# UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
## College of Arts and Sciences
## Japanese Studies—Program Assessment Plan

## Program Goals and Outcomes

| Program Goals | Outcomes |
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| **1. With approximately 360 hours of formal language instruction (equivalent to six semesters of Japanese language courses at USF), Students will acquire basic proficiency in Japanese.**<br><br>**Defined: Students will be able to speak, to write, to read, and to listen in Japanese on basic topics, allowing for some grammatical and usage errors.** | **a) For speaking, students will exhibit the ability**<br>● **to speak Japanese with sufficient proficiency to travel in Japan (reserving accommodations, purchasing train tickets, asking directions, shopping, ordering food in a restaurant, etc.)**<br>● **to speak Japanese with sufficient proficiency to perform daily conversations and to converse about general-interest topics and basic Japanese customs.**<br>● **to deliver a speech in Japanese on Japanese culture.** |
| | **b) For writing, students will exhibit the ability**<br>● **to write hiragana and katakana by the end of First Semester Japanese, 300 kanji characters by the end of Fourth Semester, and an additional 100 kanji characters by the end of Advanced Japanese.**<br>● **to write about general-interest topics and basic Japanese customs in a short paragraph.**<br>● **to write an essay in Japanese on Japanese culture.** |
| | **c) For reading, students will exhibit the ability**<br>● **to read hiragana and katakana by the end of First Semester Japanese, 300 kanji characters by the end of Fourth Semester, and an additional 300 kanji characters by the end of Advanced Japanese.**<br>● **to comprehend dialogues and reading materials provided by a standard Japanese textbook.**<br>● **to read basic authentic texts like Japanese news clips, short essays, and internet information and to translate them with the aid of a dictionary.** |
| | **d) For listening, students will exhibit the ability**<br>● **to comprehend oral instruction or information in Japanese provided in the classroom.**<br>● **to grasp the main ideas uttered in speeches in Japanese.** |
| | **e) Students will exhibit the ability to produce well-formed Japanese sentences using basic grammatical patterns taught in the required language courses.** |
| | **f) Students will exhibit the ability to produce the block style of Japanese calligraphy and to write a haiku poem in** |

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| | **Japanese calligraphy on long scroll paper.** |
| **2. Students will acquire some basic knowledge of Japanese culture.**<br><br>**Defined: Students will be able to identify the central characteristics of Japanese traditional and contemporary culture, including Japanese society, arts, religions, and history, for the relevant periods.** | **a) Students will exhibit the ability to explain characteristics of traditional Japanese culture originating in the Edo period (1600-1868) or before, including Japanese society, arts, religion, or history.** |
| | **b) Students will exhibit the ability to explain characteristics of contemporary Japanese culture after the Meiji restoration (1868), including society, arts, religions, or history.** |
| | **c) Students will exhibit the ability to explain the connections and historical continuity between contemporary and traditional cultural practices and forms in Japanese society.** |
| | **d) Students will exhibit the ability to explain major themes of Japanese culture, including styles and forms of aesthetic expression, and the sociopolitical and historical factors affecting it, as taught in classes.** |
| | **e) Students will exhibit the ability to demonstrate competence in conducting research on a cultural topic of their choosing, synthesizing their findings, and conveying the results in clearly written and well-organized prose in English.** |
| **3. Students will be knowledgeable about Japanese literature.**<br><br>**Defined: Students will gain familiarity with some major Japanese literary works in English translation.** | **a) Students will exhibit the ability to outline the major features of Japanese literary development, including identifying significant authors, texts, and trends, during the traditional and modern periods.** |
| | **b) Students will exhibit the ability to analyze the themes and forms of literary works and their relationships to historical and literary contexts, and to appreciate the plurality of meanings within literary texts, including their ethical dimensions.** |
| | **c) Students will exhibit the ability to write concise and insightful English essays about Japanese literary works.** |
| **4. Students will be knowledgeable about Japanese linguistics.**<br><br>**Defined: Students will be able to identify linguistics fields (phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, sociolinguistics, etc.) and to understand aspects of the linguistic analysis of the Japanese language.** | **a) Students will exhibit the ability to identify unique aspects of the Japanese language, including such items as the history of its writing systems, its sound system, lexicon, morphological conjugations, compounds, syntactic structures, and sociolinguistic patterns.** |
| | **b) Students will exhibit the ability to explain the essential grammatical principles and cultural features of the Japanese language at a level sufficient to teach Japanese in secondary schools.** |