Northern Marianas College
CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST

Effective Semester / Session: Fall 2014

Type of Action:
   New
   x Modification
   Cancellation
   Move to Inactive (Stop Out)

Course Alpha and Number: JA 101

Course Title: Elementary Japanese I

Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling course:
Regular periodic update

Yoko Fujiooka-Kern
Proposer

4/17/2014

Velma C. Deleon Guerrero
Acting Department Chair

4/24/14

Barbara K. Meralen
Dean of Academic Programs and Services

4/24/14
1. Department
Languages and Humanities

2. Purpose
This is a course in basic Japanese listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students are taught to read and write Hiragana and Katakana, and to recognize a limited number of Kanji characters.

3. Description
A. Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials
Required:
Readability level: Grade 8

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B. Contact Hours
1. Lecture: 4 per week/60 per semester
2. Lab: None
3. Other: None

C. Credits
1. Number: 4
2. Type: Regular degree credits

D. Catalogue Course Description
This course is designed for students who want to learn basic Japanese through Hiragana, Katakana, and a selected number of Kanji. Equal emphasis is placed on listening, speaking, reading, and writing. English placement level: EN093/094 (Offered Fall and Spring)

E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course
Fulfills the language requirement for associate degrees and the BS degree in Education.

F. Course Activities and Design
Course activities include listening, speaking, reading, and writing exercises as well as pronunciation practice, introduction and explanation of new sentence
structures, oral composition drills, pair work, homework assignments, and role plays using basic dialogues.

Reading comprehension exercises involve materials written in Hiragana, Katakana, and 30 selected Kanji, which enhances writing and speaking skills.

4. **Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment; Required English/Mathematics Placement Level(s)**
   
   English Placement Levels: EN 093/094

5. **Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed**
   
   Cost to the student: Tuition for 4-credit course, textbooks, and materials fee
   
   Cost to the college: Salary of instructor
   
   Instructional resources for this course include chalk, chalkboard, TV/VCR and videotaped programs, overhead projector and transparency film, photocopier, flashcards, audiocassette recorder, audiotapes, and a clock. (Many materials have been donated by The Japan Foundation.)

6. **Method of Evaluation**
   
   Student grades will be based on the regular letter grade system as described below:
   
   A: Excellent – grade points: 4.0;
   B: Above average – grade points: 3.0;
   C: Average – grade points: 2.0;
   D: Below average – grade points: 1.0;
   F: Failure – grade points: 0.0.

   NMC’s grading and attendance policies will be followed.

7. **Course Outline**
   
   This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material will be presented. In JA 101 students learn both listening/speaking skills and Japanese reading/writing skills. Students learn basic reading and writing in Hiragana and Katakana. They also learn to read 30 selected Kanji.

   1.0 Greetings/Useful expressions;
2.0 Three types of Japanese characters; Hiragana, Katakana, 30 (selected)

Kanji;

3.0 Numbers (1 to 1,000,000);

4.0 Vocabulary: In the context of classroom, work, home, and everyday life;

5.0 How to tell Time and days;

6.0 Basic sentence structures;

7.0 Particles (Subject and object indicators);

8.0 Particles (others);

9.0 Verb to be;

10.0 Action verbs (present, past affirmative and negative forms);

11.0 Expressions of invitation (~masenka and ~mashou);

12.0 Question words;

13.0 Likes and dislikes;

14.0 Adjectives (present affirmative and negative);

15.0 Describing existence (difference between animate and inanimate);

16.0 Describing location (difference between animate and inanimate);

17.0 Physical condition;

18.0 Conjunctions (and, then, but, because);

19.0 Understanding the difference between formal and informal expressions; and

20.0 Understanding the honorific and humble expressions

8. Instructional Goals
This course will introduce students to:

1.0 The system of Japanese pronunciation;

2.0 Reading and writing of Hiragana and Katakana;

3.0 Understanding of the significance of Kanji in written materials;

4.0 Basic Japanese sentence structures and grammar;
5.0 Japanese oral communication skills; and

6.0 Basic Japanese customs and manners.

9. **Student Learning Outcomes**
   Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

   1.0 Pronounce Japanese at a level appropriate for this first semester course;
   2.0 Demonstrate oral communicative competence in particular conversational situations;
   3.0 Read and write a selected sentence using both *Hiragana* and *Katakana*;
   4.0 Read and understand the meaning of 30 selected *Kanji* used in a passage;
   5.0 Demonstrate an appropriate level of reading comprehension,
   6.0 Write a short essay on particular topics; and
   7.0 Demonstrate an understanding of basic Japanese customs and manners.

10. **Assessment Measures**
    Assessment of student learning may include, but is not limited to, the following:

    1.0 Class participation/assignments;
    2.0 Quizzes/tests;
    3.0 Presentations/performances; and
    4.0 Final evaluation/ examinations.