

Proficiency Goals for KU Japanese Language Courses

JPN 104/108: Novice-mid to Novice-high level

Students can communicate with formulaic and rote utterances, lists and phrases. They can ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics with some difficulties. Specifically, they can:

- communicate in simple sentences using memorized speech patterns.
- read and write *hiragana*, *katakana*, and about 100 *kanji*.
- comprehend and use the newly-learned grammatical rules, vocabulary items.
- gain knowledge about a variety of aspects of Japanese culture.
- use non-verbal gestures (i.e. bowing) and understand when they are appropriate.

JPN 204/208: Intermediate-low to Intermediate-mid level

Students can create with language, ask and answer simple questions on familiar topics, and handle a simple situation or transaction. Specifically, they can:

- communicate in simple sentences on familiar topics.
- read and write *hiragana*, *katakana*, and about 300 *kanji*.
- use expanded idiomatic and colloquial expressions.
- gain deeper cultural understanding of real-world aspects of life in Japan.
- execute the Japanese language in a culturally appropriate manner and gesture.

JPN 504/508: Intermediate-high

Students can ask and answer questions on familiar topics with some reasons and explanations. They can narrate and describe with some difficulty. Specifically, they can:

- communicate in complex sentences on familiar topics.
- read and write *hiragana*, *katakana*, and about 600 *kanji*.
- analyze and understand long complex sentence structures that characterize modern Japanese prose.
- exhibit deeper understanding of Japanese culture in their speech and writing.
- apply newly and previously learned grammatical structures in verbal communication in a culturally appropriate manner, which sounds natural to native speakers of Japanese.

JPN 562/564/598: Advanced-low

Students can narrate and describe using appropriate time frames (past, present, or future), and handle a situation with a complication. Specifically, they can:

- communicate in complex sentences on not only familiar topics but also various modern-day and historical topics.
- read and write *hiragana*, *katakana*, and about 800 *kanji*.
- use different levels of speech styles (honorific, polite, casual, etc.) depending on the situation.
- read authentic materials (news, articles, etc.) with the help of a dictionary or online tools.
- discuss social issues and cultural topics providing reasoning and supporting arguments.