



333 East 47th Street
New York, NY 10017
japansociety.org

2023 LATE SPRING 5-WEEK CONVERSATIONAL JAPANESE

Please note that some courses are online via Zoom, and others are in-person at Japan Society in NYC. All times listed are New York time (ET).

ONLINE COURSES: To participate fully, you will need access to a device with internet, microphone, and camera (such as a laptop, smartphone, or tablet).

IN-PERSON COURSES: In the event of inclement weather or other circumstances, a class session may need to be conducted online. By signing up for this course, you assume this risk and agree to stay enrolled in the full course. Please see full guidelines and policies listed under “How to Register.”

This curriculum is conversation-intensive, with the aim of strengthening the student’s ability to communicate effectively in social situations. The course materials emphasize vocabulary and grammar that are useful in everyday activities. Using the Marugoto textbooks, the priority is to practice language used in real-life situations, and grammar is taught through meaningful context rather than targeted study.

Individuals must be 16 or older to register for these courses. (For younger students, please see [Japanese for Youth: Ages 12 to 15.](#))

If you are unsure of which Conversational level is right for you, please take a look at the sample materials for each class linked in the course descriptions, or the [Level Guide \(Conversational Levels\)](#).

Conversation: C 1

For students who have **finished Level 1** of our Japanese Courses, or equivalent. Elementary social/situational conversation skills will be introduced.

This course covers the **first portion of the textbook (Topics 1-6)**.

Required Textbook: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Starter (A1) Katsudoo. See [Table of Contents](#) and [Sample](#).

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 1, Section A	Tues., Apr. 11 - May 9	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	5 classes	Shio	ONLINE
C 1, Section B	Wed., Apr. 12 - May 10	12:00 – 2:00 pm ET	5 classes	Shio	ONLINE
C 1, Section C	Mon., Apr. 10 - May 8	6:00 – 8:00 pm ET	5 classes	Kobuchi	IN-PERSON

Conversation: C 2

For students who have **finished Level 2** of our Japanese Courses, or equivalent.

Students will learn more social/situational conversation skills.

This course covers the **second portion of the textbook (Topics 7-9)**.

Required Textbook: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Starter (A1) Katsudoo. See [Table of Contents](#) and [Sample](#).

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 2, Section A	Mon., Apr. 10 - May 8	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	5 classes	Shio	ONLINE
C 2, Section B	Wed., Apr. 12 - May 10	6:00 – 8:00 pm ET	5 classes	Ogino	IN-PERSON

Conversation: C 3-4

For students who have **finished Level 3 or 4** of our Japanese Courses, or equivalent, **and feel confident with Level 3 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 3, and more comfortable for those who have finished Level 4. If you are not confident in Level 3 patterns, C 2 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will focus on skills needed to survive in Japan. Frequently used expressions will be practiced in context.

The course is taught in two parts (odd lessons and even lessons); the **even lessons** of the textbook will be covered this Late Spring semester.

Required Textbook: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Elementary 1 (A2) Katsudoo. See [Table of Contents](#) and [Sample](#).

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 3-4, Section A	Tues. & Thurs., Apr. 11 - May 9	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	9 classes	Kitaura	ONLINE
C 3-4, Section B	Mon. & Wed., Apr. 10 - May 8	4:00 – 6:00 pm ET	9 classes	Kitaura	ONLINE

Conversation: C 5-6

For students who have **finished Level 5 or 6** of our Japanese Courses, or equivalent, **and feel confident with Level 5 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 5, and more comfortable for those who have finished Level 6. If you are not confident in Level 5 patterns, C 3-4 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will focus on strengthening speaking skills by having students engage in various exercises.

The course is taught in two parts (odd lessons and even lessons); the **even lessons** of the textbook will be covered this Late Spring semester.

Required Textbook: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Elementary 2 (A2) Katsudoo. See [Table of Contents](#) and [Sample](#).

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 5-6, Section A	Tues. & Thurs., Apr. 11 - May 9	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	9 classes	Kurahara	ONLINE

Conversation: C 7-8

For students who have **finished Level 7 or 8** of our Japanese Courses, or equivalent, **and feel confident with Level 7 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 7, and more comfortable for those who have finished Level 8. If you are not confident in Level 7 patterns, C 5-6 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will focus on activities in various situations and language structures (e.g. sentence patterns) which support communication.

The course is taught in two parts (odd lessons and even lessons); the **even lessons** of the textbook will be covered this Late Spring semester.

Required Textbook: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Pre-Intermediate A2/B1. See [Table of Contents](#) and [Sample](#).

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 7-8, Section A	Tues. & Thurs., Apr. 11 - May 9	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	9 classes	Kakutani	ONLINE

Conversation: C 9-10

For students who have **finished Level 9, or are taking or finished level 10** of our Japanese Courses, or equivalent, **and feel confident with Level 9 content/grammar**. This class will be a nice challenge for the student who has just finished Level 9, and more comfortable for those at a higher level. If you are not confident in Level 9 patterns, C 7-8 may be a better conversational course for you.

