Meeting Time & Location: MWF 12:30 – 1:20 Moore Hall 253
Instructor: Yumiko Tateyama (Moore 356 tel: 956-8031 e-mail: yumiko@hawaii.edu)
Office hours: Mon & Wed 1:30 – 2:20 and by appointment

Course Description
This course is designed to develop the skills necessary to read Japanese newspapers and magazines. It will help the student to expand the grammatical and lexical knowledge acquired in regular Japanese skills courses and become familiar with specialized terms, as well as syntactic, discourse and pragmatic patterns characteristic of such texts. The course also encourages students to expand their interests in various fields, including current political, social, and cultural issues about Japan. Students are expected to express and share their thoughts in Japanese during class discussion. Students are also expected to present articles of their choice after conducting background research. The class meets three times a week and will be conducted primarily in Japanese. Regular attendance and full preparation for class are expected.

Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of Japanese 402 or consent.

Student Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the course, students will:
1. Be able to read articles on a range of topics that appear in newspapers and magazines within a reasonable amount of time with accurate comprehension;
2. Be able to identify commonly used specialized terms that appear in the articles;
3. Become familiar with syntactic, discourse and pragmatic patterns characteristic of texts that appear in newspapers and magazines;
4. Be able to understand the argumentative structure in expository articles, as well as the author’s perspective in opinion pieces;
5. Be able to provide a summary of and a reaction to the article read;
6. Be able to use strategies such as skimming and scanning for fast reading;
7. Further develop your knowledge of kanji compound vocabulary commonly used in the news media that comprises approximately 2,000 individual kanji characters;
8. Be able to effectively use various Japanese language resources, including paper and electronic dictionaries and online resources;
9. Be able to conduct research and present findings in Japanese.

Required Textbook
Course materials will be provided by the instructor. Files will be uploaded to the course website on Laulima. You will be notified via e-mail when a new file is uploaded so please check your e-mail on a regular basis. You are expected to bring your own copy to class.

Course Requirements
1) Regular attendance is required. Because class discussions comprise an important portion of the course, unexcused absences and tardies will negatively affect your course grade.
2) Preparation for class and prompt completion of homework assignments are required. Students should be fully prepared to:
(a) Read the text with reasonable fluency and accuracy;
(b) Demonstrate an understanding of the text by answering comprehension questions;
(c) Present a summary of, or reaction to, the reading when assigned. Any written assignment that appears to have been done thoughtlessly or carelessly will be returned unchecked and no credit will be given. All written assignments must be double-spaced. Late assignments will NOT be accepted unless you have a valid, documented excuse. The same applies to make-up quizzes.

3) Mini quizzes will be given at the beginning of the class period. Tardy students cannot take mini quizzes or make-up mini quizzes, unless a valid documented excuse is submitted to the instructor.

7) Students are required to complete a midterm and a final project and present them in class. (Guidelines will be provided later.)

Grading: Final course grades will be based on the results of the following:

Class participation & Homework ................................................. 10%
3 Tests ................................................................. 25%
Midterm Exam ............................................................ 15%
Final Exam ................................................................. 25%
Midterm presentation ......................................................... 5%
Final presentation ........................................................... 10%
Mini quizzes ................................................................. 10%

A+ =97~100%    B+ =87~89%    C+ =77~79%    D=60~69%    CR = at least 73%
A  =93~96%    B  =83~86%    C  =73~76%    F=below 60%    NC=below 73%
A- =90~92%    B- =80~82%    C- =70~72%

A student who is taking Japanese 402 as prerequisite for a higher-level course must earn at least a C. CR=C or better.

FYI: Useful on-line dictionaries
http://language.tiu.ac.jp
http://www.alc.co.jp/
http://dictionary.goo.ne.jp/
http://jisho.org/

For assistance with physical and/or learning disabilities, please contact the KOKUA Program, Student Services Center, Room 013, 956-7511.

Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, will not be tolerated in the course. Please refer to the University of Hawaii at Manoa Student Conduct Code (p. 15)
(http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/downloads/conduct_code/UHM_Student_Conduct_Code.pdf)

*Please turn off your cell phones during class.
*Eating and drinking should be done either before or after class.
*In case of an emergency, follow the university directions and use your own judgment to minimize the impact on your safety.