



Japanese Language Studies for IPLA Students

Fall 2024

Hello, everyone at IPLA. I am Yuko SAWABE from the Tohoku University Japanese Language Program at Kawauchi (JLPK).
I will now explain about the Japanese courses.



Flow of Japanese Language Program at Kawauchi (JLPK)

1) Take the Placement Test.

JLPK Guide for IPLA: <https://bit.ly/3N62A5r>
Placement Test: Done

New students who are beginners in Japanese NO placement test is needed.

2) Choose the courses.

Syllabus:

<https://www.jlpk.ihe.tohoku.ac.jp/syllabi/>

3) Enroll in the courses' Google Classroom.

Credits: <https://bit.ly/3Xtl6tm>

G. Classroom Code:

<https://www.jlpk.ihe.tohoku.ac.jp/files/JLPK/classroomcode.pdf>

4) Attend the classes.

Students studying Japanese at JLPK must first take a placement test. Open this URL to find out how to take the test. Check the guide to see which courses you can take at your level.



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<https://www.jlpk.ihe.tohoku.ac.jp/syllabi/>

Credits: <https://bit.ly/3Xtl6tm>

Once you know your level, check the syllabus and credits required for completion, then select the courses you wish to take.



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Once you have selected the courses, join their Google Classrooms. You will be able to get course schedules, teacher contact information, grading instructions, classroom locations, and other information. Some courses are online for the first few sessions, so be sure to read the information on Google Classroom carefully.



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2) Choose the courses.

Syllabus: <https://www.jlpk.ihe.tohoku.ac.jp/syllabi/>

3) Enroll in the courses' Google Classroom.

Credits: <https://bit.ly/3Xtl6tm>

4) Attend the classes.

G. Classroom Code: <https://www.jlpk.ihe.tohoku.ac.jp/files/JLPK/classroomcode.pdf>

5) Register for courses

Attend your first class based on the information obtained from Google Classroom.



Flow of Japanese Language Program at Kawauchi (JLPK)

1) Take the Placement Test.

JLPK Guide for IPLA: TBA
Placement Test: TBA

2) Choose the courses.

Syllabus: TBA
Credits: <https://bit.ly/3Xtl6tm>

3) Enroll in the courses' Google Classroom.

G. Classroom Code: TBA

4) Attend the classes.

5) Register for courses.

If you decide to take the courses you after attending them, you must register for them. The procedure is the same as for non-Japanese classes.



Placement Test (PT)

- The level of your Japanese Language ability will be determined by the result of the online PT*.
*New students who are beginners in Japanese NO placement test is needed.
- The PT may be taken only ONCE during the semester.

Level	CEFR/JFS	JLPT
Level 1: Beginner	A1	N5
Level 2: Basic	A2.1	N4
Level 3: Pre-intermediate	A2.2	N3
Level 4: Intermediate	B1	N2
Level 5 :Upper-Intermediate	B2	N1
Level 6: Advanced	C1	

There are six levels of Japanese. The placement test may be taken only ONCE during the semester. You must take classes at the level determined by the placement test.



Placement Test (PT)-Kanji

For kanji classes, please select just one class at your designated level, or one level below or above that level.

*However, if the instructor does not give permission, you cannot take the class.

Kanji Level	Kanji classes
K1	K100a, K100b, K150a, K150b
K2	K200, K250a, K250b, K250c
K3	K300a, K300b
K4	K400
K5	K500
K6	K600

However, for the Kanji level, you can take classes at one level above or below your own.



Tentative Level

If your PT result is on the borderline between two levels, your level certificate may show

仮(tentative), e.g. 仮 4 レベル = tentative level 4

Tentative Level	Courses you should choose
Tentative Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You have to decide which courses to choose, EITHER your tentative level OR one level below.<u>You cannot mix classes at more than one level.</u> Ex. If you are "Tentative level 4", you may enroll in either Level 4 or Level 3 courses.
Tentative Level 3	
Tentative Level 4	
Tentative Level 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You can take courses at both the level at which they are tentative and the level one level below. Ex. If you are "Tentative Level 6", you may enroll in Level 5 and Level 6 courses simultaneously.
Tentative Level 6	

If your PT result is on the borderline between two levels, your level certificate may show “仮 (tentative)”. In this case, you can take courses either at the tentative level or one level below. However, students in Tentative 2, 3, and 4 cannot mix classes from different levels. Choose either your tentative level or one level below.