The course will emphasize role-playing by the students in different social and business situations. The focus will be on maintaining a conversation and learning and using situational vocabulary.

The course is taught in two parts, first and second half. The **first half** will be covered this Late Spring semester.

No textbook required. See [Sample here](#).

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 9-10, Section A	Mon. & Wed., Apr. 10 - May 8	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	9 classes	Kurahara	ONLINE
C 9-10, Section B	Tues. & Thurs., Apr. 11 - May 9	12:00 – 2:00 pm ET	9 classes	Kurahara	ONLINE

Conversation: C 11-12

For students who have **finished at least one semester of Level 11** (and are conversationally fluent at that level) of our Japanese Courses or higher. If you are not confident in Level 11, C 9-10 may be a better conversational course for you.

Students will study and discuss various Japanese cultural topics, including social media. New vocabulary and expressions will be introduced. The course is repeatable and will cover different content every semester.

No textbook required. Sample coming soon.

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 11-12, Section A	Wed., Apr. 12 - May 10	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	5 classes	Aizawa	ONLINE
C 11-12, Section B	Tues., Apr. 11 - May 9	12:00 – 2:00 pm ET	5 classes	Aizawa	ONLINE

Conversation: C 13

For students who have **finished at least one semester of Level 13** (and are conversationally fluent at that level) of our Japanese Courses or higher, **and have passed JLPT N2 or equivalent knowledge. Students should recognize at least 1,200 kanji.** If you are not sure, please contact the office to schedule a level assessment.

実際の日本の番組をみながら、実用的な慣用句、表現、生きた日本語の習得を目指す最上級者向けコースです。

さすが上級者！と言われるような洗練されたカッコいい日本語を会話で使いこなしてみませんか。

The course is repeatable and will cover different content every semester.

No textbook required. Sample coming soon.

Section	Dates	Time	# of Classes	Instructor	Location
C 13, Section A	Thurs., Apr. 13 - May 11	6:30 – 8:30 pm ET	5 classes	Aizawa	ONLINE

TUITION

5-Class Courses:
Members **\$165**
Non-members **\$185**

9-Class Courses:
Members **\$290**
Non-members **\$330**

HOW TO REGISTER

Classes fill up quickly! We recommend **registering as soon as possible** to secure your first choice.

Please register by Thurs., April 6, if possible. Seats may not be available after this date; please check the website for registration availability or contact the office.

New students with no previous background in Japanese should enroll in a Level 1 course (see Late Spring Japanese Level 1). Students with some background should refer to the [Level Guide \(Conversational Levels\)](#) or course textbooks to determine the most appropriate class. There is no placement exam. If you

are still not sure of your level, it may be possible to schedule a level assessment by phone with the Director. Please email language@japansociety.org to schedule.

At the moment, registration is accepted **online (preferred)** or by phone only at (212) 715-1269 or (212) 715-1293.

To purchase or renew a membership, please visit www.japansociety.org/join-and-support/become-a-member and pay online. Or, call 212-715-1270 and leave a message; they will get back to you.

To enroll in two or more courses at the combined discount, please call (212) 715-1269 or (212) 715-1293. Discount is applicable when enrolling in two or more 9-class courses within the 2023 Late Spring semester only (includes Conversational Japanese and Japanese (numbered level) Courses.)

Registrants will receive a **Welcome Email** and **Zoom link** from language_inquiries@japansociety.org on

the afternoon of Friday, April 7, 2023 (for classes beginning on Monday, April 11)

the afternoon of Monday, April 11, 2023 (for classes beginning on Tuesday, April 12)

the afternoon of Tuesday, April 12, 2023 (for classes beginning on Wednesday, April 13)

the afternoon of Wednesday, April 13, 2023 (for classes beginning on Thursday, April 14)

For more information, please email us at language@japansociety.org, or call at **(212) 715-1269** or **(212) 715-1293**. Please note that while we are working remotely, we may not always be reachable by phone.

ONLINE COURSES ONLY:

Please attend the course you have registered for as much as possible. If you need to miss a class, a make-up class may be available.

Make-Up Classes: If an online student misses a class, they may arrange a make-up class in a different online section in the same semester. Ideally, this would cover the same material as your missed class, but these options are very limited this Late Spring semester. However, we welcome you to schedule a make-up even if it is in a different course type/level for extra practice. More information on how to schedule a make-up class will be provided in the Welcome Email.

IN-PERSON COURSES ONLY:

Japan Society strongly encourages everyone entering the building to be up to date on COVID-19 vaccines, including any boosters for which they are eligible. In-person students do not need to provide proof of vaccination and booster.

All students and instructors must wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth at all times. Respirator-style (KN95, N95, KF94) masks are encouraged.

Japan Society retains the right to close at its discretion due to inclement weather or other circumstances. In such circumstances the office will determine the best option for replacement class(es), which may be online or on another date. By signing up for this course, you assume this risk and agree to stay enrolled in the full course.

Please attend the course you have registered for as much as possible. If you need to miss a class, a make-up class may be available.

