

USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
EALC 220: Japanese III Fall 2026 4 Units
Syllabus

Class Hours and Classrooms:

[25470]	10 – 10:50 a.m.	MTWTh	DMC 259
[25471]	11 – 11:50 a.m.	MTWTh	DMC 259
[25472]	1 – 1:50 p.m.	MTWTh	DMC 109

Instructor: こんの まみこ
 今野 真美子 Konno, Mamiko (Course Coordinator)
 Office Hours: Tue. and Wed. 2:00-3:30 p.m., or by appointment
 Office: THH 356A
 Phone: (213) 740-3704
 Email: mkonno@usc.edu

Director of the Japanese Language Program: いりえ まき
 入江 真紀 Maki Irie
 Office: THH340
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 Email: mirie@usc.edu

Prerequisite:

EALC 122 (Japanese II) at USC, or an equivalent course using *Nakama 1* (3rd edition). **Students who have studied Japanese elsewhere or used different textbooks are advised to consult the instructor for appropriate placement.**

Course Description and Learning Objectives:

EALC 220 (Japanese III) is the third course in USC's 4-year Japanese program, which includes foundational courses (EALC 120: Japanese I, EALC 122: Japanese II, EALC 220: Japanese III, and EALC 222: Japanese IV) as well as advanced-level offerings. This course covers the Preliminary Chapter through Chapter 4 of *Nakama 2* (3rd edition) and focuses on conversation practice, basic to intermediate grammar, and developing reading and writing proficiency in Japanese. An additional 92 *kanji* will be introduced, building upon the 127 *kanji* covered in Japanese I and II.

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- Engage in conversations about themselves and their daily lives (e.g., travel, studying abroad, rules, plans, social life) by asking and answering questions in complete sentences.
- Navigate simple real-life situations (e.g., interactions at hospitals, schools, homestays, or during travel) and obtain information by asking culturally appropriate questions.
- Extract information from short oral and written passages of at least one paragraph (e.g., diaries, travelogues, letters, email messages, essays).
- Recognize and write approximately 219 *kanji*.
- Write short passages about personal experiences (e.g., health or memorable trips) using appropriate conjunctions.

➤ **Students planning to enroll in EALC 222 (Japanese IV) in future semesters are advised to achieve a grade of B- or higher to confidently progress to the next level.**

IT Help: USC Information Technology Services (ITS)

<http://itservices.usc.edu/>

Phone: (213) 740-5555

E- mail: consult@usc.edu

Course Material to be purchased:

- *Nakama 2*, 3rd edition, Enhanced (Textbook)
- *Nakama 2 Student Activities Manual*, 3rd edition, Enhanced (*SAM* (=Workbook))

Material Available Online:

- **Brightspace** (<https://brightspace.usc.edu>)
Students are required to check Brightspace regularly. Audio files (in-text and SAM), as well as homework worksheets for *kanji* and grammar practice, are available on Brightspace.
- **MindTap** (Cengage Learning—Textbook publisher's website) [Optional]
Access to MindTap is available only to those who have purchased the access code. This resource is **not required** for the course. Instructions for accessing MindTap can be found under "Course Documents" on Brightspace.

Registration Options:

Letter or Pass/No Pass (=Audit is not acceptable for this course)

Grading Breakdown:

Class performance*:	10%	Mini quizzes:	10%
Homework assignments:	10%	Oral exams	8%
Lab assignments and essays:	5%	Chapter tests:	10%
Travel Plan Project:	5%	Midterm exams:	20%
Conversation Clinic:	2%	Final exam**:	20%

Grading Criteria^{*, **, *}:**

94 ~ 100	A	74 ~ 76.9	C
90 ~ 93.9	A-	70 ~ 73.9	C-
87 ~ 89.9	B+	67 ~ 69.9	D+
84 ~ 86.9	B	64 ~ 66.9	D
80 ~ 83.9	B-	60 ~ 63.9	D-
77 ~ 79.9	C+	Below 60	F

*** If you miss 40% or more of the total class time during the semester, making it impossible for your instructor to adequately assess your performance during those missed sessions, you will automatically receive an F, regardless of your performance in other areas of the class.**

****Students must achieve a score of 60% or higher on the final exam to pass the course.**

*****Students taking the course on a Pass/No Pass basis must achieve a course grade of 70% (C-) or higher to receive credit.**

Academic Integrity

The University of Southern California is foremost a learning community committed to fostering successful scholars and researchers dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and the transmission of ideas. Academic misconduct is in contrast to the university's mission to educate students through a broad array of first-rank academic, professional, and extracurricular programs and includes any act of dishonesty in the submission of academic work (either in draft or final form).

