

Assumption University
Theodore Maria School of Arts
Department of Japanese for International Business
Course Outline 1/2026

Course No.:	JIB3758 Japanese Short Stories
Credit:	3
Status:	Business Language Elective course
Pre-requisite:	JA2702 Japanese III
Lecturer:	Dr. Siriwan Preechanarit (Office: SM223)

Course Description:

Selected Japanese short stories from renowned Japanese authors and the reflection of society and culture through stories.

Objectives of the Course:

1. To understand Japanese language, culture, and literary elements through short stories.
2. To develop Japanese reading, discussion, and communication skills.
3. To enhance critical thinking and literary analysis skills.
4. To encourage appreciation of Japanese literature and cultural.
5. To improve presentation and independent learning skills through literary activities.

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain basic language, literary, and culture concepts in Japanese short stories.
2. Analyze themes, characters, and cultural values in Japanese short stories.
3. Demonstrate independent learning through literary reading and research.
4. Apply critical thinking in interpreting and discussing Japanese short stories.
5. Present opinions and analyses of Japanese short stories effectively in Japanese or English.

Teaching and Learning Activities:

1. Lectures
2. Discussions about the topics
3. Presentations
4. Term project

Course Requirements:

1. 80% of class attendance is required.
2. Make-up assignments or presentations will not be allowed.
3. AU dress code is required.

Mark Allocation:

Class Participation and Attendance	10 %
In-class assignments & Discussion	20 %
Presentations	20 %
Term project	30 %
<u>Midterm examination</u>	<u>20 %</u>
Total	100 %

Grading System:	850 – 1000	=	A	690 – 719	=	C+
	820 – 849	=	A-	650 – 689	=	C
	790 – 819	=	B+	620 – 649	=	C-
	750 – 789	=	B	520 – 619	=	D
	720 – 749	=	B-	0 – 519	=	F

Textbooks / References:

1. 『まんが日本昔ばなし』1997
2. 『ビジュアルカラー国語便覧』2015
3. 『Japanese Stories for Language Learners』2018
4. 『宮沢賢治短編集』1996
4. 『図説 5分でわかる日本の名作』2004
6. 青空文庫 Aozora Bunko <https://www.aozora.gr.jp>
7. NPO 多言語多読 <https://tadoku.org>

Study Plan and Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Activities / Focus
1	June 5	Class Orientation Introduction to Japanese Literature and Short Stories	Overview of Japanese literary history, genres, storytelling traditions, literary vocabulary
2	June 10, 12	Japanese Folktales and Traditional Values <i>The Bamboo Cutter</i> (竹取物語) <i>The Inch-High Samurai</i> (一寸法師)	Reading and discussion of folklore, cultural values, moral lessons
3	June 17, 19	Japanese Folktale and Supernatural Stories <i>Snow Woman</i> (雪女)	Discussion: fear, nature, and traditional beliefs

4	June 24, 26	<i>Children's Literature and Moral Lessons</i>	Miyazawa Kenji
5	July 1, 3	Friendship, Trust, and Humanity	Dazai Osamu
6	July 8, 10	Buddhism and Human Nature	Akutagawa Ryūnosuke
7	July 15, 17	Psychological Realism and Multiple Perspectives	Akutagawa Ryūnosuke
8	July 22, 24	Midterm Review and Student Presentations	Group presentations and discussion activities
Midterm Examination: August 10, 2026 15:00-17:00			
9	Aug. 14	Children's Literature and Emotions	Ogawa Mimei
10	Aug. 19, 21	Women Writers and Society	Higuchi Ichiyō
11	Aug. 26, 28	Tradition vs. Modernity	Kawabata Yasunari
12	Sep. 2, 4	Contemporary Japanese Life and Identity	Murakami Haruki
13	Sep. 9, 11	Youth Culture and Family Relationships	Yoshimoto Banana
14	Sep.16, 18	Modern Society and Individuality	Murata Sayaka
15	Sep. 23, 25	Final Project Presentations and Course Wrap-up	Final presentations, reflection, and course review

August 12, 2026: H.M. Queen Sirikit's Birthday and National Mother's Day (no class)

September 18, 2026: Last day to withdraw with "W"

Au VISION 2000

Assumption University of Thailand envisions itself as:

- an international community of scholars,
- enlivened by Christian inspiration,
- engaged in the pursuit of Truth and Knowledge,
- serving human society, especially through the creative use of interdisciplinary approaches and cyber technology.

