Welcome to Japanese at Leeds!

Firstly, we would like to congratulate you on achieving your place at the University of Leeds, and introduce ourselves. My name is Prof. Mark Williams and I am Director of East Asian Studies in the School of Languages, Cultures and Societies, and Dr Irena Hayter is Programme Manager for Japanese. We look forward to meeting you when you arrive in Leeds.

We are here to help you when you first arrive. If you need any help, you can contact our Student Support Office, G27 Michael Sadler Building, phone 0113 343 3669 or email lcastudentoffice@leeds.ac.uk. The student support office is open 9am-4.45pm Monday to Friday.

IntroWeek Meetings

The week commencing Monday 19th September, known as IntroWeek or Freshers' Week, is a very important time and you should aim to be in Leeds for the whole of it. You will have a School welcome meeting on Monday 19th September at 10am, 12 noon or 2pm in the Rupert Beckett Lecture Theatre in the Michael Sadler Building (whichever is most convenient for you).

You will also have subject meetings. Your first meeting for Japanese will be on Monday 19th September at 3pm in Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre 16. If you are studying a joint honours programme you will also have another meeting for your second subject (see the "go" website for details). Finally, you will also have a Japanese language meeting on Friday 23rd September at 12pm in Roger Stevens Lecture Theatre 4.

Getting Started

There are some language worksheets on the "go" website to help you get started with Japanese. If you have prior knowledge of Japanese (e.g. GCSE or A Level), you will need to sit a language placement test on Monday 19th September at 1pm in Michael Sadler Building LG10, which will help us to assess your current level of Japanese and place you in an appropriate language group.

To do some preparation for your studies modules, you are recommended to dip into some of the suggested readings provided on the 'East Asian Studies Useful Reading' list on the "go" website.

'Flying Start'

Hints and tips from members of staff and students in EAST about matters such as how to become an independent learner, and links to further study resources, will be made available to you over the next few weeks on the Flying Start website: http://flyingstart.leeds.ac.uk/east-asian-studies/

Welcome Pack

You will shortly receive (or may have already received) a Welcome Pack from the University. Please study this carefully. It contains very important information about registration, payment of fees, how to obtain your University email address, and much more. Registration is done online, and you are strongly advised to do this before you arrive in Leeds for Intro Week. Full instructions are given in the Welcome Pack, but you can also find further details at www.leeds.ac.uk/studentguide.

Discovery Modules

As part of your program you may have the opportunity to take modules outside of your main area of study. These are called Discovery Modules (formally Electives) and they are grouped within ten different Discovery Themes. Within the School you can take modules to learn a new language, study world cinemas, learn about a different culture or understand more about linguistics. Around the University, you could take a careers module to develop your CV, learn a new skill to enhance your employability, study a new subject area you haven’t tried before, or continue a subject you studied at school.

Finally

We are all looking forward to welcoming you in September. Please do not hesitate to contact us or the student support office if you need further information.

Prof. Mark Williams  
Director of East Asian Studies

Dr Irena Hayter  
Programme Manager, Japanese