This course will follow the expectations for academic integrity as stated in the [USC Student Handbook](#). All students are expected to submit assignments that are original work and prepared specifically for the course/section in this academic term. You may not submit work written by others or "recycle" work prepared for other courses without obtaining written permission from the instructor(s).

Students suspected of engaging in academic misconduct will be reported to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Other violations of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication (e.g., falsifying data), knowingly assisting others in acts of academic dishonesty, and any act that gains or is intended to gain an unfair academic advantage.

Academic dishonesty has a far-reaching impact and is considered a serious offense against the university. Violations will result in a grade penalty, such as a failing grade on the assignment or in the course, and disciplinary action from the university itself, such as suspension or even expulsion.

For more information about academic integrity see the [student handbook](#) or the [Office of Academic Integrity's website](#), and university policies on [Research and Scholarship Misconduct](#).

Policy regarding the use of machine translation, generative AI, or assistance from Japanese-speaking individuals

Obtaining or using academic work from any source without proper attribution, including but not limited to family members, friends, web resources, or generative AI, constitutes an academic integrity violation in this course. Machine translation, generative AI, and assistance from Japanese-speaking individuals are not permitted in graded materials, including homework and essays. Violations will be investigated by the Office of Academic Integrity.

Students may use paper or online dictionaries, as well as machine translation and generative AI, to look up words and phrases occasionally. However, assignments should primarily utilize the vocabulary and grammar introduced in the textbook. While the use of vocabulary and grammar not covered in the textbook is permitted occasionally, it should be limited to avoid overreliance on external resources.

Provided that the above-mentioned rules are observed, students are strongly encouraged to actively utilize machine translation and generative AI to aid in learning the course materials. For example, these tools can be used for tasks such as finding appropriate vocabulary and expressions, checking the accuracy of written work (words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, etc.), and practicing conversation or chat. If you have any questions regarding the permissible uses of machine translation and generative AI, please be sure to consult your instructor.

Course Policies:

1. Attendance and class performance

Regular attendance and active participation are essential for success in this course. You are expected to attend all classes and arrive on time. If you must be absent due to a legitimate reason, please **notify the instructor as soon as possible**.

Your daily participation grade is based on active engagement in class activities (**5 points per session**). Points cannot be earned for unexcused absences (i.e., absences not related to a documented religious observance). Lack of preparation and/or failure to actively speak in Japanese will negatively impact your participation grade. Excessive use of English or disruptive behavior such as side conversations will also negatively affect your grade. If you need to ask a question in English, please request permission in Japanese first. The use of cell phones, working on other assignments during class time, late arrivals, and early departures will also negatively impact your participation grade. Using a tablet or laptop to access a digital copy of the textbook is permitted; however, using these devices for any other purpose will result in the loss of all participation points for that day.

For **legitimate absences** such as illness, please notify the instructor as soon as possible. Upon providing appropriate explanation, you may request extensions for homework and make-up opportunities for quizzes and Dialogue Checks.

Absences due to **religious observances** will be handled in accordance with university policy. If you anticipate any absences due to religious observances, please inform the instructor within the first two weeks of the semester.

If you are absent from class for four consecutive class days without notifying the instructor, you will be considered withdrawn from the course. In such cases, no further course materials or information will be held for you.

If you miss 40% or more of the total class time during the semester, you will automatically receive a failing grade (F), regardless of your performance in other areas of the course. This policy is in place because excessive absence prevents the instructor from accurately assessing your participation and learning.

