Syllabus  EALC 424: Advanced Japanese IV (4 units)  Fall 2015

*Your being officially enrolled for the course will be taken as confirmation that you have read and understood this syllabus, and agree to its requirements and other relevant conditions stated therein.

Classroom & Hours:  [25528]  VKC202  MTWTh  1–1:50 p.m.

Instructor:  Masako Tamanaha  玉那覇雅子
Office Hours: Tue & Wed  3-4:30 p.m. or by appointment
Office: THH 356A
Phone: (213) 740-3704
E-mail: imayumi@usc.edu

Director of the Japanese Language Program:  Yuka Kumagai
Office: THH 334
E-mail: kumagai@usc.edu

Course Description and Objectives:
EALC424 is a direct continuation of EALC422. This course is designed for students to further develop an advanced level of Japanese proficiency. In this course, students discuss various topics in Japanese, thereby gaining the extended vocabulary and cultural knowledge specific to these topics. Through the speaking, listening, reading and writing activities employed in various communicative purposes, students develop an advanced level of linguistic knowledge and communication skills in Japanese. Students use authentic materials and discourse, and learn to express themselves within various socio-cultural contexts. Regular attendance and active class participation as well as diligent preparation for the class are essential to a successful performance in this course. Instruction will be given solely in Japanese.

The specific objectives of this course are:
1) to acquire the appropriate vocabulary, kanji, expressions, etc. necessary for the bottom-up processing needed for discourse level language use and to acquire the cultural knowledge in specific topics and situations needed for the top-down processing of such discourse.
2) to develop reading skills using authentic material for different communicative purposes. Depending on the purpose of the reading, different reading skills are necessary, e.g., knowing how to scan in order to extract information, how to skim for getting the gist when reading articles, etc.
3) to develop oral and aural communication skills in different speech styles, e.g., formal vs. informal speech, gender stylizations, etc.
4) to develop writing skills in different styles, e.g., e-mail communication or essays.
5) to develop self-study skills to become independent learners of Japanese and to learn strategies when encountering unknown words and expressions.
Prerequisite:
Advanced Japanese III (EALC 422) or equivalent

Course Materials:

IT Help: USC Information Technology Services (ITS)
http://itservices.usc.edu/
Phone: (213) 740-5555
E-mail: consult@usc.edu

Recommended grammar reference guides:

Dictionaries (one from each category recommended):
- Japanese-English Dictionaries, English-Japanese Dictionaries:
  I recommend electric dictionaries (make sure it has a kanji-dictionary as well).
  Canon Wordtank models are very popular among Japanese learners; please check their website for the latest models.
- Kanji-English Dictionaries:
  - Nelson, Andrew N. Japanese-English Character Dictionary. (Tuttle)
  - The Kodansha Kanji Learner’s Dictionary (漢英學習字典) (Kodansha)
  - Kodansha’s Compact Kanji Guide (Kodansha International)
  - Online Learning Resources:
    - Kantango (http://www.kantango.com/)
    - Pop Jisyo (http://www.popjisyo.com/WebHint/Portal_e.aspx)
    - Denshi Jisho (http://jisho.org/)
    - Rikai (http://www.rikai.com/perl/Home.pl)
    - Reading Tutor (http://language.tiu.ac.jp/index_e.html)

(More online resources are available under “Websites” on Blackboard.)
**Grading Breakdown:**

- Attendance and class performance: 10%
- Homework assignments: 10%
- Written assignments: 3%
- Vocabulary/Kanji Quizzes: 7%
- Oral Proficiency Interview: 1%
- Individual project work: 8%
- Unit Tests: 20%
- Oral exams: 6%
- Midterm exam: 15%
- Final exam: 20%

**Grading Criteria:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94 ~ 100</td>
<td>A</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>90 ~ 93.9</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>87 ~ 89.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>84 ~ 86.9</td>
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<td>80 ~ 83.9</td>
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<td>77 ~ 79.9</td>
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<td>Below</td>
<td>60</td>
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<tr>
<td>74 ~ 76.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 ~ 73.9</td>
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<td>67 ~ 69.9</td>
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<td>64 ~ 66.9</td>
<td>D</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 ~ 63.9</td>
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</table>

*You must score 60% or more on the final exam to pass the course.*

*If you are taking this course for Pass/No Pass, you must receive 70% (C-) or more as your total course score to pass.*

**Academic Conduct:**

Plagiarism – presenting someone else’s ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, *Behavior Violating University Standards*: [https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/](https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/). Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, [http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/](http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/).

Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* [http://equity.usc.edu/](http://equity.usc.edu/) or to the *Department of Public Safety* [http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us](http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us). This is important for the safety of the whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* [http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/](http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/) provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage *sarc@usc.edu* describes reporting options and other resources.

**Support Systems:**

A number of USC’s schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* [http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali](http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali), which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* [http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html](http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html) provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially
declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, USC Emergency Information http://emergency.usc.edu/ will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

Course Components:

1. Attendance and Class Performance (出席)
   • You are expected to attend all classes and to be punctual. Your class performance is evaluated every day on a 5-point scale. You are required to be well prepared and to speak in Japanese during the class. If you are not well prepared and/or do NOT try to speak in Japanese, it negatively affects your grade. Failure to observe this rule (e.g., speaking in English in class too often, chatting with your classmates in English) also negatively affects your grade. Using cell phones, late arrival and leaving early also negatively affect your grade.
   • If you have to miss a class because of a religious observance, you must let the instructor know about it within the first two weeks of the semester. In general, if you have to miss a class, try to contact the instructor either by email or by phone as soon as possible so that you will not miss any information and that you can obtain permission to submit late or early homework.
   • If you are absent from class for three times consecutively without any information/contact provided to the instructor, it is considered as a sign of withdrawal from the course, and no handouts or information will be saved for such students thereafter.

2. Homework (宿題)
   • All homework should be turned in on the days specified in the daily schedules in order to receive full credit. Homework submitted one day late will be accepted in special circumstances. No credit will be given to any submission later than two class days.
   • If you receive 「もう一度」on your assignment (due to too many errors/blanks), you must correct your errors and resubmit it to receive full credit in the immediately following class.
   • The instructor will point out errors using the “Keys to essay/homework correction” handout. If you are not sure what the right answers are, you are welcome to ask the instructor after class and/or during office hours.
   • No credit will be given for homework completed during class time.

3. Written Assignments (作文の宿題)
   • Students will receive feedback from the instructor on their first draft, which they will then revise and turn in as a final draft. The first draft receives credit as a homework assignment, and only the grading on the final draft counts toward its final grade. Getting help from other people in writing an essay is considered to be an act of academic dishonesty.

4. Vocabulary/Kanji/Particle Quizzes (小テスト)
   • Several vocabulary/kanji/particle quizzes will be given for each unit. Make-ups will be given only when a student has a legitimate reason and obtains the instructor’s approval.
   • Three lowest quiz scores will be dropped for the final grade calculation.

5. Advisory Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)
   • Students will be checked their speaking skills through the advisory/unofficial ACTFL OPI (http://www.actfl.org/professional-development/certified-proficiency-testing-program/testing-proficiency).
• Schedule an appointment for an interview between Monday, November 9 and Friday, November 27 (Week 12-14).
• The proficiency level rated by OPI does not affect your credit.
• Details will be announced in class.

6. Individual Project Work (個人プロジェクト)
• Individual project work is an opportunity for each student to pursue her/his own goal of learning Japanese language and culture beyond the classroom. Each student has to submit a project plan, progress reports, and a reflective essay.
• Each student will have one interview with the instructor on progress.
• The presentation of the process and/or achievement of the individual project work is scheduled on Monday, November 23rd or Tuesday, November 24th.
• A handout regarding the details of the project work will be given in class.

7. Unit Tests (ユニットテスト)
• Three unit tests will be given (at the completion of Unit 1, 8, and 11). Make-ups will be given only when a student has a legitimate reason and receives the instructor’s approval.

8. Oral Exams (口頭試験)
• Two oral exams will be given during the semester. Two students form a pair and perform the tasks together in a 10-15 minute session per exam. Each student will be graded separately. The content of each exam is cumulative. No make-up exam will be offered unless the student has a legitimate reason and obtain instructor’s approval in a timely manner.

9. Midterm Exam (中間試験)
• One written midterm exam (2 hours in total) will be given. The contents of the exam are cumulative, i.e., it will cover everything you will have learned up to that point.
• No make-up midterm exam will be given, unless the student submits a written request stating the unavoidable circumstances why s/he can (could) not take the exam in question, and secures approval from both the instructor and the program director for the make-up exam.

10 Final Exam (期末試験)
• The final written exam (2 hours) will be given at the time specified in the schedule of courses (Wednesday, December 9th, 11:00 a.m. ~ 1:00 p.m. [VKC202]). You must take the final exam at the time scheduled for your course.
• It is your responsibility to resolve potential final exam schedule conflict before you finalize your course registration for the semester (i.e., first three weeks). Stipulations governing the make-up of a missed final exam will follow the general university policy.

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