



Tohoku International School

Secondary School Course Syllabus

2021-2022

Course Title: Japanese	Teacher: Ms. Eriko Yanagisawa Houlette Email: ehoulette@tisweb.net
Grade Level(s): Grades 9-10	Time Frame: 37 weeks
Course Description: This course is designed for students with diverse linguistic backgrounds, who have achieved a certain degree of independence in using Japanese to function in an environment where Japanese is spoken. The course is designed to foster the development of Japanese language skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking. During each unit, the students will be exploring global themes such as “ identity ”, “ sharing the planet ”, “ social organization ”, “ experience ” and “ human ingenuity ” through an inquiry based approach to learning. We will study literature as well as texts of various genres in Japanese, such as excerpts from Kokugo textbooks, newspaper articles, video clips and other relevant and authentic material. Assessments will take place through kanji quizzes, Tensei Jingo exercises, Yomiuri Shinbun exercises, analytical and creative writing, and presentations.	
Course Philosophy: The students will become... <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Knowledgeable - through exploring concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance.● Open-minded - as they understand and appreciate their own cultures and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities.● Communicators - as they understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in Japanese in a variety of modes of communication.● Risk-takers - as they approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies.● Responsible - by taking charge of their own learning and by interacting with their peers and the community members with empathy, compassion and respect to make a positive difference.	
Units of Study: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Poem: 見えないだけ Mure Reiko, 挨拶 Ishigaki Rin (Identity)● Analytical Essay: 生物が記録する科学ーバイオロギング Sato Katsufumi (Sharing the planet)● Gathering information: 多様な方法で情報を集めよう Shinichi Fukuoka (Social Organization)● Novelle: 世界で一番の贈り物 Michael Morpurgo (Experience)Essay: 枕草子 Sei Shonagon (Human ingenuity)● Media analysis: メディアと上手に付き合うために Ikegami Akira (Students choose the theme)● Non-fiction: 作られた「物語」を超えて Yamagiwa Juichi (Identity)● Novelle: 宮沢賢治短編集 から Miyazawa Kenji (Students choose the theme to be explored)● Exploration of Japanese Culture: Calligraphy, Craft, Cooking, etc.	
Grading policy: 65% - Coursework (Unit Tests, Worksheets, Analytical Writings, Creative Writings, Presentations, Cultural Projects) 10%- Kanji Quizzes, 10%- Tensei Jingo/Yomiuri Shinbun Exercises, 10%-Homework, 5 % - Study Skills	
Make-up work and late work: If a student misses class for any reason, it is the student’s responsibility to ask for and obtain the assignments from the teacher and to complete the missed assignments by the due date. You will lose 20% of your grade for late work. After 7 calendar days, the assignment will not be accepted.	

Tohoku International School:

A community of learners preparing for life in an evolving global society