Syllabus  EALC 440: Current Topics in Japanese  Fall 2019  (4 Units)

Classroom:  VKC 108  Hours:  T, Thu  2:00 – 3:40

Instructor:  Yumi Matsumoto
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Course Description and Objectives:
This course is designed primarily for advanced students of Japanese who have academic, cultural and social interests in current topics in a Japan-related area and intend to acquire the command to understand Japanese resources.

The class activities, assignments and projects are designed to enable each student to search and analyze appropriate resources and materials to meet her/his needs and/or interests while at the same time enhancing their skills in all the four areas, reading, writing, speaking and listening.

Upon successful completion of EALC440, the students will:

- Acquire the skill to understand current topics through various authentic materials in Japanese by reading, writing, speaking and listening.
- Achieve oral/aural communication skills as well as reading and writing skills at the Advanced to the Superior level described in ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines.
- Demonstrate self-study skills to become independent learners of Japanese and to learn strategies when encountering unknown words and expressions.

Recommended Preparation:  Advanced Japanese IV (EALC 424) or equivalent
Grading Policy:
1. Class contribution (performance and discussion participation in class): 10%
2. Homework assignments: 15%
3. Kanji/vocab. quizzes: 10%
4. Leading class discussion: 25%
5. Paper presentation: 5%
6. Term paper: 35%

Total 100

Course Components

1. クラス参加 Class contribution (performance and discussion participation in class)
Students are required to do preparation before coming to class and attend all class meetings. At each class, a student can earn up to 5 points depending on his/her performance, preparation, participation, quality of questions and opinion, and the variety/appropriateness of linguistic expressions.

2. 宿題 Homework assignments
Homework is assigned at every session including the basic grammar/expression exercises, short essays and the worksheets on the assigned materials.

3. 漢字・単語テスト Kanji/vocab. Quizzes
There are approximately 5-7 Kanji/Vocab. Quizzes during the semester. The preparation for the quizzes will be discussed in the preceding sessions.

4. 学生の授業 Leading the class discussion
Students are required to lead the class discussion once during semester for fifty minutes. The leader should have individual conferences with the instructor and submit the topic on the third week. The student in charge must submit the presentation plan approximately two weeks prior to the class to lead. The plan should include (a) assignment, (b) vocabulary list, (c) summary of the topic, (d) materials to be used. The leader should submit the summary of the class discussion one week after the class.

5. レポートの発表 Paper Presentation
Students are required to give the presentation on their term paper during the last week of the semester. Students are graded for the quality of both contents and delivery.

6. レポート Term paper
Students have to submit a term paper on the scheduled date of the final exam. The paper should be typed using Japanese word processor and include a bibliography. The length of the paper is 7 pages or longer including the bibliography (Mincho, 12 point, double space.)

7. 個人面談 Individual Consultation and Discussion
Aside from the class meetings, students are required to have a minimum of four individual consultation sessions with the instructor, one to be on leading the class discussion, two to be on the term paper, and one to be on the presentation. The number of the total consultation sessions for each student varies.
Statement on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

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 Part B, Section 11, “Behavior Violating University Standards” policy.usc.edu/scampus-part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in SCampus and university policies on scientific misconduct, policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Support Systems:

Student Health Counseling Services - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling
Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call suicidepreventionlifeline.org
Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp
Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) | Title IX - (213) 740-5086 equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu
Information about how to get help or help a survivor of harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations.

Bias Assessment Response and Support - (213) 740-2421 studentaffairs.usc.edu/bias-assessment-response-support
Avenue to report incidents of bias, hate crimes, and microaggressions for appropriate investigation and response.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776 dsp.usc.edu
Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.
USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710
studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssa
Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101
diversity.usc.edu
Information on events, programs and training, the Provost’s Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call
dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu
Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call
dps.usc.edu
Non-emergency assistance or information.

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*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.