JP 370 Learning Japanese through Manga and Anime  
IES Abroad Tokyo

DESCRIPTION:
In this course, students will be studying intermediate level Japanese through manga (comics) and anime (animation) to further improve aspects of their reading, listening, and speaking skills. By incorporating different genres of manga and anime into the course, the students will be exposed to a wide range of new vocabulary, expressions such as onomatopoeic and mimetic words and grammatical usage of the first and third person. Through manga, the students will acquire advanced reading comprehension skills, and through anime, they will improve their listening skills through exposure to the natural speaking of Japanese. Students will be able to apply their knowledge through role-plays and conversation practice, as well as a final voice-dubbing project and presentation.

CREDITS: 1

CONTACT HOURS: 15

LANGUAGE OF PRESENTATION: Japanese. Some explanations can be delivered in English.

PREREQUISITES: Must be placed in the IES Abroad Tokyo summer program Japanese in Context course level of JP 300 or JP 350, as determined by the onsite language placement test.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:
Lecture and activity-based learning

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:
• Course Participation -10%
• Preview / Review Assessment Tasks – 45%
• Voice Overdubbing Project – 45%

Course Participation
Active participation and attendance is mandatory. A handout will be provided at the beginning of each course session that students must complete by the next class. The grades of this handout will be included as part of the student’s individual participation.

Preview / Review Assessment Tasks
Paper-based take-home assignments will be given to students in every class session. This task reviews what the students have learned from the previous session and to prepare for the content of the next class session, including the necessary vocabulary and the related Japanese expressions specified by the instructor. Students must submit completed projects to the instructor at the beginning of the next class session. Late submissions or non-submission will not only result in grade penalties but will also hinder students’ own understandings of the plot in the next session. There will be a small quiz to verify the students’ understanding of the learning concepts.

Voice Overdubbing Project
Each group of students will complete a voice-dubbing project in the last class session that culminates the skills and knowledge acquired throughout the course. Students will work in groups of 3-4 and study the plots of specific animations of assigned durations. Students will carry out voice-dubbing using appropriate language. The students will also write out their performance lines to submit as a final group paper.
LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Use some intermediate level Japanese vocabulary, expressions and grammar.
- Understand expressions commonly found in manga, such as onomatopoeic and mimetic words, and first-person and third person usage patterns.
- Utilize reading comprehension skills through studies of personas of the main characters represented in manga.
- Understand the natural rhythm of Japanese and routine conversational forms found in anime.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Regular class attendance is considered mandatory, according to the Academic Policy Guidelines. Following the attendance policy of IES Tokyo, attendance of all classes is required. Unexcused absences will therefore result in significant grade penalties. In this course, each unexcused absence will result in a penalty of a full letter grade from students’ final grades: That is, one missed class turns an A into a B, two missed classes turns it into a C, three turns it into a D. An absence is considered “excused” only if it is unavoidable due to documented illness or other health conditions, or for other reasons approved by the instructor in advance. Any exams, tests, presentations, or other work missed due to student absences can only be rescheduled in cases of documented medical or family emergencies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Students who are placed in this level should be capable of achieving the outcomes in the Emerging Independent Abroad level as defined by the IES Abroad MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. By the end of the course, students will be able to achieve some of the outcomes for the Independent Abroad level as defined by the MAP for Language and Intercultural Communication. The key learning outcomes from the MAP are summarized below:

I. Intercultural Communication
A. Students will begin to identify at a basic level key host cultures, subcultures, habits, norms, and behaviors in a variety of settings, and they will be aware of the risk that generalizations can lead to stereotypes.
B. Students will start to identify their own cultural beliefs, behaviors, and values by contrasting and comparing them with the host cultures.
C. Students will be able to identify some gestures and body language, and they may be able to integrate some of those non-verbal actions into their interactions with native speakers.

II. Listening
A. Students will be able to understand some spoken communications of moderate complexity (media, speeches, music, conversations, etc.) on a wide range of concrete everyday topics as well as abstract topics covered in classes.
B. Students will begin to understand native speakers from a variety of backgrounds and limited experience with non-native speakers, and they will comprehend common colloquial expressions, especially those used among their Japanese peers. MAP for Language & International Communication Japanese Language Learning Outcomes by Level
C. Students will be able to interpret some indirect speech and verbal cues given during conversation with native speakers.

