

An Introduction to Peer Mentoring 2015-2016

Japanese Studies

PEER
MENTORING



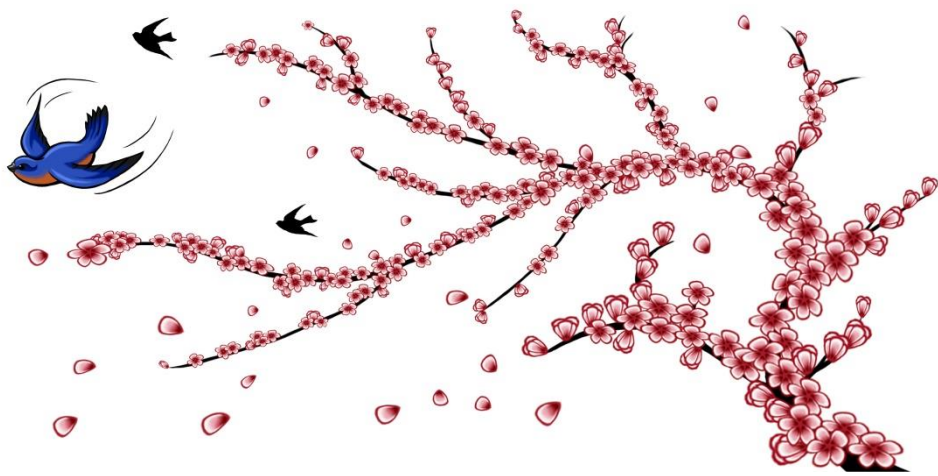
Produced by Japanese Studies Peer Mentors
in association with PwC.

WELCOME TO JAPANESE STUDIES AT MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY!

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR PEER MENTORS:

Well done for getting into the University of Manchester! You're about to start a four-year course in the amazing subject that is Japanese Studies at such a wonderful institution. You might be feeling many things, such as excited, nervous, anxious, but we assure you, everything will be fine. This guide will be an introduction into studying at the University of Manchester and to your course, and we hope that you learn everything you need and want from it.

Until the course starts however, enjoy your summer, and when it does start, good luck with your studies!



YOUR TEACHERS ☺

/who/ might be teaching you?

Here are some of the teachers you may have classes with when you begin your Japanese studies course at UoM:

Erica Bafelli – culture and religion class lecturer



Aiko Otsuka – language tutor



Aya Homei – history and technology class lecturer



Nozomi Yamaguchi – language tutor



Jonathan Bunt – head of department, language tutor and culture class lecturer



Peter Cave – society and culture class lecturer

YOUR PEER MENTORS

yep, that's us!

Robbie – Single Honours
Japanese (beginners)



Emma – Single Honours
Japanese (advanced)



Agatha – Japanese and
French (beginners)



Melissa – Japanese and
French (advanced)





Felix – Single Honours
Japanese (beginners)



Tamara – Modern Language
and Business Management
(beginners)

Xingjian – BSc Neuroscience
with Japanese (advanced)



Francesca – Modern Language
and Business Management
(beginners)



Josh – Single Honours
Japanese (beginners)

THE BEGINNER CLASS

All students, regardless of degree, are required to take 120 credits worth of courses a year. For both Single and Joint Honours students, the Beginners core Japanese language module is worth 60 credits, meaning Joint Honours students will use the remaining 60 credits on their other degree subject. For Single Honours students, the remaining credits will be spent on Japanese-related modules that are worth 20 credits each. This includes, in my case, the compulsory EALC10030 - 'Introduction to Japanese Studies' module alongside optional modules such as EALC10111 – Introduction to Japanese History and Culture and EALC12222 – Japanese Film and Society, however these modules can change from year to year depending if staff are available or not. Furthermore 'free choice' modules are available for Single Honours students, which can be any module listed as free choice by the humanities department and will be worth 20 credits. These modules can range from LEAP (Language Experience for All Programme) courses to modules on Buddhism and Chinese History.

Over the course of the year the Japanese Language module will revolve around the content of the Genki 1 and Genki 2 textbooks, with the contents of each book being covered in Semester 1 and 2 respectively.

Each week a new chapter will be taught, with different aspects of the chapter being covered in each lesson. Every chapter includes new vocabulary, grammar points, kanji, dialogue and reading comprehension and thus each feature of the chapter will be taught in their own respective lesson throughout the week. For example, last year there were 10 hours of Japanese language in a week – 4 hours of grammar, 1 hour of kanji, 2 hours of speaking/listening, 2 hours of reading/writing and finally 1 hour spent doing a weekly quiz. At the start of each week there will be a quiz that tests you on the chapter that was learned the previous week; the results of these quizzes will count towards your final grade.

Don't miss the quizzes as they are official assessment and so you will receive a 0 on it unless you have extenuating circumstances.

