



Where Education is a Passion...

Syllabus

Proposed Two Years Program – 2026-2027

Certification for Japanese Language and Literature

National Education Policy -2020

SWAMI VIVEKANAND SUBHARTI UNIVERSITY

(Established under U.P. Act no. 29 of 2008 and approved under Section 2 (f) of UGC Act 1956)

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMME

Offered by

Samrat Ashok Subharti School of Buddhist Studies

Certification and Diploma Courses of Japanese Language and Literature

Introduction

It is a rich field of research, as Japanese Buddhism, with its long historical path, various schools of doctrines, and variety of classical literature, can provide deep information about the development of Buddhist philosophy, practice, and culture in East Asia. The works of Japanese Buddhism, including both ancient translations of Chinese texts, and later native literature, form a central part of the Buddhist literature. An expert certification programme in Japanese language designed with Buddhist studies will provide the scholars with the linguistic and cultural capabilities to explore the rich Japanese Buddhist literature, both ancient and contemporary, and promote a more in-depth comprehension on the various traditions of Japanese Buddhism, such as Zen, Pure Land, Nichiren and Shingon. This project outlines a specialised qualification course in Japanese language, aimed at helping participants to achieve a high level of reading, interpretation and translation of Buddhist texts, at the same time of engaging them in the cultural, historical settings that have contributed towards shaping the Japanese Buddhism.

Objectives

To enhance the academic depth of Buddhist studies by incorporating Japanese language training, enabling students to:

1. **Access Primary Texts:** Many foundational Buddhist texts, commentaries, and scriptures are preserved in Japanese, especially those related to East Asian Buddhist traditions.
2. **Engage with Japanese Buddhist Thought:** Understanding Japanese will allow students to engage with the rich tradition of Japanese Buddhist Philosophy, history, and ritual practice.
3. **Conduct Research in Japanese:** Academic research in Japanese is crucial for accessing the latest scholarship in Buddhist Studies that is not always translated into other languages.
4. **Build Cross-Cultural Competency:** By studying the Japanese language, students will gain cultural insight into Japanese Buddhist practices and their role in contemporary society.

Programme Learning Outcomes

1. **Access to Primary Sources:** Many Buddhist texts including Zen Koans, hizohyoyaku, Pure Land Sutras, and writings by Japanese Buddhist monks, are in Japanese. Familiarity with the language allows direct access to these sources, fostering more accurate and nuanced interpretations.
2. **Enhanced Research:** The ability to read and understand Japanese will help students engage with the most current and comprehensive scholarship on Japanese Buddhism. Much of this scholarship is published in Japanese, making it vital for advanced search.
3. **Deeper Cultural understanding:** Learning Japanese deepen students' understanding of how Buddhism has evolved in Japan and how it continues to influence contemporary society. The language is integral to understanding the nuances of Japanese Buddhist rituals, arts, and philosophy.
4. **Academic and Career Opportunities:** Knowledge of Japanese can open doors to academic careers, particularly in East Asian Buddhist Studies, and provides an edge in international scholarship. It also prepares students to work in academic institutions, Buddhist centres, and cultural organizations.
5. **Cross-Disciplinary Approach:** Buddhist Art and Culture: Integration of Japanese language with studies in Buddhist art, ritual, and architecture, linking linguistic and cultural understanding to visual and material studies.
6. **Japanese Buddhist Modernism:** Analysis of how Buddhism has adapted to modern Japanese society and its global diaspora, involving language and contemporary cultural movements.

Instructions for Enrolling in the Certification Courses of Japanese Language

The courses run for One year for Basic Japanese language and literature in Buddhist Studies and splits into two semesters and One year for Diploma Japanese language and literature in Buddhist studies and splits into two semesters (required basic Japanese language).

Eligibility Criteria

A minimum qualification for enrolling into these courses is as follows:

Qualification	Marks	Category
10 +2	50%	GENERAL/OBC
10 +2	45%	SC/ST

- No prior Japanese language knowledge is required for enrollment in Certificate Course in Japanese Language and Literature in Buddhist Studies. However, required Basic Japanese language proficiency for Intermediate Japanese Language and Literature in Buddhist Studies.