III. Speaking
A. Students will be able to speak on and discuss concrete every day and personal topics, abstract topics covered in classes, as well as other topics of particular interest to them.
B. Students will be able to participate and respond actively in a variety of interactions.

IV. Reading
A. Students will be able to read and understand articles, stories, and online texts using background knowledge to aid their comprehension.
B. Students will begin to read and identify the basic ideas of academic texts with assistance.
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Corresponding Learning Outcome(s) 301 Level</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 1:</td>
<td><strong>Functional:</strong> Students will be able to describe their impressions about food they have eaten using mimetic and onomatopoeic expressions&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Grammatical:</strong> Grammatical forms used to emphasize 「からこそ」、contrast 「くせに」、and describe what happened in a given time period 「うちに」&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Vocabulary:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1. Adjectives that express tastes&lt;br&gt;2. Onomatopoeic and mimetic words related to eating</td>
<td>• Manga: 「わかご酒」 (pages 15-18, 55-62, 131-134)&lt;br&gt;• Review manga vocabulary meanings for the next class from 「ハイキュー！！」 (pages 5-61)&lt;br&gt;• Read the assigned portion of the long manga episode: 「のだめカンタービレ」 (pages 3-34)&lt;br&gt;• Watch the assigned movie clips from 「のだめカンタービレ」 for the next class</td>
<td>• Can describe and report on activities relating to Japanese food culture. I.B, III.A&lt;br&gt;• Can report on own perspectives with relation to Japanese food culture. I.A, III.B&lt;br&gt;• Can read short texts relating to Japanese food culture with instructor’s assistance. IV.A, IV.B</td>
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<td>Week 2:</td>
<td><strong>Functional:</strong> Students will be able to explain the rules of some popular sports in Japan using a range of sports-related vocabulary&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Grammatical:</strong>&lt;br&gt;1. Intransitive verbs and transitive verbs&lt;br&gt;2. Grammatical forms and their contractions frequently used in conversation 「V ている」 → 「V てる」、「もの」 → 「もん」など&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Vocabulary:</strong> Vocabulary relating to the practice of sports and club activities in Japanese schools</td>
<td>• Preview / Review Assessment Tasks 1&lt;br&gt;• Manga: 「ハイキュー！！」 (pages 111-130)&lt;br&gt;• Review manga vocabulary meanings for the next class from 「アオハライド」 (pages 3-36)&lt;br&gt;• Read the assigned portion of the long manga episode: 「のだめカンタービレ」 (pages 35-66)&lt;br&gt;• Watch the assigned movie clips from 「のだめカンタービレ」 before the next class</td>
<td>• Can describe and report on activities relating to sports in Japan I.B, III.A&lt;br&gt;• Can read short texts relating to Japanese sports with a teacher’s assistance. I.B ,IV.A, IV.B</td>
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| Week 3: | **Functional:** Students will be able to express thoughts about the appearance of and personality characteristics of others<br><br>**Grammatical:** | • Preview / Review Assessment Tasks 2<br>• Manga: 「アオハライド」 (38-92 ページ)<br>• Review manga vocabulary meanings for the next class | • Can describe the personalities and appearance of individuals. I.B<br>• Can recognize some language features that distinguish...
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<th>Week 4: Functional:</th>
<th>Students will be able to appropriately use some Japanese honorific language for a range of purposes in professional contexts.</th>
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<td>Grammar: Polite expressions and grammar 「～させていただく」、「～しております」</td>
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<td>Vocabulary: 1. Vocabulary pertaining to specific aspects of Japanese school life 2. Formulaic sentences and expressions frequently used in Japanese workplaces</td>
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<td>Week 5: Functional:</td>
<td>Students will be able to read and understand fast-paced, rhythmical and idiomatic conversation in Japanese</td>
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<td>Grammar:</td>
<td>Inferring meaning from context in Japanese comedy and understanding metaphors</td>
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<td>Vocabulary:</td>
<td>Focus on vocabulary from Chinese proverbs</td>
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<td>Week 6: Voice-dubbing presentation</td>
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Watching the dubbed anime ways that people vary their language use (speed, grammar, word choice) according to context. I.B, I.C, I.D

REQUIRED READINGS:

FILMOGRAPHY

RECOMMENDED READINGS: