FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

NEW COURSE PROPOSAL
Undergraduate Programs

Department Languages, Linguistics, & Comparative Literature

College Arts & Letters

*(To obtain a course number, contact **erudolph@fau.edu**)*

UUPC Approval 9-14-2026
UFS Approval
SCNS Submittal
Confirmed
Banner Posted
Catalog

Prefix LIN

Number 4109

(L = Lab Course; C = Combined Lecture/Lab; add if appropriate)

Lab Code

Type of Course Lecture

Course Title Structure of Modern Japanese

Credits *(See Definition of a Credit Hour)* 3

Effective Date *(TERM & YEAR)* Spring 2027

Grading *(Select One Option)*

Regular ◉

Sat/UnSat ○

Course Description *(Syllabus must be attached; see Template and Guidelines)*
Introduces students to basic concepts in the core areas of linguistics (e.g., phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics) using specific examples from the Japanese language. Focus is on systematic aspects of the Japanese language which are unique as well as those which can be compared to other languages. No previous knowledge of the Japanese language or linguistics is necessary.

Prerequisites, with minimum grade* N/A

Corequisites N/A

Registration Controls *(Major, College, Level)* N/A

***Default minimum passing grade is D-.** **Prereqs., Coreqs. & Reg. Controls are enforced for all sections of course**

WAC/Gordon Rule Course

☐ **Yes** ☑ **No**

WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to proposal. See WAC Guidelines.

Intellectual Foundations Program (General Education) Requirement *(Select One Option)*

None

General Education criteria must be indicated in the syllabus and approval attached to the proposal. See Intellectual Foundations Guidelines.

Minimum qualifications to teach course

PhD Linguistics

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone

Michael Hamitlon/mhamilton@fau.edu

List/Attach comments from departments affected by new course

Approved by	***Date***
Department Chair Eric Berlatsky	April 16, 2026
College Curriculum Chair	08/30/2026
College Dean	08/31/2026
UUPC Chair Korey Sorge	9-14-2026
Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Mecroff	9-14-2026
UFS President	
Provost	

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

LIN 4109

Structure of Modern Japanese

3 Credit(s)

Instructor Information

Michael David Hamilton, PhD

Email: mhamilton@fau.edu

Office: CU 232K

Office Hours: *By appointment*

Course Description

Introduces students to basic concepts in the core areas of linguistics (e.g., phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics) using specific examples from the Japanese language. Focus is on systematic aspects of the Japanese language which are unique as well as those which can be compared to other languages. No previous knowledge of the Japanese language or linguistics is necessary.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

N/A

Required Texts/Materials

An Introduction to Japanese Linguistics

Authors: Tsujimura, Natsuko

Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Publication Date: 2013

Edition: 3rd Edition

ISBN: 9781118584095

This is available free through FAU Library; login required (https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/fau/detail.action?docID=1359771)

Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

The goals of the course include learning:

- basic linguistics concepts in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics
- systematic aspects of the Japanese language
- pragmatic aspects (e.g., politeness and relative social roles) in conversational Japanese

Faculty Rights and Responsibilities

Florida Atlantic University respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede their exercise. To ensure these rights, faculty members have the prerogative to:

- Establish and implement academic standards.
- Establish and enforce reasonable behavior standards in each class.
- Recommend disciplinary action for students whose behavior may be judged as disruptive under the Student Code of Conduct University Regulation 4.007.

Disability Policy

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

Course Evaluation Method

Midterm	10%	To be taken in Week #7
Homework	20%	7 total – 5% each (lowest 3 scores dropped)
Assignments	40%	5 total – 10% each (lowest score dropped)
Final Project	30%	10% Proposal; 10% Presentation; 10% paper

Midterm

In Week #7 there will be a Midterm which includes all material discussed from Weeks #1 thru #6. There will be a portion for students to apply to the specific language that each student has chosen to study.

Homework:

There will be 7 Homework assignments throughout the semester in which students practice the concepts discussed in the class. The lowest 2 grades will be dropped. Completing these are a good way to help students keep up with the weekly material. These are generally graded for completeness rather than accuracy.

Assignments:

There will be 5 assignments throughout the semester. They may be done collaboratively, but each student must: (i) turn in a separate assignment which s/he wrote/typed up individually, and (ii) list the student(s) that s/he worked with. Please keep a copy of each finished assignment in case the submitted copy is accidentally lost. Any issue about grading must be addressed within 1 week of when the work was graded.

Final Project Presentation:

Students will pick a topic related to Japanese early in the semester and present for 5 minutes (plus Question & Answer period as time provides) on the topic in the final 2 classes (07/22 & 07/24). The presentation will include the preparation of slides. Students will be assessed on the oral component and the slides.

Code of Academic Integrity

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high-quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see University Regulation 4.001.

Attendance Policy Statement

Students are expected to attend all their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations, or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances, and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

Religious Accommodation Policy Statement

In accordance with the rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs regarding admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. University Regulation 2.007, Religious Observances, sets forth this policy for FAU and may be accessed on the FAU website at www.fau.edu/regulations.

Any student who feels aggrieved regarding religious accommodations may present a grievance to the executive director of The Office of Civil Rights and Title IX. Any such grievances will follow Florida Atlantic University's established grievance procedure regarding alleged discrimination.