Completion of the course for Japanese Language and Literature

This course will provide students with a strong interdisciplinary foundation in both Japanese language and Buddhist Culture, preparing them for academic exploration and career advancement. It can help the students for those interested in further studies in Japanese language, Buddhist Studies, and related fields, as well as for career opportunities in sectors that value Japanese language skills and cultural knowledge.

This course will serve as a foundation for those wishing to pursue advance studies in Japanese language, Buddhist Philosophy, literary Studies or religious studies. Students will be equipped with the necessary language skills and cultural insights to continue their studies in these fields.

Outcome

- ❖ Students will demonstrate basic proficiency in reading and writing Hiragana, Katakana, and approximately 100-150 Kanji. They will be able to read and comprehend simple texts in Japanese, including Buddhist scriptures and short stories related to Buddhist themes.
- ❖ Students will have a solid grasp of basic Japanese Grammar, including simple and compound sentences, verb conjugations, and polite forms. They will be able to form sentences that express daily conversations and basic discussions related to Buddhist practices and philosophy.
- ❖ Students will acquire essential vocabulary especially words and common phrases included Buddhist rituals, temples, and Japanese Culture, enabling them to understand basic Buddhist texts and participate in basic conversations in Japanese language.

Completion of the Course for Diploma Japanese Language and Literature

By the end of the course, students will have developed the linguistic skills and cultural knowledge to engage deeply with Japanese Buddhist texts and practices. They will have gained a profound understanding of the intersection between language, literature, and Buddhism in Japan and will be equipped to engage in critical discussions, research, and practical applications of their learning.

Outcome

1. Proficiency in Intermediate Japanese Language Skills

- ❖ **Reading and Writing:** Students will be able to read and write intermediate-level Japanese using a wider range of Kanji (approximately 300-500 characters) and hiragana/katakana. They will demonstrate the ability to comprehend moderately complex written texts, including literary works, Buddhist scriptures, and academic articles related to Buddhist Studies.
- ❖ **Grammar and Syntax:** Students will possess a solid understanding of intermediate Japanese Grammar, including the use of complex sentences structures, verb conjugations, and polite forms in both spoken and written Japanese.

- ❖ **Vocabulary Expansion:** Students will acquire an expanded vocabulary that includes both general Japanese and specialized terms related to Buddhist philosophy, temple rituals, Zen teachings, and Buddhist literature.
- ❖ **Cultural Fluency:** Students will gain deep understanding of the interconnection between language and culture in Japan, especially the influence of Buddhism on art, literature, daily life, and spiritual practices. They will be able to draw connections between the linguistic structures of Japanese and cultural values, particularly in the context of Zen Buddhism, and Mahayana teachings.

New Proposed Programme Structure

Certificate Course for Japanese Language and Literature

The One Year Course comprises into four papers, each evaluated for 75 marks in written examinations and 25 marks for internal assessment, with duration of 3 hours per paper.

Medium of Instruction: Japanese and English

Script: Hiragana, Katakana, Furigana & Roman; Kanji

Semester-wise Title of the Papers for Japanese Language and Literature

S.No.	Year	Course code	Course Name	Theory/ Practical	Credits						
		CJAP	Certificate Course in Japanese Language and Literature								
Semester 1											
Credit - 4				Max. Marks : 100				Min. Passing Marks : 40			
Total No. of Lectures – Tutorials – Practical (in hours per week) : 5-0-0											
				Credits	Attendance (5)	Internal Assessment		External Assessment	Total	Remarks	
						PPT /As sign men t (10)	Mid Sem Test (15)	End Sem Exam (70)			
1	CJAP 1	CJAP 101	Selected Texts I	4	5	10	15	70	100		
2	CJAP 1	CJAP 102	Grammar and Composition 1	4	5	10	15	70	100		
3	CJAP	CJAP 103	Introduction of Buddhism	4	5	10	15	70	100		
4	CJAP1	CJAP 104	Oral Tests	4	5	10	15	70	100		
Total Credits Assignment											
Semester : 2											
Credit - 4				Max. Marks : 100				Min. Passing Marks : 40			
Total No. of Lectures – Tutorials – Practical (in hours per week) : 5-0-0											
S.No.	Year	Course code	Course Name	Cre dits	Atte nda nce (5)	Internal Assessment		External Assessm ent	Tot al	Remark s	
						PPT/	Mid	End			

						Assi gnm ent (10)	Sem Test (15)	Sem Exam (70)		
1	CJAP 1	CJAP 201	Selected Texts II	4	5	10	15	70	100	
2	CJAP1	CJAP 202	Grammar and Composition	4	5	10	15	70	100	
3	CJAP 1	CJAP 203	History of Japanese Buddhism	4	5	10	15	70	100	
4	CJAP 1	CJAP 204	Oral Tests	4	5	10	15	70	100	
Total Credits Assignment										

The One Year Course comprises four papers, each evaluated for 75 marks in written examinations and 25 marks for internal assessment, with duration of 3 hours per paper.

Medium of Instruction: Japanese and English

Script: Hiragana, Katakana, Furigana & Roman

Semester-wise Title of the Papers for Diploma Japanese Language and Literature

Semester : 1

Credit - 4	Max. Marks : 100	Min. Passing Marks : 40
Total No. of Lectures – Tutorials – Practical (in hours per week) : 5-0-0		

S.No.	Year	Course code	Course Name	Cre dits	Atte nda nce (5)	Internal Assessment		External Assessm ent	Tot al	Remark s
	DJAP2	DJAP	Diploma in Japanese Language and Literature			PPT/ Assi gnm ent (10)	Mid Sem Test (15)	End Sem Exam (70)		
1	DJAP 2	DJAP 101	Introduction to Buddhist Texts and Key Concepts in Japanese Buddhism	4	5	10	15	70	100	
2	DJAP 2	DJAP 102	Japanese Grammar and Composition I	4	5	10	15	70	100	
3	DJAP 2	DJAP 103	Japanese Grammar and Composition II	4	5	10	15	70	100	
4	DJAP 2	DJAP 104	Oral Tests	4	5	10	15	70	100	
Total Credits Assignments										

Semester : II

Credit - 4	Max. Marks : 100	Min. Passing Marks : 40
Total No. of Lectures – Tutorials – Practical (in hours per week) : 5-0-0		

S.No.	Year	Course code	Course Name	Cre dits	Atte nda nce (5)	Internal Assessment		External Assessm ent	Tot al	Remark s
Theory and Practical Subject						PPT/ Assi	Mid Sem.	End Sem.		

						g n m e n t (10)	Test (15)	Exam (70)		
1	DJAP 2	DJAP 201	Introduction of Kanji (N1+N2)	4	5	10	15	70	100	
2	DJAP 2	DJAP 202	Introduction and Influence of Buddhism in Japanese Culture and Society	4	5	10	15	70	100	
3	DJAP 2	DJAP 203	Selective Composition	4	5	10	15	70	100	
4	DJAP 2	DJAP 204	Oral Tests	4	5	10	15	70	100	

Detailed Syllabus for Certificate Course in Japanese Language and Japanese Literature

Semester I

Paper –I : Selected Texts I

100 Marks

- | | |
|--|----|
| a) General Introduction to Basic Japanese Language and literature | 20 |
| b) Genki I | 20 |
| c) Japanese Buddhist Terminology (50 Buddhist Conceptual Terms) | 20 |
| d) Basic Translation of Japanese passage into English and vice-versa | 40 |

Paper –II : Grammar and Composition

100 Marks

- | | |
|---|----|
| a) Grammar Part I | 20 |
| b) Kanji 1 | 30 |
| c) Construction of Simple sentences in Japanese | 20 |
| d) Composition | 30 |

Paper –III: Introduction of Buddhism

100 Marks

- | | |
|--|----|
| a) Prominent Buddhist Pilgrimage in India | 20 |
| b) Buddhist Pilgrimage in Japan | 20 |
| c) Japanese School of Thoughts (Nara Period) | 30 |
| d) Selective Part of Translation Methods | 30 |

Paper –IV: Oral Test

100 Marks

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| a) Text Reading | 20 |
| b) Dictation | 20 |
| c) Conversation | 20 |
| d) Question answer based on textbook | 20 |
| e) Consult Dictionary | 20 |

References

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- Banno, Eri, et al. *Genki 1: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese*, The Japan Times, 2011.