For Fall 2026 only: If you are unable to attend an in-person class due to unavoidable circumstances such as illness, injury, or a family emergency, please contact your instructor as soon as possible to discuss options for earning participation points. **With the instructor's approval, you may be able to earn daily participation points by viewing class video recordings.** Detailed instructions are available on Brightspace under "Announcements."

Using a tablet or laptop to access a digital copy of the textbook is permitted. However, **using these devices for any other purpose during class time will result in the loss of all participation points for that day.**

2. Homework (宿題)

To receive full credit (typically 2 points), submit homework assignments in class on the due dates listed in the **daily schedules** available on Brightspace (<https://brightspace.usc.edu>). **Late or early submissions will not receive full credit** without prior instructor permission. Completing homework during class time is not allowed and may result in further penalty.

When completing worksheet assignments for homework, please follow these steps:

- (1) **Complete the Worksheet:** Answer all questions to the best of your ability using the textbook, PowerPoint slides, dictionaries, and other resources.
- (2) **Correct Your Work:** After completing the worksheet, check your answers against the answer key provided on Brightspace. Use a **different colored pen/pencil** to correct any mistakes.
- (3) **Submit the Worksheet:** Submit the completed and corrected worksheet in class.

Both your original answers and corrections must be clearly visible. If you find no errors after checking the answer key, write “まちがいはありません。” or “見ました。” in a different colored pen. Failure to complete all steps, including corrections and marking the worksheet with “まちがいはありません。” or “見ました。”, will result in a deduction of points.

Please carefully review the "How to Complete Your Homework Assignment" handout (Brightspace → Course Documents). If you have any questions about your answers or anticipate difficulty submitting an assignment on time, please contact the instructor.

For assignments comprised of multiple sheets (as indicated by a single bullet point in the "HW to hand in" column of the daily schedule), please ensure the sheets are in the correct order and stapled together. **Failure to do so will result in a 50% deduction of points.**

3. Lab assignments (ラボの宿題) & Essays (作文)

Lab assignments, often assigned over the weekends, consist of the following components:

- **Lab Activities (Listening Comprehension):** These activities involve listening comprehension questions found in the Student Activity Manual (SAM). The corresponding audio files are available on Brightspace.
- **Essays:** When an essay is assigned as a lab assignment, the grading process is as follows:
 - **First Draft:** The first draft is graded as a regular homework assignment.
 - **Final Draft:** The final draft is graded based on its quality and contributes to the overall lab assignment grade. After receiving feedback on your first draft, please revise your essay accordingly and submit the final version.
- **Dialogue Checks (Recitation):** These involve reciting short dialogues.

4. Travel Plan Project (「旅行の計画」プロジェクト)

In this individual project, you will choose one place in Japan that you have never been and would like to visit and create your own travel plan. You will research your destination, accommodations, transportation, activities, food, and responsible travel considerations. You will write an essay in Japanese and share your final essay with your classmates on Padlet. You will also read and comment on three classmates' travel plans and complete a Comment Log and Peer/Self Evaluation.

5. Conversation Clinic (会話クリニック)

You are required to attend two Conversation Clinic sessions during the semester. These individual meetings with the instructor will focus on addressing your pronunciation, conversation strategies, and other aspects of your Japanese language development. The instructor will announce the session schedule.

6. Mini quizzes (小テスト)

Short quizzes (approximately 5 minutes each) covering new vocabulary, basic grammar, and *kanji* will be administered periodically throughout each chapter (dates announced in the daily schedule). The two lowest quiz scores will be dropped at the end of the semester. **No make-up quizzes will be given for unexcused absences.**

7. Oral proficiency exams (話す試験)

Three cumulative oral proficiency exams will be administered at the end of Chapters 1, 3, and 4. Study guides will be provided in advance of each exam. If a student misses an exam, a make-up exam will only be granted for legitimate reasons, provided the student contacts the instructor **as soon as possible**. **Arriving late to an exam or missing an exam without a legitimate reason will result in a grade deduction.**

8. Chapter tests (テスト)

Two 50-minute chapter tests will be administered during the semester, following the completion of the Preliminary Chapter and Chapter 2. The make-up policy for chapter tests is the same as that for oral proficiency exams (see the previous section).