ENVISIONING Au GRADUATES

Assumption University of Thailand envisions its graduates as:

- healthy and open-minded persons, characterized by personal integrity, an independent mind, and positive thinking,
- professionally competent, willing to exercise responsible leadership for economic progress in a just society,
- able to communicate effectively with people from other nations and to participate in globalization.

AU MISSION

Assumption University, an International Catholic University, is committed to be the light that leads learners and its stakeholders from all parts of the world towards wisdom, Truth, and Christian values and to discover “Treasure Within” themselves. Via effective teaching and research pedagogies of international standards as well as community engagement, the University aims to form individuals to be intellectually competent, morally sound, and spiritually enriching, accountable, righteous, and service-minded citizens; excelling in serving communities comprising of diverse cultures.

Au UNIQUENESS

“An International Catholic University”

Au IDENTITY

- Ethics
- English Proficiency
- Entrepreneurial Spirit

THEODORE MARIA SCHOOL OF ARTS

(www.arts.au.edu)

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

An international community of business communicators in Thailand

Mission

Theodore Maria School of Arts will ensure that: the School will...

1. Enhance business language skills
2. Promote cultural awareness
3. Foster academic networking
4. Encourage ethical standards and practices

TAGLINE

เติมเต็มศิลป์ภาษา พัฒนาศาสตร์ธุรกิจ

Language Education, Business Inspiration

ARTS ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE: More than faculty, we are family

- Open communication
- Mentoring system
- Dedication
- Caring
- Teamwork
- Commitment
- Resource sharing

Core Values

A = Adaptability

R = Responsibility

T = Togetherness

S = Sustainability

Core Competencies

Employability
Multiculturalism
Internationalization

Quality Assurance Process

Students should understand and apply the Quality Assurance Process in their study. The Plan-Do-Check-Act Cycle (PDCA) provides an easy but effective approach for problem solving and managing change, ensuring that ideas are appropriately tested before the full implementation. It can be used in all sorts of situations and can be clarified as follows:

Plan: Define the current problem, process, and issue and establish objectives and processes required to deliver the desired results.

Do: Implement the plans and new processes developed.

Check: Monitor and evaluate the implemented process by testing the results against the predetermined objectives.

Act: Apply actions necessary for improvement if the results require changes.

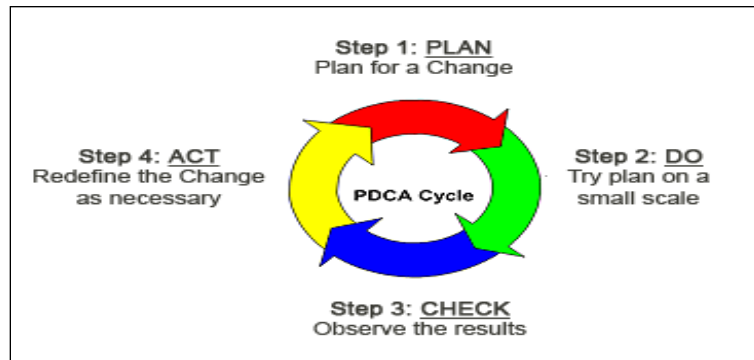


Figure 1: PDCA Cycle (<http://www.swopehealth.org>)

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious academic offence, a serious breach of ethical conduct and is unacceptable student behavior. Students who plagiarize copying words or ideas without acknowledging the original writer of the words or ideas, will face disciplinary action. This will range from receiving an "F" in the subject to university suspension.