2015-2016 Japanese Course Descriptions

JPN 101  Elementary Japanese I. The first of two elementary-level courses intended to help students develop communicative as well as intercultural competence in Japanese. JPN 101 is intended for students with no prior knowledge of Japanese, or those who have had 2 years or less of high school Japanese. Prerequisite: none. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 102  Elementary Japanese II. The second of two elementary-level courses intended to help students develop communicative as well as intercultural competence in Japanese. Successful completion of this course satisfies the Foreign Language Proficiency requirement. Prerequisite: JPN 101 or 2 or more years of high school Japanese. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 201  Japanese Conversation. An intermediate-level course designed to develop speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in Japanese, plus a general review of Japanese culture. This course will emphasize enhancement of the spoken language competencies in Japanese. Prerequisite: JPN 102, passing the University of Mount Union proficiency test, or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 202  Japanese Composition. The second intermediate-level course for enhancing Japanese language skills. This course will focus on further developing reading and writing competencies in Japanese. Prerequisite: JPN 102, passing the University of Mount Union proficiency test, or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 203  Japanese through Popular Culture. An intermediate-level course designed to develop listening, speaking, reading, writing, and cultural awareness skills via Japanese popular media including animation, manga (comics), and music. Prerequisite: JPN 102, passing the University of Mount Union proficiency test, or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 204  Japanese through Film. An intermediate-level course focusing on language, current events, and culture using feature-length films from Japan. All films viewed are in Japanese with English subtitles. Speaking, listening, and writing skills are reinforced. Prerequisite: JPN 102, passing the University of Mount Union proficiency test, or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 210  Travel Seminar. In this course students will participate in a faculty-led trip to Japan. 1-4 Semester Hours.

JPN 220  Reading in Japanese. An intermediate-level course designed to improve reading skills with a focus on Japanese writing. Prerequisite: JPN 102 or permission of the instructor. 1 Semester Hour.

JPN 230  Topics in Japanese Literature. A study of literary works by major Japanese authors within the context of a particular theme or issue. Topic varies from year to year. Course readings and all class discussions are in English. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 235H  The Peoples and Cultures of Contemporary Japan. A study of Japan with an emphasis on social, political, economic, and cultural trends from 1945 to the present. Students will examine issues relevant to the Japanese people and to Japanese society from both American and Japanese viewpoints. Course readings and all class discussions are in English. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 290  Japanese Conversation and Composition Practicum. This course is designed to help students enhance their Japanese speaking and writing skills through individualized instruction. Course graded S/U only. Prerequisite: JA 202 or permission of the instructor. 1 Semester Hour.

JPN 301  Advanced Japanese Language and Culture. An intensive course designed to enhance speaking, listening, reading, writing, and cultural awareness skills at the advanced level. Prerequisite: JPN 202 or equivalent as determined by the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 302  A Cultural Study of Japan. A cultural survey of Japan, focusing on its political, economic, historical, and social developments and traditional arts. Prerequisite: JPN 301 or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 303  Advanced Readings in Japanese. An advanced-level course in which students read texts in the target language on current issues of culture and society in Japan. Prerequisite: JPN 301 or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 304  Japanese for the Professions. A course designed to improve the practical use of Japanese in professional environments, including business, education, and engineering. Prerequisite: JPN 301 or permission of the instructor. 2 Semester Hours.

JPN 305  Japanese Translation. A study, analysis, and practicum of the techniques of translating technical, literary texts, as well as manga (comics) from Japanese to English. Students will explore the use of software and the Internet for translation purposes. Prerequisite: JPN 301 or permission of the instructor. 2-4 Semester Hours.

JPN 385  Methods of Teaching Japanese. A practical and theoretical methodology course which emphasizes lesson planning, writing instructional objectives, assessment, curriculum design, and a study of methodologies and materials relevant to the teaching of Japanese in the elementary, middle, and secondary schools. The course emphasizes the core guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and relates instructional planning to Ohio’s Model for a Competency-Based Program in Foreign Languages. This course must be taken prior to or concurrently with Multiage Student Teaching and JPN 386. This course does not count toward the requirements of the major or minor in Japanese. Prerequisites: Successful completion of one 300-level course in Japanese and permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 386  Practicum in the Teaching of Japanese. A practicum designed to put into immediate practice theories and strategies discussed in JPN 385. The student will serve as a teaching assistant in an elementary or intermediate course in Japanese in the Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures. It is recommended that this course be taken concurrently with JPN 385. This course does not count toward the requirements for the major or minor in Japanese. Prerequisites: Successful completion of one or more 300-level courses in Japanese and permission of the instructor. 2 Semester Hours.

JPN 387  Teaching Japanese in the Elementary School. This course is a practicum designed to make available to the teacher candidate in Japanese a practical field experience at the elementary school level. Under the direct supervision of foreign language faculty, the teacher candidate will participate in a FLES program at a local elementary school for one semester. It is recommended that this course be taken concurrently with JPN 385. This course does not count toward the requirements for the major or minor in Japanese. Prerequisite: Permission of the instructor. 1 Semester Hour.

JPN 401  Advanced Special Topics. Topics may vary. May be repeated for credit. Consent of the instructor required. Prerequisite: One course at the 300 level or permission of the instructor. 4 Semester Hours.

JPN 485  Teaching Assistant Practicum – Japanese. Intended for Japanese-language teaching assistants only. This course may be repeated for additional credit. 6 Semester Hours.