Tentative Level

If your PT result is on the borderline between two levels, your level certificate may show

仮(tentative), e.g. 仮 4 レベル = tentative level 4

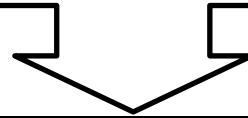
Tentative Level	Courses you should choose
Tentative Level 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You have to decide which courses to choose, EITHER your tentative level OR one level below.<u>You cannot mix classes at more than one level.</u> <p>Ex. If you are "Tentative level 4", you may enroll in either Level 4 or Level 3 courses.</p>
Tentative Level 3	
Tentative Level 4	
Tentative Level 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">You can take courses at both the level at which they are tentative and the level one level below. <p>Ex. If you are "Tentative Level 6", you may enroll in Level 5 and Level 6 courses simultaneously.</p>
Tentative Level 6	

Students at tentative 5 and 6 levels have more flexibility. Those at tentative 5 can concurrently enroll in classes at both levels 4 and 5, and those at tentative 6 level can do the same for levels 5 and 6.



Change the Level

Attended classes at the level by the PT, and felt them too difficult, etc.



Apply for the Level change from the form below by October 7 (Mon.).*

*Those who have not arrived in Japan by the beginning of the semester can change levels after October 7 (Mon.).

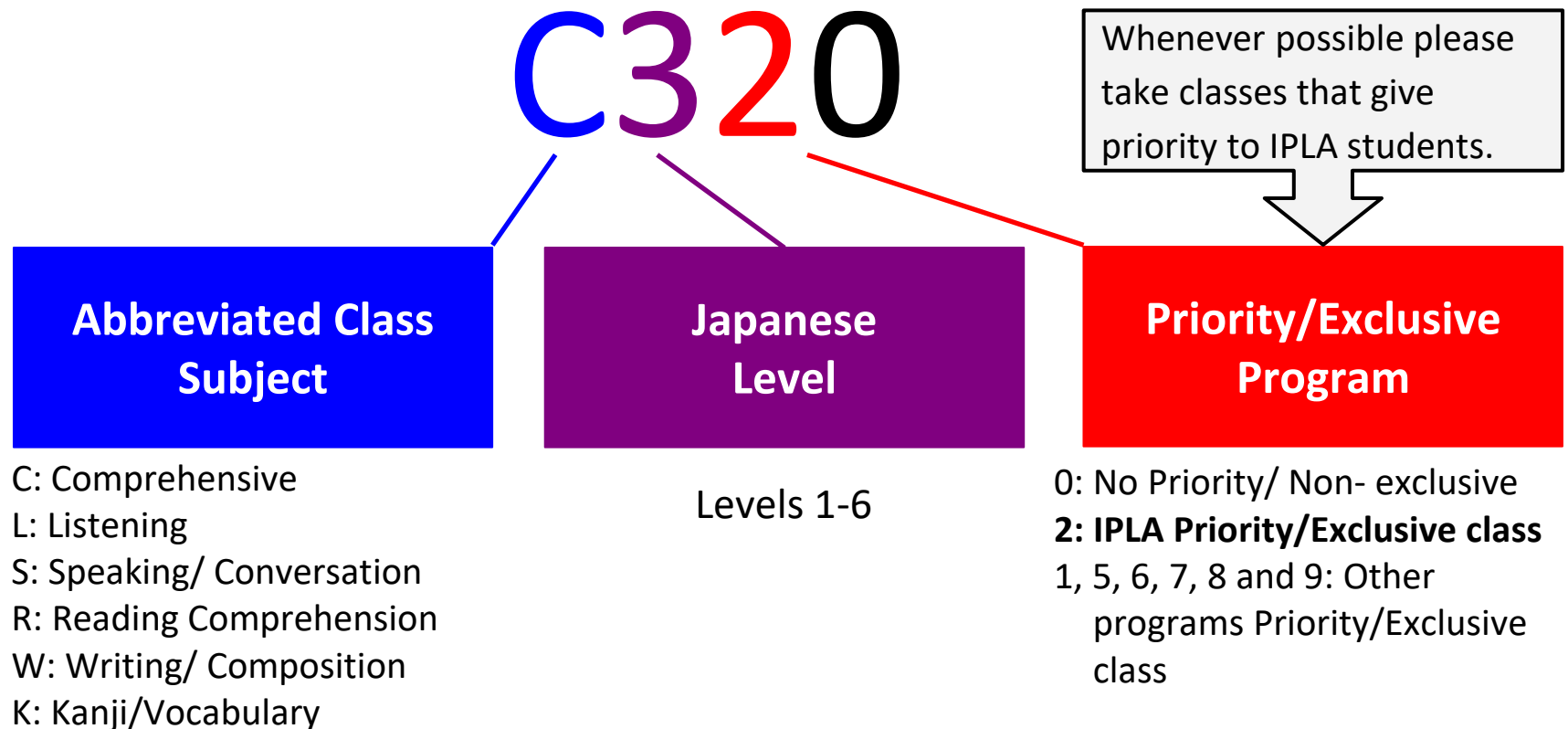
<https://forms.gle/jg9pz2Y7s4FvB4mo7>

If you feel that your level is not suitable for you after taking the first class, please submit a level change request form before the deadline. However, if you feel that the level is too easy for you, we do not recommend this, because the classes are easy at first but gradually become more difficult.



