

## Introduction to Japanese Linguistics

### JAPN 4133

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This course is designed for students to learn basic concepts in general linguistics (e.g., phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics) and apply them in actual analyses of Japanese. Different from the previous skill-building courses in Japanese in which students concentrated on the acquisition of Japanese language patterns, in this course, students are required to look at the language as data for their analyses. This new perspective facilitates the students' understanding of the working of language in general, and their appreciation of specific and idiosyncratic features of Japanese in particular.

#### Textbooks:

1. Fromkin, Victoria and Robert Rodman. 1998. *An Introduction to Language*. Harcourt Brace College Publishers.
2. Tsujimura, Natsuko. 1996. *An Introduction to Japanese Linguistics*. Blackwell Publisher.

#### Course objectives:

Students will learn:

- 1) Basic linguistic concepts in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.
- 2) How these general concepts are synthesized in analyses of Japanese.
- 3) To place one's native language and Japanese in comparative perspective.
- 4) To read linguistics papers critically.
- 5) To identify problems and propose a hypothesis.

#### Evaluation:

1.	Class participation	15%
2.	Homework	20%
3.	Quizzes	30%
4.	Presentation	20%
5.	Final exam	15%
	Total	100%

## COURSE CALENDAR AND READING ASSIGNMENTS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Discussion Topic</u>
Week 1	Course Overview and preliminary Test
Week 2	What is language? Readings: Chapter 1 (F & R) Japanese through time and space Readings: handout
Week 3	Phonetics – The sounds and sound patterns of (Japanese) language Readings: Chapter 6 (F & R)
Week 4	Phonology - general Readings: Chapter 7 (F & R)
Week 5	Phonology - Japanese Readings: Chapter 7 (F & R)
Week 6	Phonology – Japanese Film – Standardization of Japanese Readings: Chapter 7 (F & R)
Week 7	Morphology – Japanese Readings: Chapter 4 (T) Quiz 1
Week 8	Syntax – Japanese – How are (Japanese) words put together? Syntax – Japanese – Ps – Rules Exercise Readings: Chapter 5 (T)
Week 9	Syntax – Japanese Readings: Chapter 1 (Kuno)
Week 10	Wa & Ga Readings: Chapter 2 (Kuno), Chapter 11.2 (Shibatani) Quiz 2
Week 11	Wa & Ga Student's Presentation Readings: Watanabe, Maynard

- Week 12                      Ga for Object-marking / Complementizer Choice  
Student's Presentation  
                                 Readings: Chapter 3 (Kuno), Chapter 18 (Kuno)
- Week 13                      Complementizer Choice  
Student's Presentation  
                                 Readings: Akatsuka's paper, Suzuki's paper
- Week 14                      Complementizer Choice /Verb classification  
Student's Presentation  
                                 Readings: Horie's paper, Chapter 4.2 (T)
- Week 15                      Te-iru construction  
Student's Presentation  
                                 Readings: Jacobsen's paper Shinzato's paper

Final Exam