

FLJ302 -- Spring 2009 --- Orientation

John Mertz (PhD, Associate Professor of Japanese, Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures):

Office: Withers 402

Office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 1:30-2:30 or by appt

...also, you are always welcome to drop by if its not 5 minutes before my next class.

email: John_Mertz@ncsu.edu

Telephone: don't (email is faster)

Class Hours and Location (in case of sudden change, please check Reg&Rec website):

Tuesdays & Thursdays 11:45 - 1:00

Daniels 218

Enrollment Prerequisites:

FLJ302 presupposes that you have passed FLJ301 (or have received instructor's encouragement).

Course Materials:

All material will be distributed as handouts, or posted at my website:

<http://www4.ncsu.edu/~fljpm/>

Objectives:

- a. Comprehensive review of Japanese language structure.
- b. Introduction and practice of an appropriate variety of new structures, vocabulary, and kanji.
- c. Practice at composing (written and orally) brief descriptions and explanations.
- d. Continued practice and increased proficiency with material from previous classes (FLJ101-301).

Syllabus:

The language structure topics will be organized as listed below. Details will be posted on my website. Besides the language structure topics (listed below), we will carefully read excerpts from various sources such as manga or maybe some short stories or new clippings. If you have been reading on your own and know of good materials that employ relatively non-absurd language, we should consider reading them in class.

Language structure topics will include:

Word, Phrase, and Sentence Categorization ('traditional' and alternatives)

Case and Case Particles (が、に、を、で、etc.)

Contrast and Contrast Particles (は、も、さえ、すら、だけ、のみ、しか、etc.)

Verb-pre-suffix Categorization ('traditional' and alternatives)

Verb-Final Forms

Transitivity, Intransitivity, Ergativity, etc. (i.e., case arrays)

Noun Modification

Parsing and Complexity

Sentence-Final Expressions and Information Sourcing

Sentential and Phrasal Connectors

Adjectives (形容詞 only)

Adverbs

Questions

Time Expressions

Quantity Expressions

Phonetics and Sound Production

Accent (3 classes)

Handwriting

Kanji: Basic Radicals (3 classes)

Honorifics

Using Genkô-yôshi (原稿用紙) and some basic writing guidelines

Types of Dictionaries; Types of Lexical Information

? - Memory and Language (for study purposes)

? - Dialect

? - Neologisms

? - Elision

? - Requests/Commands

? - Bungo

? - Kanbun

Grading:

Your performance will be assessed every day, on the basis of in-class competence, or a quiz, or both.

In-class competence will be graded on the following scale:

- 5 = performance just like a native speaker
- 4 = performance well above average
- 3 = performance good
- 2 = performance below good
- 1 = late, asleep, out to lunch, or else you contacted me about absence
- 0 = AWOL

Written quizzes and homework will also be graded on a 0-5 scale.

Final grades will be calculated according to a curve for each of the following categories, in accordance with the following percentages:

Daily Performance/Quizzes	40%
Homework.....	25%
Midterm (Feb 26).....	15%
Final Exam (TBA).....	20%

Absences, etc: Since you will be graded for each class, it will be impossible to ‘make up’ an absence. Just work hard and trust that other students will be likewise forced to miss a class or two during the semester.

Cancellations: Following university policy, if I need to cancel class I’ll try to let you know in advance, and if the university shuts down for some reason, they will try to let you know.

Emergencies: Your physical and mental health and well-being take precedence over everything else in life. If you have an alcohol, drug, or depression problem, or if you experience signs of incipient spontaneous combustion (it happens!), then please come talk to us, or seek counseling services, etc. You are always welcome at our offices if things are getting to you and you need someone to talk to. If you seek NCSU counseling and they want to schedule your appointment for sometime in the twenty-third century, then please see us for assistance.