Japanese class numbering system

Ex. C320 = **Comprehensive class** for **Level 3 IPLA students**



The classes are numbered according to these rules.



Credits

Students who achieve a grade of C or higher can earn credits.

- 1 credit for classes that meet once per week
- 2 credits for classes that meet twice per week
- 4 credits for classes that meet 4 times per week

Ex.

- C220 Basic Comprehensive Japanese
4 times per week → 4 credits
- K300 Pre-Intermediate Japanese Kanji/Vocabulary

Students who achieve a grade of C or higher can earn credits. They will earn 1 credit for classes that meet once per week, 2 credits for classes that meet twice per week, and 4 credits for classes that meet 4 times per week.



Notes on Course Selection

- All courses have size limits. If a course's limit is exceeded, **a lottery* or some other means is used to select students**, and you may not be able to get in.
*Lottery results are usually announced during or after the first class, **so please attend the first class**.
- You **cannot take more than one course with the same alphabet letter** (e.g. C210 and C220, R400 and R500).
- You **cannot simultaneously take C courses with C-L/S or C-R/W courses** (e.g. C320 and C310-R/W, C420 and C410-L/S), but can take C-L/S and C-R/W (e.g. C310-L/S and C310-R/W).

All courses have size limits. If a course's limit is exceeded, a lottery or some other means is used to select students, so you may not be able to get in. It is possible to take priority classes for other program students, but these may not be available if they are full.



Notes on Course Selection

- All courses have size limits. If a course's limit is exceeded, **a lottery* or some other means is used to select students**, and you may not be able to get in.
*Lottery results are usually announced during or after the first class, **so please attend the first class**.
- You **cannot take more than one course with the same alphabet letter** (e.g. C210 and C220, R400 and R500).
- You **cannot simultaneously take C courses with C-L/S or C-R/W courses** (e.g. C320 and C310-R/W, C420 and C410-L/S), but can take C-L/S and C-R/W (e.g. C310-L/S and C310-R/W).

You cannot take more than one course labeled with the same alphabet letter. For example, C210 and C220 cannot be taken at the same time because they cover the same content. R400 and R500 cannot be taken at the same time, since they are at different levels but are both labeled with an R.



Notes on Course Selection

- All courses have size limits. If a course's limit is exceeded, **a lottery* or some other means is used to select students**, and you may not be able to get in.
*Lottery results are usually announced during or after the first class, **so please attend the first class**.
- You **cannot take more than one course with the same alphabet letter** (e.g. C210 and C220, R400 and R500).
- You **cannot simultaneously take C courses with C-L/S or C-R/W courses** (e.g. C320 and C310-R/W, C420 and C410-L/S), but can take C-L/S and C-R/W (e.g. C310-L/S and C310-R/W).

Comprehensive C classes labeled R/W and L/S are a bit more complicated: R/W classes focus on reading and writing, while L/S classes focus on listening and speaking activities. C320 is composed of the contents from C310-R/W and C310-L/S. Students cannot take C320 and C310-R/W at the same time, but they can take C310-L/S and C310-R/W at the same time.



Notes on Attendance

- If you must be absent from class, inform your class instructor directly or via a classmate.
- If you do not attend at least two-thirds of the total number of classes, you will receive a "D" (fail).
- If you are **absent for two consecutive classes** without a good reason, you may get taken off the class list.
- If possible, notify your class instructor of your absence in advance, and try to get any relevant class materials in order to catch up.

Note that if you miss too many classes, your grade will be a D.



Exemption from taking the PT for Continuing students 1/4

- If you fulfill the conditions indicated on the tables on the next two slides, you may proceed to the next proficiency level the following term without taking the PT.
- Obtaining 2 “B” grades is considered equal to obtaining an “A”.
- Students who are Level 1 to 3 ONLY may proceed to the next higher “Tentative” level with “B” or “C” grades for the conditions shown in the table on slide No.21.

Students who will continue studying next semester will be able to advance without retaking the placement test if they receive good grades this semester.

Students who receive A or AA grades in the classes listed in the tables on the next two slides this semester will be able to advance without retaking the placement test. Obtaining 2 “B” grades is considered equal to obtaining an “A”. Students who are Level 1 to 3 ONLY may proceed to the next higher “Tentative” level with “B” or “C” grades. For details, see the table on slide No.21.



