage in the application of the concepts to their everyday experiences. Through discussions and projects, students will examine their own attitudes, beliefs and expectations (either stated or implied) about existing identity categories, ideologies and practices, and explore how to create inclusive, equitable communities. Students will collaboratively engage in the collection and analysis of linguistic and visual data from their every day practices of identity and learning.

#### ■ Japanese Studies 21: "Race" Relations: Japanese Immigrants in the US (Prof. S. Kobayashi)

What is "race"? How does it matter to Japanese? In this class, students will gain a basic understanding of how "race" is shaped and practiced in a historical and contemporary US society. In particular, the class focuses on race relations, racialized interconnections as well as racial hierarchy involving Japanese immigrants in the US, then reflectively understand the contemporary racial situation in Japan. We will examine issues that impact U.S.-born and immigrant Japanese including racial categorization, citizenship, immigration, equity, legal and political system, and cross- and intra-racial and ethnic relationships. Aside from Japanese Americans, the class discusses issues involving other "Asians," "white," "black" and "Latino" in the US.

#### ■ Japanese Studies 22: Representation of "Japanese" in Hollywood (Prof. S. Kobayashi)

In this course, students are introduced to issues of ethnic representations in films and other media in the US. Especially, the class focuses on Japanese and other Asians in Hollywood films, drama and cartoons from 1920s to present. Not only do "popular" ideologies in a society influence the portrayal and performance of racial and ethnic groups in media, but these images also become "popular" and socially "desirable" in a global context. Throughout the semester, students will learn critical perspectives to understand how being embedded and exposed to popular culture impact our "reality" and how these understandings become commodified, distributed and consumed in the world.

#### ■ Introduction to Japanese Language (Prof. M. Holda)

This class is meant to give the student an overview of the Japanese language regarding its grammatical, lexical and phonological system including a number of sociolinguistic issues. The aim of the course is broaden the student's linguistic perspective and raise his/her awareness of the position of Japanese among other languages of the world. Japanese language proficiency is not required as a prerequisite.

### ■ Introduction to Japanese Grammatical System 1 (Prof. M. Holda)

This course is designed to give international students an insight into Japanese grammatical categories by analysing differences between the Japanese language and the students' native language(s). Class participation and students' presentations will be encouraged. On the other hand, Japanese students attending the course will gain an opportunity of looking at their own language from a different perspective.

### ■ Japanese and Society 1 (Lecturer: R. Ohri)

This course aims to create in-depth awareness about 1)the role of language in society, 2)how we use language for communication and, 3)factors that affect our communication. Students will get hands-on experience of what it is like to communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds in the classroom and via various case studies that will be introduced in class.

### ■ Seminar on Global and Japanese Economy (Prof. H. Ishido)

Continuation of the fall semester course.

### ■ Fundamentals of Imaging Science (Prof. H. Yaguchi)

This course is designed to introduce the major currents in modern imaging science and will provide basic principle of imaging science and technology. Among the subjects to be included are the science of color, mechanism of visual perception, printing and photography, materials science for imaging, dynamics of imaging materials, image processing and analysis, and color reproduction and evaluation.

Recent developments and application of imaging technology will also be explained.

### ■ Introduction to Design Science (Lecturers: T.B.A.)

In this class, every week different researchers of Department of design (fifteen researchers) give students introductory talks on design science. Each of them talks about topics related to his/her own research field.

Department of Design aims to educate students who are eager to understand and learn design as practical science and integrated activities of academic disciplines, technologies and arts so as to contribute to solve various problems against human beings and environments from a viewpoint of design. Thus, the contents of the lectures are in the context, although they are introductory.

### ■ Remote Sensing Application for Environmental Monitoring (Lecturer: Putri Ratih Fitria)

This course introduces students to the basics of remote sensing, characteristics of remote sensors, and remote sensing applications in academic disciplines and professional industries. Emphasis is placed on discussion of basic remote sensing and comparing remote sensing technology in Japan and other countries.

### ■ Japanese Studies 4: Intercultural Communication (Lecturer: R. Ohri)

This course aims to create an in-depth awareness about 1)what intercultural communication is, 2) the importance of intercultural communication. By taking an insightful look at different cultural norms introduced in the class, students will get hands-on knowledge and experience of what it is like to communicate with people from different cultural background in real life.

## (2) Bilingual seminars

### ■ Japanese Studies 16: Television in Japan (Prof. I. Gaitanidis)

Television is often described as a window on the society that it depicts and by which it is produced. This course provides an introduction to the workings of the Japanese television industry and to the variety of shows that it offers to its audience. From the Hollywood stars-filled commercials to the throngs of personalities (*geinōjin*) being made fun of on a daily basis, a study of Japanese TV presents a unique opportunity to learn about contemporary Japanese culture and society, and to reconsider the role of media in post-modern societies.