Time Commitment Per Credit Hour

For traditionally delivered courses, not less than one (1) hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction each week for fifteen (15) weeks per Fall or Spring semester, and a minimum of two (2) hours of out-of-class student work for each credit hour. Equivalent time and effort are required for Summer Semesters, which usually have a shortened timeframe. Fully Online courses, hybrid, shortened, intensive format courses, and other non-traditional modes of delivery will demonstrate equivalent time and effort.

Course Grading Scale

Letter Grade	Percentage
A	100 - 94%
A-	< 94 - 90%
B+	< 90 - 87%
B	< 87 - 83%
B-	< 83 - 80%
C+	< 80 - 77%
C	< 77 - 73%
C-	< 73 - 70%
D+	< 70 - 65%
D	< 65 - 63%
D-	< 63 - 60%
F	< 60 - 0%

Policy on Make-up Tests, Late work, and Incompletes

Apart from the oral portion of the Onsite Report and the Final Project Presentation, all work is due by the last day of the semester (August 1st by 11:59pm). Late work will not be accepted. Make-up grades for the oral portion of the Onsite Report and the Final Project Presentation are not possible if these are missed. In case of illness or other legitimate unforeseen circumstances, participants can submit documentation to submit work past the due date for full credit. Without legitimate documentation, late work will not be accepted.

Policy on the Recording of Lectures

Students enrolled in this course may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject.

Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic

exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited.

Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Failure to adhere to these requirements may constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct and/or the Code of Academic Integrity.

Artificial Intelligence Preamble

FAU recognizes the value of generative AI in facilitating learning. However, output generated by artificial intelligence (AI), such as written words, computations, code, artwork, images, music, etc., for example, is drawn from previously published materials and is not your own original work.

FAU students are not permitted to use AI for any course work unless explicitly allowed to do so by the instructor of the class for a specific assignment. **[Policy 12.16 Artificial Intelligence]**

Class policies related to AI use are decided by the individual faculty. Some faculty may permit the use of AI in some assignments but not others, and some faculty may prohibit the use of AI in their course entirely. In the case that an instructor permits the use of AI for some assignments, the assignment instructions will indicate when and how the use of AI is permitted in that specific assignment. It is the student's responsibility to comply with the instructor's expectations for each assignment in each course. When AI is authorized, the student is also responsible and accountable for the content of the work. AI may generate inaccurate, false, or exaggerated information. Users should approach any generated content with skepticism and review any information generated by AI before using generated content as-is.

If you are unclear about whether or not the use of AI is permitted, ask your instructor before starting the assignment.

Failure to comply with the requirements related to the use of AI may constitute a violation of the **Florida Atlantic Code of Academic Integrity, Regulation 4.001.**

Proper Citation: If the use of AI is permitted for a specific assignment, then use of the AI tool must be properly documented and cited. For more information on how to properly cite the use of AI tools, visit **https://fau.edu/ai/citation**

AI Language Specific To This Course

AI Flexible: The use of AI to assist in work assigned in this specific course is permitted only for specific assignments as indicated by the instructor. Use must be properly documented and cited per instructor guidelines (https://fau.edu/ai/citation).

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (**CAPS**) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to http://www.fau.edu/counseling/

Student Support Services and Online Resources

- Center for Learning and Student Success (CLASS)
- Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)
- FAU Libraries
- Math Learning Center
- Office of Information Technology Helpdesk
- Center for Global Engagement
- Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry (OURI)
- Science Learning Center
- Speaking Center
- Student Accessibility Services
- Student Athlete Success Center (SASC)
- Testing and Certification
- Test Preparation
- University Academic Advising Services
- University Center for Excellence in Writing (UCEW)
- Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC)

Course Topical Outline

Module	Topic	Chpts.	Assessment
1	History of Japanese language & Introduction to Generative Grammar	Isac & Reiss, Chpt. 1 Tsujimura, Chpt. 1	HMWK #1
2	Phonetics	Tsujimura, Chpt. 2	HMWK #2
3	Phonology: Part 1	Tsujimura, Chpt. 3	Assignment #1
4	Phonology: Part 2		HMWK #3
5	Morphology: Part 1	Tsujimura, Chpt. 4	Assignment #2
6	Morphology: Part 2		HMWK #4
7	Midterm		
8	Syntax: Part 1	Tsujimura, Chpt. 5	Project Proposal
9	Syntax: Part 2		HMWK #5
10	Semantics & Pragmatics: Part 1	Tsujimura, Chpt. 6	Assignment #3
11	Semantics & Pragmatics: Part 2		HMWK #6
12	Language Variation: Part 1	Tsujimura, Chpt. 7	Assignment #4
13	Language Variation: Part 2		HMWK #7
14	Research Project Presentations		
15	Final Papers		

Title IX Statement

In any case involving allegations of sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report the matter to the University Title IX Coordinator in the Office of Civil Rights and Title IX (OCR9). If University faculty become aware of an allegation of sexual misconduct, they are expected to report it to OCR9. If a report is made, someone from OCR9 and/or Campus Victim Services will contact you to make you aware of available resources including support services, supportive measures, and the University's grievance procedures. More information, including contact information for OCR9, is available at **https://www.fau.edu/ocr9/title-ix/**. You may also contact Victim Services at **victimservices@fau.edu** or 561-297-0500 (ask to speak to an Advocate) or schedule an appointment with a counselor at Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) by calling 561-297-CAPS.