

Japanese Language & Culture for Beginners

22 Feb – 15 March 2022 (Every Tuesday)

6:30 – 8:00 / 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Course code: SP03A

Topic: 1. Origami workshop

2. Japanese geography and regional traditions

Date: 22 Feb, 1 Mar 2022

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm (1.5 hours)

Instructor: Ms NAGAOKA Misaki

Course description:

- Know about Japanese cultural events/festivals in February and March, such as “setsubun” and “hina matsuri”.
- Learn how to fold an “oni” demon, “hina” dolls, and a medal.
- Learn about Japanese geography and regional traditions through dances.
- Experience and enjoy some dance of “Yosakoi”, “Soran Bushi”, “Tanko Bushi”, “Awa Odori” and “Tokyo Ondo”.
- Acquire an in-depth understanding of Japan’s social-historical culture.

About the Instructor:

BA and MA in Political Science, Waseda University. Research Assistant at the Department of Japanese Studies, CUHK.

Born and raised in Tokyo, she has lived in Hong Kong since 2017. Her interests include Japanese calligraphy, foreign languages, and identity in a multicultural context.

Led origami workshops for CUHK’s Multiculturalism in Action Project in May 2020, and for New Asia College in November 2021. Also, she was invited to talk about Japanese culture and demonstrate origami by non-profit organizations based in Hong Kong in 2021.

Course code: SP03B

Topic: 1. Japanese kamon (家紋) as traditional design and visual communication

2. Learning the proper accent and speak like a native Japanese

Date: 8 Mar, 15 Mar 2022 (Tuesday)

Time: 6:30 – 8:00 pm (2 hours)

Instructor: Mr KOIDE Masao

Course description: Lesson 1 will introduce Japan traditional emblem Kamon as design for visual communication. For example, Japanese use the symbolic essence from nature to be emblems to reflect their family identities, and these Kamon are widely used in the society. This session will also introduce pictogram that is also widely used and popular in Japan visual design after the 1st Tokyo Olympic in 1964. By this 2-hour session, students would be able to understand that to design visual images to communicate with each other is one of the core Japanese traditions, in the past as well as in the modern era. In this session, student will be assigned into groups to find out emblem in Japanese items, and they will have the time to draw simple Kamon using drawing kits.

Lesson 2 is designed to teach students to use an app to improve their Japanese pronunciation. The app aims to help learners to enhance their proficiency and build the confidence in speaking Japanese and also helps students to avoid those common errors. The goal is student could master the Japanese accent and learn to speak like a native. The session will have lots of practice. Student will be assigned in groups. Each group will write short phrases, and practice using the app.

About the Instructor:

Part-time instructor in the Department of Japanese Studies, teaching language courses for 15 plus years. He obtained his BA from Keio University, Japan and earned a MA in Teaching Japanese as Second Language from Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is also a ACTEL OPI Tester of Japanese with full certification.