### ■ Language and Culture Exchange (Prof. K. Nishizumi)

Students participate in foreign language courses provided by the Center for Language Education as native speakers. This course aims to deepen their understanding and awareness of their own language, culture and language education together with Japanese students in their language class.

They have to meet instructors who are in charge of language courses in advance to discuss what they do in class and attend some meetings organized by a Language and Culture Exchange course coordinator during a semester.

### **(3) Courses designed specifically for international students**

#### **■ Research Work (Humanities) II (Prof. R. Niikura, Prof. A. Kaneda, Prof. T. Kenjo, Prof. K. Wada and Prof. A. Yoshino)**

Continuation from Research Work (Humanities) I. There is a session at which students present their research papers, which will then be collected and published.

#### **■ Research Work IV (Prof. K. Wada)**

Continuation of the fall semester course.

#### **■ Research Work (Science and Engineering) II (Students' Academic Advisors)**

Same as Research Work (Science and Engineering) I.

#### **■ Project Work for Exchange Student (Prof. K. Nishizumi & Prof. A. Yoshino)**

The course has three main objectives: 1) to deepen the students' understanding of Japanese society and culture by reflecting on their learning and living experiences in Japan; 2) to listen to the opinions of other international students and acquire new perspectives on the subjects discussed in class; 3) to think about the ways that students can capitalize on their study abroad experiences after they return home. Students will be, on occasion, asked to summarize and present their thoughts stemming from the class discussion, in Japanese or in English. We believe that by holding presentations, writing reports and participating in activities that require from international students to cooperate between themselves and to collaborate with Japanese students who plan to study abroad at one of Chiba University's sister universities, J-PAC students will acquire the ability to talk, and give constructive opinions about their study abroad experience after they return to their home country. Registration for this course is compulsory for JASSO scholarship recipients.

### 3. Japanese Language Courses

Chiba University offers Japanese language courses for credit at eight different levels. Students are encouraged to take the Japanese courses that suit their level, based on a placement test on our web site. The language of instruction in all the courses is mostly Japanese.

<b>Japanese 100 level</b>	<p>This level is for students who either have never learned Japanese before or have only studied Japanese for less than 150 tuition hours, and who can be described as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have never learned Japanese;</li> <li>• Have learned Japanese from textbooks such as <i>Shokyu Nihongo Genki I</i>, <i>Minna no Nihongo Shokyu I</i> or <i>Situational Functional Japanese I</i>, but wish to study once again from the beginning</li> </ul>
<b>Japanese 200 level</b>	<p>This level is for students who have studied Japanese for approximately 150 tuition hours and have passed Basic Japanese 1 at Chiba University or whose Japanese is at approximately the same level and who can be described as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have learned Japanese from textbooks such as <i>Shokyu Nihongo Genki I</i>, <i>Minna no Nihongo Shokyu I</i> or <i>Situational Functional Japanese I &amp; II</i>;</li> <li>• have a command of Japanese commensurate with the pass level of Japanese Language Proficiency Test N5 (previously Level 4);</li> <li>• can make simple sentences using basic vocabulary;</li> <li>• know everyday greetings and can introduce themselves, but are unable to participate in any conversation;</li> <li>• can read and correctly write hiragana and katakana, and can read approximately 150 kanji characters.</li> </ul>
<b>Japanese 300 level</b>	<p>This level is for students who have studied Japanese for approximately 300 tuition hours and have passed Japanese 200 at Chiba University, or whose Japanese language level is corresponds to Japanese 200, and who can be described as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a command of Japanese commensurate with the pass level of courses based on <i>Shokyu Nihongo Genki II</i>, <i>Minna no Nihongo Shokyu II</i> or <i>Situational Functional Japanese III</i>;</li> <li>• have a command of Japanese enabling them to take Japanese Language Proficiency Test N4;</li> <li>• can understand Japanese if spoken to clearly and relatively slowly about familiar issues;</li> <li>• have studied certain Japanese constructions or expressions but never used them;</li> <li>• can properly read and write hiragana and katakana and can read about 300 kanji characters.</li> </ul>
<b>Japanese 400 level</b>	<p>This level is for students who have completed Basic / Pre-Intermediate Japanese and can communicate in Japanese to some extent (those who have passed Japanese 301 at Chiba University or their equivalent) and meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have used <i>Shokyu Nihongo Genki II</i>, <i>Minna no Nihongo Shokyu II</i> or <i>Situational Functional Japanese III</i> in their Japanese language classes at university or Japanese language school;</li> <li>• have a command of Japanese commensurate with Japanese Language Proficiency Test N4 (previously Level 3);</li> <li>• can communicate in simple everyday situations if their Japanese interlocutor speaks slowly and uses basic vocabulary and expressions;</li> <li>• while looking up a dictionary can read and write short texts written using basic grammar and vocabulary;</li> <li>• can read and properly write hiragana and katakana, and can read about 300 kanji characters.</li> </ul>
<b>Japanese 500 level</b>	<p>This level is for students who have studied Japanese at the intermediate level for</p>

