Syllabus EALC 424: Advanced Japanese IV Spring 2014

*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: [25393] THH111 MTWTh 1–1:50 p.m.

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Course Description and Objectives:
EALC 424 is a direct continuation of EALC 422. 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:
"The audio files are available at http://nflrc.hawaii.edu/aozorasound/.

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:
  • The Kanji Dictionary: Find Any Compound Using Any of Its Component Characters (漢英熟語辞典). Spahn, Mark & Hadamitzky, Walfgang (eds.). (Charles Tuttle)
  • Japanese Character Dictionary with Compound Lookup via Any Kanji (漢英熟語リバース字典). Spahn, Mark & Hadamitzky, Walfgang (eds.). (Nichigai Associates)
  • Nelson, Andrew N. Japanese-English Character Dictionary. (Tuttle)
  • The Kodansha Kanji Learner’s Dictionary (漢英学習字典) (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%  • Individual project work: 8%
• Homework assignments: 10%  • Unit Tests: 20%
• Written assignments: 3%  • Oral exams: 6%
• Vocabulary/Kanji Quizzes: 7%  • Midterm exam: 15%
• Oral Proficiency Interview: 1%  • Final exam: 20%
Grading Criteria:

- 94 ~ 100 A
- 90 ~ 93.9 A-
- 87 ~ 89.9 B+
- 84 ~ 86.9 B
- 80 ~ 83.9 B-
- 77 ~ 79.9 C+
- Below 60 F

*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.

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. 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, April 21st and Friday, May 9th.
   • 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 process and/or achievement of individual project work must be presented in class
     in either on Monday, April 21st or Tuesday, April 22nd.
   • 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 7, 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, May 7th, 2:00 p.m. ~ 4:00 p.m. [THH111]). 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.

Academic Dishonesty:
• Academic dishonesty (plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, falsification of documents, cheating, etc.) will not be tolerated. A student who has violated the academic integrity will be subject to an appropriate sanction for the violation. Students are responsible to know what kinds of conducts are considered to be academic integrity violations.
• Please read the USC SCampus Student Guidebook for the detailed explanation on academic integrity violations and sanctions.
  - Behavior Violating University Standards and Appropriate Sanctions¹
• It is also advisable for you to read The Trojan Integrity Guide² and An Undergraduate Guide for Avoiding Plagiarism³ provided by Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards (http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/index.html).

¹ http://web-app.usc.edu/scampus/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/
² http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/forms/tio.pdf
³ http://www.asc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS/forms/tig.pdf

Accommodation for Students with Disabilities:
• Students who need to request accommodations based on a disability are required to register each semester with the Disability Services and Programs (DSP) office (Student Union, Room 301.) In addition, a letter of verification to the course instructor, from the Disability Services and Programs office is needed for the semester in which you are enrolled for this course.
• If you have questions concerning this procedure, please contact both the instructor of the course, and the Disability Services and Programs office at (213) 740-0776.