



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS3643 Learning Japanese through Current Issues - 2024

Published on the 20 Sep 2024

General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS3643

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course offers an in-depth exploration of contemporary socio-cultural issues in Japan using Japanese as a medium of communication. You will engage with a variety of topics, gaining a comprehensive understanding of current situations, challenges, and events in Japanese society.

You will critically analyse and discuss these topics through the lenses of the cultures and societies with which you are connected.

Through the studies of selected texts from diverse sources, you will further enhance your Japanese reading, writing and presentation skills.

This course is for students who have completed ARTS3632 or equivalent and seek an in-depth understanding of Japan's current issues. If this is your first time taking a Japanese course at UNSW, you must fill in the placement questionnaire available at <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/humanities-languages/student-life/resources-support/language-placements>.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Understand the current issues in Japan through Japanese media.
CLO2 : Analyse the diverse values and characteristics of a focal issue in Japan and other global contexts, with particular emphasis on regions to which students have personal or cultural connections.
CLO3 : Critically evaluate and discuss the focused topic in Japanese.
CLO4 : Enhance Japanese communication skills and deepen knowledge in specialised areas focusing on current issues in Japan.
CLO5 : Respect the cultural and social values of others to foster global connections.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Understand the current issues in Japan through Japanese media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project• Commentary writing
CLO2 : Analyse the diverse values and characteristics of a focal issue in Japan and other global contexts, with particular emphasis on regions to which students have personal or cultural connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project• Commentary writing
CLO3 : Critically evaluate and discuss the focused topic in Japanese.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project• Commentary writing
CLO4 : Enhance Japanese communication skills and deepen knowledge in specialised areas focusing on current issues in Japan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project• Commentary writing
CLO5 : Respect the cultural and social values of others to foster global connections.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project• Commentary writing

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Project Assessment Format: Individual	40%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Report: Week 9 Friday at 5pm, Presentation and Discussion: Week 10 Lecture/Tutorial
Commentary writing Assessment Format: Individual	60%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Essay 1:Week 5 Friday at 5pm, Essay 2:Week 8 Friday at 5pm, Essay 3:Week 11 Monday at 5pm

Assessment Details

Project

Assessment Overview

Students will research into a topic of their choice and will 1) write a 1,500-1,800 characters report, (15%) 2) orally present their work (10-15minutes) (15%) and 3) actively participate in the discussion session after each presentation(10%). select their preferred topic related to current issues in Japan and carry out research using a variety of sources.

Feedback via marks and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Understand the current issues in Japan through Japanese media.☒
- CLO2 : Analyse the diverse values and characteristics of a focal issue in Japan and other global contexts, with particular emphasis on regions to which students have personal or cultural connections.
- CLO3 : Critically evaluate and discuss the focused topic in Japanese.☒
- CLO4 : Enhance Japanese communication skills and deepen knowledge in specialised areas focusing on current issues in Japan.
- CLO5 : Respect the cultural and social values of others to foster global connections.☒

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for details.

Assessment Length

Report: 1,500-1,800 characters, Presentation: 10-15 minutes

Assessment information

See Moodle for details.

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

If your Convenor has concerns that your answer contains passages of AI-generated text or media that have not been sufficiently modified you may be asked to explain your work, but we recognise that you are permitted to use AI generated text and media as a starting point and some traces may remain. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Commentary writing

Assessment Overview

Students will write a short commentary essay on each of the three focused topics introduced in the course.

Length: ca. 1,000 characters x 3 commentaries

Feedback via marks and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Understand the current issues in Japan through Japanese media.☒
- CLO2 : Analyse the diverse values and characteristics of a focal issue in Japan and other global contexts, with particular emphasis on regions to which students have personal or cultural connections.
- CLO3 : Critically evaluate and discuss the focused topic in Japanese.☒
- CLO4 : Enhance Japanese communication skills and deepen knowledge in specialised areas focusing on current issues in Japan.
- CLO5 : Respect the cultural and social values of others to foster global connections.☒

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for details.

