

Goals across level I through IV align well with the Japanese language national standards and also leads to a foundation upon which to build should you choose to eventually sit for A. P exams in Japanese. The goals revolve around the 5 C's: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons and communities.

Japanese Level I Goals

1. to create a strong foundation of the Japanese language through the development of the four language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing.
2. to strengthen, in particular, students' conversational skills.
3. to deepen students' understanding of the Japanese people and culture through the study of the language and the many aspects of Japanese culture.
4. to encourage a rediscovery of the students' own language and culture through the study of Japanese language and culture.
5. to encourage the growth of culturally sensitive, globally aware, responsible world citizens.

Japanese Level II Goals

Goals remain the same as Level I. Students continue aiming at the same goals through homework assignments, classroom activities such as individual, group and presentational, assessment exercises and projects, students have ample opportunities to communicate in various modes and gain knowledge and understanding of Japanese culture by demonstrating their understanding of the practices, products, and perspectives of the Japanese.

Japanese Level III Goals

Goals remain the same as I and II. However, students frequently compare the nature of their own language and the Japanese language, as well as derive a better understanding of "culture" through comparison of their own culture and the culture of Japan. They are provided with ample tools and practice to enjoy and enrich their personal lives through Japanese.

Level IV Goals

The general goals align closely with the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning, as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

1. Students will effectively communicate in Japanese through interpersonal exchange of information, opinions and expressions of feelings and emotions.
2. Students will understand and interpret written and spoken Japanese on many topics related to contemporary life in Japan.
3. Students will present information, concepts and ideas to an audience of listeners or readers on many topics about contemporary life in Japan.
4. Students will demonstrate an understanding of culture by studying certain common Japanese practices, perspectives and products and how they relate to one another.
5. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the nature of language through comparison between the Japanese and English languages.
6. Students will participate in activities that will enable them to connect to other disciplines, access information through authentic sources and interact in multicultural settings.
7. theme of Level IV is "Japanese Soul." By questioning moral and ethical issues, and learning how the Japanese deal with such issues, students will be examining the intricacies of soul of the Japanese. Students will be also comparing values of the Japanese to their own.

AP Japanese Goals

It is comparable to college/university Japanese courses that represent the point at which students complete approximately 300 hours of college-level classroom instruction. Students develop the productive, receptive, and cultural skills necessary to communicate with native speakers of Japanese. Students' proficiency levels at the end of the course are expected to reach at least the Intermediate Low to Intermediate Mid range, as described in American Council on the Teaching of

Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Proficiency Guidelines. Students engage challenging topics while developing functional language skills and interpersonal skills. Students also develop more cognitively challenging functional language skills, including, but not limited to, the ability to compare phenomena, express opinions and preferences, and discuss life experiences. Students also employ appropriate register in the application of each of these skills, being familiar with desu/masu and da(plain) styles of Japanese and with Keigo, and use effective keyboarding skills.