

Japanese Beginners

The following contains a description of the course we offer to students at St Marys Senior High School. It is intended as a guide to help you select your subjects and you should read it carefully.

Please note:

- The details given represent the way that the course is delivered at St Marys Senior High School and may involve different choices from the way other schools might operate the same course.
- Classes can only be formed where sufficient students select the particular course. The fact that a course is listed here is not a commitment to run the course in a particular year.
- The arrangements for particular courses are subject to change for a variety of reasons.

Japanese Beginners - Course Details

Units	Type	ATAR	Faculty Teaching This Course
2	Board Developed Course – Examinable at the HSC, marks can be used to count towards an ATAR	A – Counts towards an ATAR with no restrictions	Languages Other Than English (LOTE)

What will I be doing in the course?

In the Preliminary and HSC courses, students will develop the linguistic intercultural knowledge and understanding, and the speaking, listening, reading and writing skills to communicate in Japanese.

Topics studied through two interdependent perspectives, the *Personal World* and the *Japanese-Speaking Communities*, provide contexts in which students develop their communication skills in Japanese and their knowledge and understanding of language and culture.

Students' skills in, and knowledge of, Japanese will be developed through tasks associated with a range of texts and text types, which reflect the topics. Students will also gain an insight into the culture and language of Japanese-speaking communities through the study of a range of texts.

The course introduces students to the language and culture of contemporary Japan and gives an appreciation for other Japanese speaking communities in the world. In addition to language training in the four basic skills – listening, speaking, reading and writing – various aspects of varied Japanese speaking communities' society and culture will be introduced through audio and video extracts and short texts. The emphasis throughout will be on communicative skills, both oral, aural and written and students should be able to comprehend and respond with grammatical accuracy to spoken and written Japanese as well as demonstrate cultural awareness.

Main topics covered

There are two main prescribed areas: the *Personal World* and the *Japanese-Speaking Communities*. The two perspectives will enable students to develop knowledge and understanding of and skills in the Japanese language, linked to cultural values, attitudes and practices.

Through their study of the *Personal World*, students will develop their ability to use Japanese to express and share ideas about experiences and activities relating to daily life and transactions in their own world.

Through their study of the *Japanese-Speaking Communities* module, students will come to inquire about and to express ideas in order to undertake activities and transactions appropriately in one or more communities where Japanese is spoken.

The following are the sub-topic areas:

- Family life, home and neighbourhood
- People, places and communities
- Education and work
- Friends, recreation and pastimes
- Holidays, travel and tourism
- Future plans and aspirations

Learning activities will include structured and unstructured oral exercises, grammar and vocabulary exercises, role-play activities, translation, dictation, oral presentations, listening activities using authentic online materials, and compositions. Students will make use of online resources that include practice of speaking, reading, writing and listening, and that further cultural awareness in which Japanese customs, culture, and everyday life aspects are also highlighted.

Particular course requirements

Eligibility rules apply to the study of this subject. Check with your teacher or the Assessment Certification Examination (ACE) Manual (Section 3.2.4)- *Eligibility requirements for entry into Stage 6 Languages courses* (link - https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/ace-rules/ace3/course-eligibility#acerule=n3_2_eligibility_requirements_for_entry_into_stage)

How will I be assessed in the course?

Students will be expected to undertake the following types of assessment and/or exam tasks.

- Oral assessments and/or examinations: Conversation in Japanese (5 minutes)
- Written assessments and/or examinations: Listening (Japanese Comprehension), Reading (Japanese Comprehension), Writing in Japanese.

Activities, tasks and homework undertaken throughout the Year 11 and Year 12 course will better prepare students to complete the assessment components.

What should I be able to do at the end of the course?

On the completion of Japanese Beginners course students should be able to:

- Understand the basic structures of the Japanese language and use these in writing and in speech.
- Demonstrate a sufficient knowledge of Japanese vocabulary to communicate in everyday situations.
- Recognize basic structures and vocabulary in written and spoken materials, and thus be able to read and listen to articles/news items/short stories in Japanese.
- Understand and analyse aspects of Japanese society and culture.
- Communicate information, ideas and opinions in Japanese, in both spoken and written modes.