- Robbie

THE ADVANCED CLASS

The advanced Japanese class is worth 40 credits, which is less than the beginner's class. This means students in the advanced will have more freedom of choice with their first year modules.

The advanced Japanese course is designed for students who have already studied to a similar level as A-level Japanese, JLPT 3/4 or the Genki 1 and 2 textbook course. There are no qualification requirements to enter the advanced class, but you will have the **option** to take an informal exam to test your abilities during fresher's week. If you do well enough on the test you will enter the advanced class. Don't worry too much about it - just revise what you already know and try your best! (It's really not that bad!)

The advanced class revolves around the Tobira (上級へのとびら) textbook and its grammar and kanji workbook counterparts. The class is usually very small so you'll get a pretty intimate learning experience (that also means you can't hide at the back of the classroom when you forget your homework!) and you'll get to know your advanced classmates very well.

In my case, I had four classes per week adding up to a total of 7 contact hours (of core language classes). For me, Monday was weekly quiz day (not very fun at 9 o'clock on a Monday morning), Tuesday was grammar class with Otsuka-sensei, Thursday was reading class with Yamaguchi-sensei and Friday was kanji/conversation class with Iwakami-sensei (Iwakami sensei has now left the University of Manchester).

In semester 1 we had to complete various kanji, grammar, listening and writing exercises for homework each week. In semester 2 we had to complete an ILP (independent learning portfolio) whereby we record activities we do in our spare time to improve upon our language skills, so homework is reduced a lot. We then present our ILP in the end-of-year oral exam.

Tobira took some getting used to for me, as did the fast learning pace. As a student who studied Japanese with a tutor once a week and by myself, I was used to taking things slowly. When I came to university and realised I had to learn roughly 40 kanji readings and 20 new grammar points per week I had a bit of a culture shock. I know it sounds scary, but you soon get used to it and settle into a regular learning routine. It's actually not as bad as it seems! (I just think you guys might want some forewarning, because I'd have liked one!) The work definitely pays off and you'll find yourself improving really quickly, which is a great feeling!

頑張ってね～ ☆

- Melissa

YOUR TIMETABLE

Here is an example of what your timetable may look like. Please be aware that every person's timetable is different depending on whether you are a beginner, advanced, single honours or joint honours.

You can access your timetable via the My Manchester homepage. The first couple of weeks can be hectic, and can take time for your timetable to sort itself out, so don't worry if modules don't appear right away, they will eventually. However, if you have any questions regarding your timetable, don't hesitate to contact your programme administrator who is there to help you.

You may have around 7 or 10 contact hours of core Japanese language, depending if you are in beginners or advanced. It depends on your course, but you will typically do 14-18 contact hours a week.

Doing Japanese as a degree programme is really a lot of fun, but please be aware that it takes up a lot of time and effort. We advise you to prepare for every class so you won't be snowed under with work. You will find it really rewarding and worthwhile doing so.

This is an example of a student who takes joint honours beginner's Japanese:

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
0900	EALC10080 Sam Alex_53.1 LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-12, 19		EALC10080 Sam Alex_A102 SEMINAR Wks: 1-5, 7-12, 19		BMAN10721 Sam Alex_A202 LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-12
1000	EALC11180 Uni Place_5.212 LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-12, 19	BMAN10621B Simon_TH A LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-12			
1100	EALC11180 Sam Alex_A213A CLASS Wks: 1-5, 7-12, 19		EALC1 Alan Tu CLASS Wks: 1	EALC1 Uni Place CLASS Wks: 7	EALC11280 Uni Place_6.206 SEMINAR Wks: 1-5, 7-12
1200		EALC1 Zochon CLASS Wks: 7	EALC1 Zochon CLASS Wks: 1	ECON10081 Devonshire House_ TUTORIAL Wks: 2, 4, 7, 9, 11	
1300	ECON10081 Uni Place_TH B LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-11		BMAN10621B Roscoe_3.5 WORKSHOP Wks: 5, 7, 9-11	EALC11380 Simon_4.50 CLASS Wks: 1-5, 7-10	
1400		EALC11180 Uni Place_5.210 SEMINAR Wks: 1-5, 7-12		ECON10081 Uni Place_TH B LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-10	
1500					BMAN10011 Roscoe_TH B LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-12
1600					
1700				BMAN10621B Crawford House_TH LECTURE Wks: 1-5, 7-11	
1800					

- Tamara

A TYPICAL WEEK'S HOMEWORK



For the beginner's class, you will get set weekly exercises to complete from your Genki 1 & 2 textbooks relating to the grammar and vocab of that week's lesson.

As well as this, you will occasionally get pieces of writing set through first semester on simple topics, and in the second semester, you will have simple essays to complete. These writing exercises will be like what you will see in your exams so they are essential to do if you want to be well prepared!