9. Midterm exams (中間試験)

Two 50-minute midterm exams will be administered during the semester, following the completion of Chapters 1 and 3. While each exam will primarily focus on the material covered in the corresponding chapter, the exams are cumulative and may include content from previous chapters.

If a student misses a midterm exam, a make-up exam will only be granted under the following conditions. The student must submit a written request to the instructor as soon as possible, explaining the unavoidable circumstances causing the absence. Also, the request must be approved by both the section instructor and the Director of the Japanese Language Program. **Arriving late to an exam or missing an exam without a legitimate reason will result in a grade deduction.**

10. Final exam (期末試験)

A two-hour final written exam will be administered at the time specified in the USC Schedule of Classes. Make-up exams will be handled according to university policy.

The Final Exam schedule:

Saturday, December 12th, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Room: To be Announced

The final exam schedule is available at <https://arr.usc.edu/final-exam-schedule/>. The final exam schedule of this course is listed under "Exceptions." **Be sure to check this schedule carefully for any conflicts with your other courses.**

If you identify a final exam schedule conflict (e.g., overlapping exams or more than two exams on the same day), you must consult with your instructor **before the end of the third week of the semester**, which is the registration finalization deadline. **Failure to address potential conflicts by this deadline may result in a penalty on your final exam score.**

Once again, a score of **60% or higher on the final exam is required to pass the course.**

11. Class Rules (クラスのきそく)

1. Please arrange the chairs in a **U-shape** before class begins.
2. Please do not work on homework during class.
3. No food is allowed in class.
4. Please turn off **your cellphone** and keep it off your desk during class.
5. Please try to speak Japanese as much as possible in class. If you need to ask a question in English, please ask the instructor for permission.
6. Please refrain from using electronic devices (e.g., cellphones, tablets, or laptops) for **non-class-related purposes** during class.

* Please note that your instructor is not allowed to accept any gifts from students, except for thank-you notes.

Daily schedule:

Daily schedules, posted bi-weekly or tri-weekly on Brightspace under "Syllabus and Schedule," provide details on daily assignments and their due dates, as well as the dates of quizzes, tests, and exams.

Course Notes and class recordings:

PowerPoint slides in PDF format will be posted on Brightspace after each class. Class meetings will be recorded via Zoom and made available on Brightspace for enrolled students only. Sharing these recordings with anyone not enrolled in the course is prohibited.

*** Enrollment in this course constitutes your acknowledgement that you have read, understood, and agree to the policies and requirements outlined in this syllabus.**

Good luck, and がんばりましょう!!

Japanese program website: <https://dornsife.usc.edu/ealc/japanese-prog/>

EALC 220: Japanese III Semester Schedule Fall 2026

Wk	Dates	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	8/24 - 8/28	Introduction Prelim. Ch-1	Prelim. Ch-2	Prelim. Ch-3	Prelim. Ch-4	
2	8/31 - 9/4	Prelim. Ch-5	Prelim. Ch-6	Prelim. Ch. Test (Review Test)	Ch 1-1	
3	9/7 - 9/11	休み (Labor Day)	Ch 1-2	Ch 1-3	Ch 1-4	
4	9/14 - 9/18	Ch 1-5	Ch 1-6	Ch 1-7	Ch 1-8	
5	9/21 - 9/25	Ch 1-9	Oral Exam 1	Oral Exam 1	Midterm I	
6	9/28 - 10/2	Ch 2-1	Ch 2-2	Ch 2-3	Ch 2-4	
7	10/5 - 10/9	Ch 2-5	Ch 2-6	Ch 2-7	秋休み (Fall Recess)	
8	10/12 - 10/16	Ch 2-8	Ch 2-9	Ch2-10	Ch2-11 Travel Project	
9	10/19 - 10/23	Chapter 2 Test	Ch 3-1	Ch 3-2	Ch 3-3	
10	10/26 - 10/30	Ch 3-4	Ch 3-5	Ch 3-6	Ch 3-7	
11	11/2 - 11/6	Ch 3-8	Ch 3-9	Ch 3-10	Oral Exam 2	(Oral Exam 2)
12	11/9 - 11/13	Midterm II	Ch4-1	休み (Veteran's Day)	Ch 4-2	Guest Day
13	11/16 - 11/20	Ch 4-3	Ch 4-4	Ch 4-5	Ch 4-6	
14	11/23 - 11/27	Ch 4-7	Ch 4-8	かんしゃさい 感謝祭の休み (Thanksgiving Break)		
15	11/30 - 12/4	Ch 4-9	Review1	Review2	Oral Exam 3	(Oral Exam 3)

