

Buddhist Japanese I HR8145

Course Level: Introductory

Instructor: Kurioka

This course introduces basics of Japanese grammar, vocabulary (the Buddhist terminology), *kana* and *kanji*, and dictionary work. First, we discuss the characteristics of Japanese grammar, and learn basic structure of the sentences. The sentences are all in Buddhist context. We will neither practice daily conversation, nor read popular Japanese literature.

Then, we will look at various types of sentences, which include simple and compound sentences. The texts are extracted from various publications on Buddhism; encyclopedias, books, papers, but they are simplified.

This class is offered Online, but we will have supplemental on site class meeting (TBA).

Course format: Online

Evaluation method: Homework assignment, discussion, quizzes, and Exam.

Required dictionaries and materials:

- Texts by the instructor will be distributed through Moodle site
- *A Dictionary of Basic Japanese Grammar*. S. Makino & M. Tsutsui. The Japan Times
- *The Learner's Japanese Kanji Dictionary*. Mark Spahn & Wolfgang Hadamitzky. Tuttle Publishing
- *Dictionary of Japanese Buddhist Terms*. Hisao Inagaki /P.G. O'Neill. Stone Bridge Press
- Japanese English dictionary. (Electric dictionary is useful, and at the beginning I recommend *Furigana Japanese-English Dictionary*. Kodansha International. Ideally have them both.)

Assignments: Reading assignments, online exercises, and homework will be given 3 times a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday) through the Moodle site. Students' responses are expected in timely manner.

Grading:

- Student's participation (homework and online discussions): 30% of grade
- Short quizzes: 20% of grade
- Midterm examination: 15%
- Final examination: 35% of grade

Midterm Examination: Translate one passage (one paragraph long).

Final Examination: Translate two unrelated paragraphs of simplified academic texts related to Buddhism.