Exemption from taking the PT for Continuing students 2/4

Current Term	Conditions to proceed to the next level w/o taking the PT	Following Term
Level 1 (Tentative 2)	Achieve a grade of "A" or "AA" in one of the following: C100, C110, C120, or C150	Level 2
Level 2 (Tentative 2, 3)	Achieve a grade of "A" or "AA" in one of the following: C200, C210, C220, or C250	Level 3
Level 3 (Tentative 3, 4)	Achieve a grade of "A" or "AA" in one of the combinations numbered 1) to 5) below 1) C300 or C320 2) (C310-R/W or C350-R/W) and (C310-L/S or C350-L/S) 3) (C310-R/W or C350-R/W) and one skill-based class* 4) (C310-L/S or C350-L/S) and one skill-based class* 5) Three skill-based classes* *Skill-based classes: L300, S300, R300, W300**	Level 4

For example, if you received an "A" in C200, you will be promoted to level 3 next semester.



Exemption from taking the PT for Continuing students 3/4

Current Term	Conditions to proceed to the next level w/o taking the PT	Following Term
Level 4 (Tentative 4, 5)	Achieve a grade of "A" or "AA" in one of the combinations numbered 1) to 5) below 1) C400 or C420 2) C410-R/W and C410-L/S 3) C410-R/W and one skill-based class* 4) C410-L/S and one skill-based class* 5) Three skill-based classes* *Skill-based classes: R400, S400, L400, W400**	Level 5
Level 5 (Tentative 5, 6)	Achieve a grade of "A" or "AA" in 1) or 2) below 1) C500 and one skill-based class* 2) Three skill-based classes* *Skill-based classes: R500, S590, L500, W500**	Level 6

**Except the grades of Kanji classes

If students who studied C500 and R500 received "A" in C500 and "B" in R500, they will not be automatically advanced. Students who do not receive good grades this semester and are not automatically advanced should take the placement test in March.



Exemption from taking the PT for Continuing students 4/4

Current Term	Conditions to proceed to the next higher "Tentative" level w/o taking the PT	Following Term
Level 1	Achieve a grade of "B" or "C" in one of the following: C100, C110, C120, or C150	Tentative Level 2
Level 2 (Tentative 2)	Achieve a grade of "B" or "C" in one of the following: C200, C210, C220, or C250	Tentative Level 3
Level 3 (Tentative 3)	<p>Achieve a grade of "B" or "C" in one of the combinations numbered 1) to 5) below</p> <p>1) C300 or C320</p> <p>2) (C310-R/W or C350-R/W) and (C310-L/S or C350-L/S)</p> <p>3) (C310-R/W or C350-R/W) and one skill-based class*</p> <p>4) (C310-L/S or C350-L/S) and one skill-based class*</p> <p>5) Three skill-based classes*</p> <p>*Skill-based classes: L300, S300, R300, W300**</p>	Tentative Level 4

**Except the grades of Kanji classes

Students in Levels 1, 2, and 3 who received a "B" or "C" in any of the classes listed in this table will be promoted to the next higher tentative level.



FAQ

Q1. Can I take C310-R/W and R300 at the same time?	A1. Yes, you can. C310-R/W is a Comprehensive class focusing on Reading and Writing and R300 is a Reading class.
Q2. Can I raise (lower) my Kanji level by one?	A2. You can take the Kanji class at your designated level, or one level below or above that level. Therefore, you do not need to change your kanji level.
Q3. Can I apply for a level change after the deadline?	A3. Basically, you cannot apply after the deadline. If you miss the deadline for an unavoidable reason, please ask the IPLA office for permission then contact the JLPK Coordinators.
Q4. Where can I find classrooms and instructor contact information?	A4. Important details such as classroom and instructor contact information will be posted to the Google Classroom "Guidance" page for each class.



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Q3. Can I apply for a level change after the deadline?	A3. Basically, you cannot apply after the deadline. If there are special circumstances such as illness or injury, please obtain permission to apply late from the IPLA office and contact us.
Q4. Where can I find classrooms and instructor contact information?	A4. Important details such as classroom and instructor contact information will be posted to the Google Classroom "Guidance" page for each class.



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Q4. Where can I find classrooms and instructor contact information?	A4. Important details such as classroom and instructor contact information will be posted to the Google Classroom "Guidance" page for each class.



Your Contact

If you need assistance for your Japanese study,
Please contact:

JLPK Coordinator. **Yuko Sawabe**

To: yuko.sawabe.b8@tohoku.ac.jp

Sub-coordinator. **Satoshi Uehara**

CC: uehara@he.tohoku.ac.jp

If you have any other questions, please ask us.



Assistance for Japanese Study

Some useful links and study tips are uploaded on
Google Classroom

Classroom Code: [gsmq4wf](#)

Back-up classes

[Wednesday 14:40-16:10](#)

Please contact:

Ms. Huja Backley

e-mail: huja.backley.d7@tohoku.ac.jp

Ms. Buckley is also available for consultation.
Please study a lot and enjoy your life at Tohoku University.
This concludes our explanation of the Japanese classes.