



Japanese Language and Culture

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What will you learn from this Elective?	<p>Less than a quarter of the world speaks English. Learning languages opens doors to the other three-quarters – and a world of hidden opportunities. Whatever goals you have in life, personal and professional, being able to communicate in more than one language has many benefits. Developing language skills expands your understanding of other cultures, develops your critical thinking and memory skills, and transforms you into a global citizen who is comfortable and confident wherever you are. For these reasons, learning another language not only helps your university studies, it also gives you transferable skills that are highly valued by employers. If you are interested in the unique culture of Japan, this module will equip with the basics of spoken Japanese and will introduce you to its fascinating writing system. You will also explore the topic of the growth in popularity of Japanese pop culture, and examine some of the reasons for this international cultural phenomenon.</p> <p>Beginner Level. See below for further information on level requirements.</p>
Student Workload	<p>The Japanese Language & Culture Elective will incorporate a blended delivery model. Each module will involve 100 hours of student work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 8 x 2-hour face-to-face classes (16 contact hours)- 84 hours of self-directed activities (Blackboard Collaborate Ultra webinars, online language and culture activities and practice, advance reading, online activities, assessment preparation).
Assessment Components	<p>50% continuous assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15% weekly language quizzes• 10% participation in online discussion board on the specific cultural themes addressed in the module• 25% weekly language reflection log, using the target language to reflect on language learning <p>50% Summative assessment, which asks students to examine the key cultural challenge identified in their module. This comprises an end-of-module presentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An oral pre-recorded and timed ‘Pecha Kucha’ style presentation uploaded to Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (25%)• The written script uploaded to Blackboard Learn (25%). <p>A ‘Pecha Kucha’ (or 20x20) presentation involves preparing 20 slides which appear for 20 seconds, accompanied by a narrative. Very much in the same family as presentation styles such as lightning talks or the ‘thesis in three’ format, Pecha Kucha is a rigid and fast-moving oral</p>

	<p>presentation format for individual learners which employs 20, mostly visual, slides which are shown for strictly 20 seconds each (6 minutes and 40 seconds in total). This format keeps presentations concise, fun and fast-moving. It has been described as a kind of visual haiku, a way to deliver a more striking or memorable talk rather than using more conventional presentation methods. Students are requested to present on any topic of their choice, using this visual slide format as their prompts. Pecha Kucha presentations can be delivered synchronously, live or via video calling applications, or asynchronously as a pre-recorded and timed slide/audio presentation which is then uploaded to Blackboard for assessment. In the preparation of a Pecha Kucha presentation, learners must select images and address issues of copyright, visibility etc., craft a script or story that maintains their listeners' attention, and manage the technical details of a timed and pre-recorded slide presentation. These are valuable transferable skills which are gained during the assessment preparation.</p>
<p>Indicative Reading List</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bauer, Laurie & Peter Trudgill. (1998). <i>Language Myths</i>. London: Penguin. • Hogan-Brun, Gabrielle (2017). <i>Linguanomics: The Market Potential of Multilingualism</i>. London: Bloomsbury Academic. • Pinker, Stephen. (2011). <i>Words and Rules: The Ingredients of Language</i>. New York: HarperCollins.
<p>Level Requirements</p>	<p>Please note that this Beginner module (A1 common European proficiency level) is suitable only for complete beginners without any prior linguistic knowledge. We require students to declare linguistic proficiency accurately, according to these guidelines. Applications will be screened following enrolment. If students enrol for a language module that does not match their proficiency then they will be allocated randomly to any Trinity Elective in which places are available.</p>