	<p>about 200 tuition hours (those who have passed Japanese 401 at Chiba University or their equivalent) and meet the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have completed textbooks such as: <i>Nihongo Itsutsu no Tobira</i> (Intermediate) , <i>Nihongo J301</i>, <i>Bunka Chukyu Nihongo I</i>, <i>Chukyu no Nihongo (An Integrated Approach To Intermediate Japanese)</i>;</li> <li>• have a command of Japanese commensurate with Japanese Language Proficiency Test N3 (previously Level 3);</li> <li>• can understand the content of everyday conversation when talked to at a speed close to natural, and can roughly convey to the other person what they want to say even though their expressions may not necessarily be accurate;</li> <li>• can read and mostly understand texts on their topics they are familiar with or interested in using a dictionary; can also write a short understandable text on topics that are familiar with;</li> <li>• can read about 600 kanji characters.</li> </ul>
<b>Japanese 600 level</b>	<p>This level is for students who wish to study Japanese at the upper intermediate level (those who have passed Japanese 500 or Japanese 501 at Chiba University, or their equivalent) and fulfill the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a command of Japanese commensurate with Japanese Language Proficiency Test N2;</li> <li>• apart from everyday situations can also understand the essence of lectures or seminars which require specialized knowledge, and can convey in Japanese what they mean choosing the style of speech and expressions according to the situation;</li> <li>• Can read and mostly understand regular Japanese newspapers, magazines or articles on the internet provide they have certain knowledge of the topic and are given access to dictionaries;</li> <li>• have a sufficient command of Japanese grammar and vocabulary enabling them to write an essay on topics they are familiar with;</li> <li>• Can read approximately 1000 kanji characters.</li> </ul>

The information on Japanese 700 level & 800 level will be available on our website in early April.  
[http://www.chiba-u.ac.jp/student/syllabus/2014/G1\\_ICHIRANG1850\\_frame.htm](http://www.chiba-u.ac.jp/student/syllabus/2014/G1_ICHIRANG1850_frame.htm)

### (1) Basic courses

#### **Japanese 101—Integrated course** (3 classes/week) 3 credit

This course is designed for students who either have not studied or have very little knowledge of Japanese. Basic grammar, vocabulary/expressions and conversation skills will be taught after the introduction of Japanese syllabic writing *hiragana* and *katakana*.

Textbook: *Genki I, Self-Study Kana Workbook*

#### **Japanese 102—Kanji** (1 class/week) 1 credit

145 kanji characters will be taught to students with no prior knowledge of kanji.

Textbook: *Genki I*.

#### **Japanese 104—Conversation** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course will give the student an opportunity to practice conversational skills based on the content of the textbook *Genki I*.

Textbook: *Genki I*.

#### **Japanese 105—Oral expression** (1 class/week) 1 credit

Basic listening comprehension and conversation will be practiced in this class and an array of expressions and vocabulary related to familiar topics such as introducing one's own country, shopping, travel or hobby will be taught. Students will acquire basic communication skills

through oral presentations. Handouts will be given for every topic.

**Japanese 201—Integrated course** (3 classes/week) 3 credits

Basic grammar, vocabulary/expressions and conversation will be taught and practiced.  
Textbook: *Genki II*.

**Japanese 202—Kanji** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is designed for students who have already studied 100-150 tuition hours of Japanese. 165 kanji characters will be taught.

Textbook: *Genki II*.

**Japanese 203—Reading Comprehension and Composition** (1 class/week) 1 credit

Basic reading of relatively simple texts and writing short compositions.. This course targets students who have studied Japanese for approximately 100-150 hours and wish to boost their reading and writing skills.

**Japanese 204—Conversation** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course will give the student an opportunity to practice conversational skills based on the content of the textbook *Genki II*.

Textbook: *Genki II*.

**(2) Pre-intermediate courses**

**Japanese 301—Integrated course** (3 classes/week) 3 credits

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese about 300 contact hours and wish to raise their proficiency by putting the content of their previous study into practice. It is recommended to those students who have completed their basic Japanese study abroad and/or have just started study at the intermediate level.