As for the advanced class, the homework is a bit more varied. During one of your weekly grammar lessons, you will be given grammar exercises to do from the Tobira Grammar Power Workbook, as well as a worksheet concerning similar topics, like so:

例： 猫が（いる/ある/する）
机の上に猫が_____いる_____

As well as this, during one of your speaking and kanji lessons, you will receive sheets containing exercises to do with kanji and their pronunciations to complete

Furthermore, during your weekly reading lesson, you will be given translation and comprehension homework from the Tobira textbook, and worksheets for their online listening resources.

Also, you will be given essays, and you should complete them to a reasonable standard, as they are good practice for examinations.

例： 環境をよくするために、どんなことをしたらいいと思いますか？

- Josh & Xingjian

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO THIS SUMMER

1. You need to try and learn as much hiragana and katakana as you can before you arrive at university, because you will have a small test upon them during Fresher's week!! So make sure you know them!
2. Revise what Japanese you have already studied.
3. Read this booklet thoroughly!
4. Join the Facebook page! (Link is at the end of this booklet)
5. Have fun and relax!



STUDY TIPS

A very good technique to remember kanji and vocabulary is through the use of flashcards, in which there are many ways to help. Two ways in which you can make your own flashcards online and use them are **Anki**, **Quizlet**, **Memrise** and **Kantango** (Anki you have to download onto your computer). Both of them have websites in which other users have submitted different flashcard packages that you too can use. Another way to help yourself with kanji (and we all need it!) is a site called **wanikani**, for this you do not have to make things yourself in order to use it. You can also get Anki for iOS and Android and transfer your flashcards to it online.

Some people find for that for revision, especially with kanji, that repetition on something such as a white-board which is easy to clean, or making up small stories about the kanji or their composition, is really useful. But don't just learn a kanji once, you'll forget it. Revise and practise it regularly.

For grammar however, it's best to condense the information and make it into something simple that is easy reproduce so that it will stick, like bullet points or mind maps.

A good online dictionary you can use is **jisho.org**, it can also be used to help identify kanji through their radicals.

As well, if you are struggling with hiragana or katakana, or just need a refresher, there is always the **Genki Online Self Study Room** which you can use, and as well, it has links and pages for revising grammar, kanji and vocabulary, which you may find useful.

Don't just limit yourself to electronic resources however. Explore the uni and our school to know what facilities and programs are available. For example, you could join the Japanese society or venture into the Language Centre to borrow Japanese books for leisurely reading.

Remember that you can always ask any one of the sensei, or any one of us, the peer mentors, for help too!

- Agatha & Francesca

HIRAGANA CHART

W	R	Y	M	H	N	T	S	K	x	
わ	ら	や	ま	は	な	た	さ	か	あ	A
wa	ra	ya	ma	ha	na	ta	sa	ka	a	
x	り	x	み	ひ	に	ち	し	き	い	I
	ri		mi	hi	ni	chi	shi	ki	i	
x	る	ゆ	む	ふ	ぬ	つ	す	く	う	U
	ru	yu	mu	fu	nu	tsu	su	ku	u	
x	れ	x	め	へ	ね	て	せ	け	え	E
	re		me	he	ne	te	se	ke	e	
を	ろ	よ	も	ほ	の	と	そ	こ	お	O
(w)o	ro	yo	mo	ho	no	to	so	ko	o	
									ん	N
									n	

P	B	D	Z	G	
ぱ	ば	だ	ざ	が	A
pa	ba	da	za	ga	
ぴ	び	ぢ	じ	ぎ	I
pi	bi	ji	ji	gi	
ぷ	ぶ	づ	ず	ぐ	U
pu	bu	zu	zu	gu	
ぺ	べ	で	ぜ	げ	E
pe	be	de	ze	ge	
ぽ	ぼ	ど	ぞ	ご	O
po	bo	do	zo	go	

The pronunciations in **red** mean that they don't necessarily follow the typical rule, and those in **blue** are archaic, meaning that they are rarely used in modern Japanese, and have fallen out of favour for alternatives. But, you will occasionally see them, so don't forget them!

Py	By	Dy	Zy	Gy	Ry	Hy	Ny	Chy	Shy	Ky	
ぴゃ	びゃ	ぢゃ	じゃ	ぎゃ	りゃ	ひゃ	にゃ	ちゃ	しゃ	きゃ	A
pya	bya	jya	jya	gya	rya	hya	nya	cha	sha	kya	
ぴょ	びょ	ぢょ	じょ	ぎょ	りょ	ひょ	にょ	ちょ	しょ	きょ	O
pyo	byo	jyo	jyo	gyo	ryo	hyo	nyo	cho	sho	kyo	
ぴゅ	びゅ	ぢゅ	じゅ	ぎゅ	りゅ	ひゅ	にゅ	ちゅ	しゅ	きゅ	U
pyu	byu	jyu	jyu	gyu	ryu	hyu	nyu	chu	shu	kyu	