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期末試験 (Final Exam): Saturday, December 12th, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

(Room: TBA)

1st Conversation Clinic: 9/8 (Tue) ~ 9/21 (Mon)

2nd Conversation Clinic: 10/20 (Tue) ~ 11/4 (Wed)

Daily schedules are available at <http://brightspace.usc.edu> (→Syllabus & Schedule)

Statement on University Academic and Support Systems

Students and Disability Accommodations

USC welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University's educational programs. [The Office of Student Accessibility Services](#) (OSAS) is responsible for the determination of appropriate accommodations for students who encounter disability-related barriers. Once a student has completed the OSAS process (registration, initial appointment, and submitted documentation) and accommodations are determined to be reasonable and appropriate, a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) will be available to generate for each course. The LOA must be given to each course instructor by the student and followed up with a discussion. This should be done as early in the semester as possible as accommodations are not retroactive. More information can be found at osas.usc.edu. You may contact OSAS at (213) 740-0776 or via email at osasfrontdesk@usc.edu.

Student Financial Aid and Satisfactory Academic Progress

To be eligible for certain kinds of financial aid, students are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward their degree objectives. Visit the [Financial Aid Office webpage](#) for undergraduate- and graduate-level SAP eligibility requirements and the appeals process.

Support Systems

[Counseling and Mental Health](#) - (213) 740-9355 – 24/7 on call

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

[988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline](#) - 988 for both calls and text messages – 24/7 on call

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States. The Lifeline consists of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining custom local care and resources with national standards and best practices. The new, shorter phone number makes it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services (though the previous 1 (800) 273-8255 number will continue to function indefinitely) and represents a continued commitment to those in crisis.

[CARE-SC: Confidential Advocacy, Resources, and Education Support Center](#) - (213) 740-9355(WELL) – 24/7/365 on call.

Confidential advocates, prevention educators, and professional counseling teams work to promote a universal culture of consent, and prevent and respond to gender- and power-based harm. Services available to all USC students at no cost.

[Office of Civil Rights Compliance](#) - (213) 740-5086

Information about how to get help or help someone affected by harassment, discrimination, retaliation on the basis of a protected characteristic, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants.

[USC Campus Support and Intervention](#) - (213) 740-0411, uscsupport@usc.edu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

[USC Emergency Information](#)

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](#)

For 24 hour emergency assistance or to report a crime: UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323)-442-1000.

For 24 hour non-emergency assistance or information: UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: 323-442-1200.

[Office of the Ombuds](#) - (213) 821-9556 (UPC) / (323-442-0382 (HSC)

A safe and confidential place to share your USC-related issues with a University Ombuds who will work with you to explore options or paths to manage your concern.

[Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice](#) - (323) 442-2850 or otfp@med.usc.edu

Lifestyle Redesign services for USC students to support health promoting habits and routines that enhance quality of life and academic performance.

[The Office of Sustainability](#) promotes numerous ways for all Trojans to study, work, and live sustainably at USC. Students can access tools, resources, and opportunities on their website and in the Sustainability Hub in the Student Union Building, Suite 101.

[USC Report & Response](#) provides a front door to reporting concerns, including an ability to report anonymously, which violate university policies or go against our Unifying Values and helps connect you with the support you need. The website provides a list of confidential resources, supporting offices, and policies that are available to our university community. The [Resources page](#) includes information regarding the university's response in the event of immigration enforcement activity on campus or involving a student or employee. Additional questions may be directed to the Office of Professionalism and Ethics (OPE) and ope@usc.edu or in reviewing the [Office of Professionalism and Ethics](#) website.