Textbook: *J-Bridge to Intermediate Japanese*

**Japanese 302—Kanji** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is designed for students who wish to study basic kanji in an intensive way. 300 kanji characters will be taught.

Textbook: *Ryūgakusei no tame no kanji. Shokyū 300*.

**Japanese 303— Reading Comprehension and Composition** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese about 300 contact hours and wish to improve reading and writing skills. It is recommended to those students who have completed their basic Japanese study abroad and/or have just started study.

Textbook: *Chūkyū e ikō*.

**Japanese 304—Conversation** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is designed for students who have studied Japanese about 300 contact hours and will give the student an opportunity to practice conversational skills based on the content of the textbook *J. Bridge*. It is recommended to those students who have.

Textbook: *J. Bridge*

**Japanese 305—Grammar** (1 class/week) 1 credit

Details to be announced.

### **(3) Intermediate courses**

#### **Japanese 401— Integrated Course (3 classes/week) 3 credits**

At this course the student will study new vocabulary, expressions and sentence patterns, and will learn how to use them in real situation. Improving properly balanced reading, writing, speaking and listening skills is one of the objectives. Textbook: *Tobira* - Intermediate Japanese -

#### **Japanese 402— Oral Expression (1 class/week) 1 credit**

This course focuses on the functional study of expressions according to situations in which they appear and aims at improving everyday communication skills. The emphasis is on listening and speaking. Many classes will include interaction practice involving Japanese students.

#### **Japanese 403— Oral Expression (1 class/week) 1 credit**

This course aims at enabling students to accurately express themselves when talking about themselves and about things close to them. Exchanging opinions with others and the ability to summarize one's views in writing will be practiced with the focus on improving speaking and writing skills.

#### **Japanese 404/405— Kanji (1 class/week) 1 credit**

These courses are only for learners without Kanji background in their native language. The emphasis will be on expanding the students' repertoire of Kanji and Kanji words to facilitate the reading of authentic Japanese texts. Japanese 405 in spring semester 2015 will be the continuation of Japanese 404, with the same textbook.

Textbook: *Ryūgakusei no tame no Kanji no Kyōkasho Chūkyū 700*

#### **Japanese 501— Integrated course (3 classes/week) 3 credits**

In this course new vocabulary, expressions and sentence patterns as well as their appropriate use will be taught with the purpose of developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills in a balanced way. Textbook: *Tobira* - Pre-Advanced Japanese -

#### **Japanese 502— Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit**

This course aims at acquiring skills necessary in discussion and oral presentations, such as structuring conversation in a logical way including the ability to adjust expressions to the listeners and explain new words in a plain and comprehensive manner.

#### **Japanese 503— Oral expression (1 class/week) 1 credit**

This course aims at developing communication skills which can be used according to the situation and/or interlocutor.

#### **Japanese 504— Written expression (1 class/week) 1 credit**

This course focuses on paragraph writing and aims at achieving the ability to properly structure text by using appropriate demonstratives and conjunctions. Writing letters of thanks and apology will be practiced.

**Japanese 505— Grammar** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course is for learners who want to reinforce their grammatical knowledge and practice the sentence patterns introduced in other courses.

Textbook: TBA

**Japanese 601— Reading comprehension** (1 classes/week) 1 credit

This course aims at acquiring language skills required for reading short essays or newspaper articles. Explaining or commenting on the reading material using one's own words as well as exchanging opinions with others will be practiced.

**Japanese 602— Reading comprehension** (1 class/week) 1 credit

The aim of this course is to acquire the ability to grasp the content of short stories or *manga*, and to summarize them adding one's own comments as well as to exchange opinions with others regarding their content.

**Japanese 603— Oral expression** (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course we will listen to news programs that are easy to understand, and use them as a basis for class discussions. You will also have the chance to give three speeches, learning how to speak in a way easy for your listeners to understand.

**Japanese 604— Oral expression** (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course students will be taught how to assertively express their opinions in a variety of everyday situations and how to negotiate things. Interaction with Japanese students is scheduled in the classroom.

**Japanese 605— Written expression** (1 class/week) 1 credit

This course aims at creating foundations for writing essays, explanatory texts and logically forming and conveying opinions. The emphasis will be put on practicing how to structure text including the proper use of conjunctions.

**Japanese 606/607— Kanji** (1 class/week) 1 credit

In this course, intermediate and advanced *kanji* will be introduced. Japanese 607 in spring semester 2015 will be the continuation of Japanese 606, with the same textbook. The course targets students who can already read approximately 1000 *kanji* characters.

Textbook: *Kanji in context*.

**Japanese 608— Grammar** (1 class/week) 1 credit

Details to be announced.