



Grant High School Course Guide

2019 - 2020

Japanese Language and Cultural Studies Program



JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL STUDIES PROGRAM

2019-2020

Program Overview

The Japanese Language and Cultural Studies Program at Grant High School offers two levels of instruction; KISO COURSE (foundational classes) and SOGO COURSE (content-based immersive classes). KISO courses are introductory classes for students with little to no experience/exposure to Japanese prior to high school. There are four years of Japanese offered for the KISO course. SOGO course classes are open to students with intermediate level proficiency. Most of the students in SOGO course have completed the Japanese Magnet Program at Richmond Elementary School and Mt. Tabor Middle School. However, any students who are interested in taking SOGO course classes may take a placement assessment and be placed in the appropriate level class upon request.

We use ACTFL National Standards (<http://www.actfl.org/>), which are highly aligned with Common Core State Standards, to guide our instructions and assessment.

コース KISO COURSE (Novice Intermediate):

KISO COURSE classes (1st year Japanese through 4th year Japanese) offer students the opportunity to develop Intermediate Level language and cultural skills through rigorous speaking and writing practice in class. Completion of 4 years of KISO course prepares students to visit Japan and/or to have culturally appropriate interactions with native speakers. Students learn hiragana and katakana (Japanese characters) in the 1st year class and are expected to use them in reading and writing from the 2nd year on. Basic kanji (Chinese characters) are introduced in the 1st year and students continue to build their kanji proficiency throughout the four-year course.

コース 7. SOGO COURSE (Intermediate Advanced):

SOGO COURSE offers students the opportunity to develop Advanced Level language, preparing them to be global professionals and citizens. Students will continue to develop their language skills through content-based language classes in an immersive environment (classes are conducted in Japanese). There is an optional experiential learning opportunity provided through Sapporo Summer Institute for sophomore and junior students. Completion of all the requirements necessitates significant commitment and focus by students and results in special recognition at graduation. The SOGO COURSE is open to all students meeting the proficiency criteria. To ensure successful transition, 8th grade students from Mt. Tabor middle school are placed in appropriate level classes upon reviewing the teacher recommendation, benchmark average in 8th grade Japanese class, and STAMP test scores.

Special Recognition

Special recognition is given to students who exhibit hard work and excellence in high level Japanese proficiency attainment. Students who complete all SOGO course work at Grant High School with a C or above will be awarded this special recognition. Qualified students will receive an official letter documenting their accomplishment, often used to augment college applications. Additionally, they will be able to take part in the Japanese Immersion Program completion ceremony upon graduation, where they will receive a special cord and seal on their high school graduation diploma.

Course Requirements and Prerequisites

	Requirements	Courses	Prerequisites
KISO COURSE Novice — Intermediate Level	Community-based language and culture experience in each course 2 World Language credits. (District Requirement)	Japanese 1-2	No Prerequisite
		Japanese 3-4	C or Above in Japanese I -2 or Novice Mid
		Japanese 5-6	C or Above in Japanese 3-4 or Novice High
		Japanese 7-8	C or Above in Japanese 5-6 or Intermediate Low
SOGO COURSE Intermediate Advanced Level	Community-based language and culture experience in each Course opportunity to participate in Sapporo Summer Institute (during Sophomore and Junior years)	Japanese Immersion: -History and Culture Adv. Japanese Immersion: -History and Culture (2020-21)	Successful completion of JMP 1<-8 or Intermediate Mid (HC), Intermediate High (Adv. History & Culture)
		Japanese Immersion: -Global Perspectives Adv. Japanese Immersion: -Global Perspectives(2019-20)	Successful completion of JMP K-8 or Intermediate Mid (GP), Intermediate High (Adv. Global Perspectives)
		Japanese Immersion: -Japanese Society Adv. Japanese Immersion: -Japanese Society (2020-21)	Successful completion of History & Culture and Global Perspective. Intermediate High (JS), Advance Low (Adv. JS)
		Japanese Immersion: -Literature and Media Adv. Japanese Immersion: -Literature and Media(2019-20)	Successful completion of History & Culture and Global Perspective. Intermediate High (LM), Advance Low (Adv. LM)

AP preparation is embedded in this advanced curriculum. The students are strongly encouraged to take the AP Japanese Exam in their freshman and/or sophomore year. Conducted in Japanese. Prerequisite: Successful completion of JMP K-8 with teacher recommendation or Intermediate High level of proficiency in Japanese or higher.

Opportunities:

College Credit and Placement: Students may take a proficiency examination for placement in a university Japanese program and/or for the purpose of employment. The KISO and SOGO course work involve AP Japanese Exam material and preparation. All students are strongly encouraged to take the AP Japanese Exam to earn college credit.

Summer Intensive Learning in Japan: During the summer following their sophomore or junior year, SOGO course students may participate in an intensive summer institute in Japan. This institute involves high-level language studies coupled with extensive independent field study experiences.

Alternative Credits: Students who continue their Japanese studies in Japan or at a university or community college can meet program requirements with documentation.