Assessment Length

1,000 characters/essay x 3

Assessment information

See Moodle for details.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Planning/Design Assistance

You are permitted to use generative AI tools, software or services to generate initial ideas, structures, or outlines. However, you must develop or edit those ideas to such a significant extent that what is submitted is your own work, i.e., what is generated by the tool, software or service should not be a part of your final submission. You should keep copies of your iterations to show your Course Authority if there is any uncertainty about the originality of your work.

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General Assessment Information

Standard

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

You will need to achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 9 September - 15 September	Lecture	Course introduction Getting to know each other Commentary vs. Report writing
	Tutorial	Commentary vs. Report writing
Week 2 : 16 September - 22 September	Lecture	Commentary and Report writing
	Tutorial	Commentary and Report writing
Week 3 : 23 September - 29 September	Lecture	Topic 1 reading and discussion
	Tutorial	Topic 1 reading and discussion
Week 4 : 30 September - 6 October	Lecture	Topic 1 reading and discussion
	Tutorial	Topic 1 reading and discussion
Week 5 : 7 October - 13 October	Lecture	Topic 2 reading and discussion
	Tutorial	Topic 2 reading and discussion
Week 6 : 14 October - 20 October	Lecture	No lecture
	Tutorial	No tutorial
Week 7 : 21 October - 27 October	Lecture	Topic 2 reading and discussion
	Tutorial	Topic 2 reading and discussion
Week 8 : 28 October - 3 November	Lecture	Topic 3 reading and discussion
	Tutorial	Topic 3 reading and discussion
Week 9 : 4 November - 10 November	Lecture	Topic 3 reading and discussion
	Tutorial	Topic 3 reading and discussion
Week 10 : 11 November - 17 November	Lecture	Presentation and Discussion
	Tutorial	Presentation and Discussion

Attendance Requirements

It is mandatory to attend Lectures and Tutorials. An unexpected absence of 20% (seven out of nine lectures/tutorials) or more may be refused final assessment. Please note that lecture recordings are not available for this course.

Explanations of absences from classes or requests for permission to be absent from forthcoming classes should be addressed to the Course Authority in writing and, where applicable, should be accompanied by appropriate documentation (e.g. medical certificate). After submitting appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain his/her absence, a student may be required to undertake supplementary task(s) as prescribed by the Course Authority. If presentation or other forms of assessment have been missed, then the student should apply for Special Consideration.

Students who falsify their attendance or falsify attendance on behalf of another student will be dealt with under the Student Misconduct Policy.

UNSW Academic Policies can be viewed at:

Policies & procedures

Other Considerations:

- Align with the course learning outcomes;
- Result in a recorded artefact (an artefact for participation may include a post, or response, to an online discussion forum, poll or quiz, when an artefact for mandatory attendance may include a record of attendance) and have processes in place for recording the student artefact;
- Where relevant, include evidence that the attendance or participation is required to meet a statutory or professional body requirement; and
- Be comparable where the activity is delivered in different modes.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Learning materials will be available on Moodle.

Recommended Resources

<https://www3.nhk.or.jp/news/index.html?page=mov>

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/>

<https://www.asahi.com/>

<https://www.asahi.com/rensai/list.html?id=16>

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Kazue Okamoto		MB273	(02)9385-3749		Yes	Yes
	Sumiko Iida		MB272	(02)9065-5331		No	No
	Nagisa Fukui		MB206	(02)9385-2414		No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

For essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Student equity and disability;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- Examination information;
- Review of results;

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines>

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW

Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here.](#)

Important note: UNSW has a “fit to sit/submit” rule, which means that if you sit an exam or submit a piece of assessment, you are declaring yourself fit to do so and cannot later apply for Special Consideration. This is to ensure that if you feel unwell or are faced with significant circumstances beyond your control that affect your ability to study, you do not sit an examination or submit an assessment that does not reflect your best performance. Instead, you should apply for Special Consideration as soon as you realise you are not well enough or are otherwise unable to sit or submit an assessment.

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, Room 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm