



Foreign Language Classes Under the COVID-19 Pandemic

Right before the 2020 fiscal year language classes started, a state of emergency was announced, and the April classes were postponed for one month. A month later the spread of COVID-19 infection was larger and the classes were postponed again. Even after the state of emergency was over there were some restrictions about the use of classrooms and considering the safety of the instructors and the students, we decided to cancel all classes scheduled for the first half of the year. Finally, in October 2020, we were able to start classes with a half of the capacity and shorter class period of 60 minutes instead of 90 minutes. Due to the small class size, we regret that about 80 originally registered students were not able to take classes. To avoid COVID-19 infection in classes we conducted body temperature checks and hand sanitization before each class. During the class, everyone was wearing a mask and keeping social distance from each other, and we made sure to ventilate the room properly. It was hard to give classes in such unprecedented manner, but thanks to the cooperation of the instructors and students, we happily and safely completed the latter half of the 2020 classes.

April of this year we were able to start 25 English, Korean, Chinese and Spanish language classes in Kashiwa and Kashiwanoha. Though the class capacity remained the same, the class period was back to 90 minutes, and now all classes are filled with vibrant energy. We will continue to provide proper infection control measures for the enthusiastic instructors and for the earnest students.

Introducing Some Foreign Language Instructors

Ms. Kim Jinam (Korean - Beginning A, Intermediate B)



Ms. Kim is a cheerful and exuberant instructor. Her students appreciate her highly for not only teaching grammar clearly but also talking about Korean culture. Her classes are always fun and friendly, and every student participates eagerly.

Ms. Tang Xiao Mei (Kashiwanoha Chinese - Beginning)



Ms. Tang (front row 2nd from left) with her students.

Ms. Tang is from Xian, China. Since her mother was a Chinese/Japanese interpreter, she was familiar with Japanese and she used to sing Japanese songs when she was a little girl. After graduating from Xian Foreign Language University with a degree in Japanese, she followed her husband to Kashiwa in 1994.

She has been a foreign resident counselor and an interpreter for the city of Kashiwa as well as being a veteran Chinese language instructor. She wants students to experience "fun of learning and joy of speaking Chinese" in her class. Besides textbook, she encourages students to speak freely, to read and memorize Chinese poems and to learn current affairs.

Ms. Park Junhee (Korean - Introduction A)



Ms. Park always begins her class by saying "Annyeong haseyo" (hello in Korean) with a big smile. She is fluent in Japanese and her students say, "Her teaching is easy to understand and she makes me want to take more classes" and "She corrects my mistakes gently." She also tells students about Korean history and gives information about Korean youth.

JULY Events

Japanese Shonan Classes

Classes

Online Classes

Thurs	10:00 - 11:30	Intermediate I Japanese Intermediate and up
Sun	10:00 - 11:30	Beginning II, Intermediate I

In Person Classes

Thurs	10:00 - 12:00	Intermediate I at Shonan Community Center
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****Summer Break****
July 15 (Thurs) to August 29 (Sun)



Online Japanese Kashiwa Classes

Classes

Online Japanese Kashiwa Classes

Tue	10:00 - 11:30	Japanese for all Beginning I (2nd half)
Wed	10:00 - 11:30	Japanese Intermediate and up
Wed	19:00 - 20:30	Japanese for all Beginning I (1st half)
Thurs	10:00 - 11:30	Beginning Conversation I (Beginner, Beginning 1)
Thurs	13:00 - 14:30	Beginning Conversation 2 (Beginning 2)
Fri	19:00 - 20:30	Japanese for all Beginning II
Sat	9:30 - 11:20	Intermediate Conversation

****Summer Break****
July 18 (Sun) to August 31 (Tue)

Free legal advice and administrative procedure support for foreign residents

Lawyers and administrative procedure specialists will be available to help foreign residents with legal questions and documents. Any questions or problems are all right, such as visa, domestic violence, divorce, or trouble at the workplace. Please register beforehand.

Date and Time: July 28 (Wed) 13:00 - 17:00
Place: Palette Kashiwa A
Reservation: KCC (Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center) Office

Information about COVID-19 for foreign residents

Available in multiple languages

<https://www.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld-blog/100/>



Kashiwa information delivery service

Sign up to receive email announcements from the city, such as information about earthquakes, fires, crime, and infectious disease outbreaks in the language of your choice. Send a blank email to this address to register.



Also, please read Kashiwa City Magazine.



2nd KCC Food Bank

We will provide free food for foreign residents in Kashiwa who are experiencing hard times.
(The event is over when all food is given. It may be over before the scheduled period.)

Date and time: July 25 (Sun) 9:30am - 12:00noon
Place: Palette Kashiwa Meeting Room G - Please call KCC (04-7157-0281)

Announcement from other organizations

"Online Study Meeting" for KIRA members

Date and Time: Thursday, July 15, 2021 8:00pm - 9:10pm
Study Title: "Talk effectively online" **Lecturer:** Ms. Kumiko Yamaguchi (ITC Japan)
Fee: Free **Capacity:** 25
Apply by: Send your name and phone number to boshu-1@kira-kira.jp
We will provide you with necessary class information.

Questions?
Please contact the office of
Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center (KCC)

Tel: 04-7157-0281 Fax: 04-7165-7321
Hours: 8:30 - 17:15
Closed on Sundays and national holidays