

This message is from Robert Croker, the Academic Program Director of the Center for Japanese Studies (CJS) at Nanzan University.

For the 2021 Spring Semester, at this point it is expected that CJS classes will be offered again in an online format, due to continuing concerns with COVID-19. The health, safety and well-being of students, faculty and staff are our first priority.

However, we will endeavour to give every student the best possible study abroad experience. All six levels of Japanese Language Courses (Japanese I~VI) will be offered, along with most Japanese Seminar Courses and Japanese Area Studies Courses, so students can enrol in a sufficient number of classes to be able to take at least 14 credits, the minimum number of credits necessary to maintain full-time student status in the CJS. As usual, Japanese Language and Seminar Courses will have small class sizes of less than 15 students, so students will receive a lot of individual instruction and attention from their instructors.

For every 2021 Spring Semester student, the CJS will seek to create an environment where all students can experience Japan and interact with Japanese students virtually. Through the Language Buddy system, all CJS students can enjoy language exchange with local students. Also, every class day the Japanese Teaching Assistants in the Japan Plaza, our Japanese language support center, are available to help you with your assignments and to practice conversation in Japanese.

Note: About entry into Japan, the Government of Japan announced new measures on September 25<sup>th</sup> that make it possible but somewhat difficult for international students to enter Japan. The CJS is carefully considering this issue and plans to make a final decision by October 20<sup>th</sup>. Please wait until then for a further announcement. At this point, students who do come to Japan will still take their classes online. Also, all CJS students will stay in university arranged dormitories; the homestay program will not be offered, to protect the health of students as well as homestay families.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the CJS Office.

Your sincerely,

Robert Croker  
Academic Program Director  
Nanzan University