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Semester II

Paper –I : Selected Texts II	100 Marks
a) Genki I	20
b) Question answer based on textbook	20
c) Japanese Buddhist Terminology (50 Buddhist Conceptual Terms)	20
d) Basic Translation of Japanese passage into English and vice-verse	40
Paper –II : Grammar and Composition	100 Marks
a) Grammar Part 2	20
b) Kanji 2	30
c) Construction of Simple sentences in Japanese	20
d) Composition 2	30
Paper –III : History of Japanese Buddhism	100 Marks
a) Concept of Five Dhyani Buddha	20
b) Buddhism in Heian period	20
c) Buddhism in Kamakura period	20
d) Relevance of Jodo sect and Jodo Shinshu in Modern era	20
e) Ideal of Bodhisattvas in Mahayana Buddhism	20

Paper –IV : Oral Tests**100 Marks**

a) Text Reading	20
b) Dictation	20
c) Conversation	20
d) Question answer based on textbook	20
e) Consult Dictionary	20

References

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Detailed Syllabus for Diploma Japanese Language and Literature

Semester I

Paper –I : Introduction to Buddhist Texts and Key Concepts in Japanese Buddhism 100 Marks

- a) Short Answer Questions (5 marks for each term: 10 terms x 5 marks) 50
- i) Karma ii) Nirvana iii) Samsara iv) Bodhisattva v) Satori vi) Zazen
vii) Shingon viii) Jodo Shinshu ix) Sunyata (Ku) x) Hoben
- b) Reading Comprehension of Buddhist Texts (Selected portion) 50
a) Selected portion of the translation methods

Paper –II: Japanese Grammar and Composition I 100 Marks

- a) Genki II 20
b) Kanji 2 30
c) Sentences in Japanese 20
d) Reading Comprehension 30

Paper –III: Japanese Grammar and Composition II 100 Marks

- a) Describing the Past and Talking about experience 10
b) Talking About Giving and Receiving 10
c) Talking About Your Hobbies 10
d) Giving Instructions and Suggestions 10
e) Talking About Things You Want to Do 10
f) Making Comparisons 10
g) Making Expressions 10
h) Giving Opinions and Making Decisions 10
i) Talking About Future Plans 10
j) Expressing a Wish or Desire 10

Paper –IV : Oral Tests 100 Marks

- a) Text Reading 20
b) Dictation 20
c) Conversation 20
d) Question answer based on textbook 20
e) Consult Dictionary 20

References

- Banno, Eri, et al. *Genki 2: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese*, The Japan Times, 2011.
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Semester II

Paper – I: Introduction of Kanji (N1-N2)

100 Marks

- N1-The highest level, requiring mastery of about 1136 kanji for understanding Japanese used in a wide range of scenarios
- N2- A bridge level, covering around 380 kanji for more complex, everyday situations.

Paper –II: Introduction and Influence of Buddhism in Japanese Culture and Society

100 Marks

- a) Definition of Buddhism 20
- b) Origins of Buddhism in India, and its spread to Japan 20
- c) Historical Context of Buddhism's Introduction to Japan 20
- d) Growth and Spread of Buddhism in Japan 20
- e) Buddhism's Influence on Japanese Art and Architecture 20

Paper –III: Selective Composition

100 Marks

- a) Review of Basic Kanji and Introduction to Intermediate Kanji 10
- b) Kanji Stroke Order and Writing Practice 10
- c) Intermediate Kanji Reading & Meaning Recognition 20
- e) Intermediate Kanji Vocabulary Building 20
- f) Kanji in Context: Short Reading Comprehension 20
- g) Kanji Grammar and Sentence Structure 10
- h) Kanji in Real-Life Contexts 10

Paper –IV: Oral Tests

100 Marks

- a) Text Reading 20
- b) Dictation 20
- c) Conversation 20
- d) Question answer based on textbook 20
- e) Consult Dictionary 20

References

- Brown, J.R., *The Kodansha Kanji Learner's Dictionary: Revised and expanded edition*, Kondansha International, 2011.
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