KATAKANA CHART

W	R	Y	M	H	N	T	S	K	x	
ワ	ラ	ヤ	マ	ハ	ナ	タ	サ	カ	ア	A
wa	ra	ya	ma	ha	na	ta	sa	ka	a	
x	リ	x	ミ	ヒ	ニ	チ	シ	キ	イ	I
	ri		mi	hi	ni	chi	shi	ki	i	
x	ル	ユ	ム	フ	ヌ	ツ	ス	ク	ウ	U
	ru	yu	mu	fu	nu	tsu	su	ku	u	
x	レ	x	メ	ヘ	ネ	テ	セ	ケ	エ	E
	re		me	he	ne	te	se	ke	e	
ヲ	ロ	ヨ	モ	ホ	ノ	ト	ソ	コ	オ	O
(w)o	ro	yo	mo	ho	no	to	so	ko	o	
										ン N
										n

P	B	D	Z	G	
パ	バ	ダ	ザ	ガ	A
pa	ba	da	za	ga	
ピ	ビ	ヂ	ジ	ギ	I
pi	bi	ji	ji	gi	
プ	ブ	ヅ	ズ	グ	U
pu	bu	zu	zu	gu	
ペ	ベ	デ	ゼ	ゲ	E
pe	be	de	ze	ge	
ポ	ボ	ド	ゾ	ゴ	O
po	bo	do	zo	go	

If you didn't already know, Japanese is written with 3 "alphabets". There's kanji, which mainly consists of Chinese characters brought over from China at different points in time, katakana, which is typically used for loanwords, foreign names, and sometimes in higher education, and then there is katakana for everything else.

- Josh

(chart/comments)

Py	By	Dy	Zy	Gy	Ry	Hy	Ny	Chy	Shy	Ky	
ピャ	ビャ	ヂャ	ジャ	ギャ	リャ	ヒャ	ニャ	チャ	シャ	キャ	A
pya	bya	jya	jya	gya	rya	hya	nya	cha	sha	kya	
ピョ	ビョ	ヂョ	ジョ	ギョ	リョ	ヒョ	ニョ	チョ	ショ	キョ	O
pyo	byo	jyo	jyo	gyo	ryo	hyo	nyo	cho	sho	kyo	
ピュ	ビュ	ヂュ	ジュ	ギュ	リュ	ヒュ	ニュ	チュ	シュ	キュ	U
pyu	byu	jyu	jyu	gyu	ryu	hyu	nyu	chu	shu	kyu	

RESOURCES AT UOM

The University of Manchester campus spans across the city – ranging from ancient libraries to ultra-modern study spaces. Whether or not you prefer to study alone in your room, among the bustle of a coffee shop or in a group of friends, Manchester has something to offer you.

However, three buildings in particular are in the best interests to Japanese language Students:

1. The Main Library (Purple 2)

This is the resident collection of books in and about Japanese, and Japanese studies. Books range from complex sociological issues to Pokémon origami guides! Quite popular as a study spot, being an attractive area of the library.

2. The Language Library/ Study area (Samuel Alexander Building)

As a language student you will be invited for a short tour of this area, which is well worth your time. Featuring a library dedicated to language learning materials (including DVDs), language labs and computers capable of streaming foreign TV, this area is popular among language students.

3. The Alan Gilbert Learning Commons

This recent addition to the campus boasts several floors of group space, computers, and comfortable study spots. The computers here can easily be modified to type in Japanese – but be quick, because spaces go quickly!

As you get to grips with Manchester and University life, you're sure to find your favourite way to study. And if you're feeling lost, feel free to ask your mentors for help!

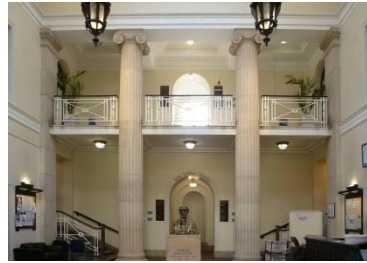
Also, all three of these buildings are adjacent to each other, so it's pretty convenient.

The Main Library:



(this place is huge!)

Samuel Alexander Building



Alan Gilbert Learning Commons (or Ali G, as most students call it)



(Open 24/7 during term time and where you'll most likely find yourself at 5am the morning an assignment is due)

CONTACTING US

In case you have any questions about coming to university to study Japanese, you may want to contact us (your peer mentors). Here are our email addresses:

melissa.parnaby@student.manchester.ac.uk

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Josh.wilson@student.manchester.ac.uk

Francesca.williams-3@student.manchester.ac.uk

Here is the link to your Japanese Studies Fresher's Facebook page (please join!!):



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1620672724817082>

We will be organizing various events for you during fresher's week so keep updated on the Facebook page!

がんばるよ～！



www.pwc.com/uk/careers

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