Make-Up Classes: If an in-person student misses a class, they may arrange a make-up class in a different online or in-person section in the same semester. Ideally, this would cover the same material as your missed class, but these options are very limited this Late Spring semester. However, we welcome you to schedule a make-up even if it is in a different course type/level for extra practice. More information on how to schedule a make-up class will be provided in the Welcome Email.

PLEASE NOTE

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations are accepted until 12 pm ET on the business day before the course or workshop begins (for Shodo, until 12 pm ET on the business day before coursework begins). After this deadline, cancellations are not accepted and tuition is not refundable or transferable for any reason (including for credit). Upon cancellation, the tuition paid minus a service charge (\$20 for courses, \$5 for workshops) will be refunded. Cancellations are only accepted via phone.

Japan Society also reserves the right to cancel any course or workshop if sufficient enrollment is not obtained. In such cases, students already enrolled will receive full refunds (no service charge).

By registering for a course, you accept and agree to the above terms of the cancellation policy.

Students must be age 16 or older.





We do not record these classes, and recording of these classes is prohibited. If a student misses a class, it may be possible to arrange a make-up class in the same semester, if available. More information will be provided in the Welcome Email.

If you need to switch to a different level or section after your course has begun, it may be possible pending availability and is only possible within the same semester (e.g., within the same 10-week semester, 5-week semester, weekend intensive, etc.). Please contact the office.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

The following textbooks are required. A limited supply of textbooks are available for purchase at the Language Center on select days, as well as on the first day of in-person courses. Please contact the office to arrange purchase and pick-up.

You may also purchase your book in advance from an outside vendor. Either a digital or print textbook is fine.

<p>C 1 and C 2 Students: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Starter (A1) Katsudoo</p> <p>by Japan Foundation</p> <p>ISBN: 978-4-384-05752-2</p> <p>Price at Japan Society: \$22</p>		<p>C 3-4 Students: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Elementary 1 (A2) Katsudoo</p> <p>by Japan Foundation</p> <p>ISBN: 978-4-384-05754-6</p> <p>Price at Japan Society: \$27</p>	
<p>C 5-6 Students: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Elementary 2 (A2) Katsudoo</p> <p>by Japan Foundation</p> <p>ISBN: 978-4-384-05756-0</p> <p>Price at Japan Society: \$27</p>		<p>C 7-8 Students: Marugoto Japanese Language and Culture, Pre-Intermediate (A2/B1)</p> <p>by Japan Foundation</p> <p>ISBN: 978-4-384-05758-4</p> <p>Not available at Japan Society.</p>	

C 9-10, C 11-12, C 13 Students: No required textbook.

INSTRUCTORS:

All of the Language Center's instructors are native Japanese speakers with extensive teaching experience.

Yuko Aizawa has taught at the Sendagaya Japanese Institute in Tokyo, Japan and at the Royal Hawaiian Academy in the United States. She has been an instructor at the Language Center since 1994.

Yumiko Kakutani has a BA in French Literature from Keio University in Tokyo and is a graduate of Japan Society's Teacher Training Program. She worked for Sakura Bank in the International Planning Division and Foreign Exchange Division for 10 years. She has taught privately in the United States for a number of years (including JLPT and SAT II students). She has been teaching at number of local universities including Baruch College, City College of New York and Fordham University.

Momoyo Kitaura has a BA from Tokyo Woman's Christian University. She has been a certified Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) tester for the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). She passed the Japanese Language Teaching Competency test and has over 15 years of experience working at a Japanese language school in Japan. Since 2018, she has been teaching at the Language Center. She is also a co-researcher of the National Institute of Language and Linguistics.

Mana Kobuchi-Philip grew up in Fukuoka City and began her Japanese teaching career in Tokyo. Later she moved to the United States and then the Netherlands, where she continued teaching Japanese. Along the way, she obtained an MA in TESOL from SIT (School for International Training, Brattleboro, VT) and a PhD in Linguistics

from the CUNY Graduate Center. She greatly enjoys teaching Japanese, as she is fascinated by language in general and Japanese in particular.

Kazue Kurahara received her BA at Hunter College and an MA in TESOL and Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language from New York University. She teaches all levels of Japanese, various workshops, and special topics classes involving social media and pop culture. She is particularly passionate about sociolinguistics and onomatopoeia. She has taught at New York University, The New School, and Hunter College, among others. A nature admirer, she is often seen photographing trees and plants and tending to her indoor garden. She is the scriptwriter and host of Japan Society's YouTube series "Uki Uki NihonGO! + Culture."

Kenko Ogino has been teaching Japanese for eleven years. She holds a BA in English Literature from Atomi Gakuen Women's University, an MA in Education from New York University, and an MA in Japanese Pedagogy from Columbia University. She has been teaching Japanese privately for individual students, companies, and the Center for International Foreign Language Teacher Education (CIFLTE) Module Course at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Atsuko Shio has a BS in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Hoshi University in Tokyo. She has over 12 years of experience working in Product Management and in Sales at Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. She is a graduate of Japan Society's Teacher Training Program and has been teaching at the Language Center since September 2016.