

JPT 3500 Japanese Culture Fall 2016

T 5 (11:45-12:35), R 5-6 (11:45-12:35; 12:50-1:40)
Matherly 0108

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Office Hours: T3-4 (9:35-11:30), W5 (11:45-12:35), and by appointment

Course's Objectives

This course aims to develop students' understanding of Japanese history and culture and to cultivate students' cultural sensitivities. The course can be divided into two parts. The first part follows Japanese history chronologically, from the beginning through the post-war period, exposing students to a variety of texts and artifacts. The second part considers different aspects of modern and contemporary Japan, focusing on a different topic for each class, in order to develop a multidimensional understanding of Japanese culture. The two parts are closely connected with each other: The course will revisit the topics and themes we learn in the first part of the class as they relate to the aspects of modern Japanese culture in the second part. Students will not only learn specific aspects of Japanese history and culture, but also will cultivate skills to observe and analyze primary materials, form ideas that go beyond first impressions, and constructively discuss issues with classmates.

Required Textbooks

Hane, Mikiso. 1991. *Premodern Japan: A Historical Survey*. Boulder, Colorado: Westview Press.

Sugimoto, Yoshio, ed. 2009. *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Japanese Culture*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

The textbooks are available at the University's Bookstore. All other readings will be posted on the course website (e-learning; Canvas).

Assignments and Exams

1. Group Presentation (15%)

In teams of 2-3 members, you will give a 15-20 minute presentation on one or more of the assigned readings. Your presentation should provide a close focus on one or more aspects of the events, phenomena, and/or individuals highlighted in the readings. Provide background information, and new information, as appropriate, along with your own interpretation of the material. The presentation should be supported by visual images (artworks, photos, diagrams) and film clips, as appropriate. Sign up for a topic/presentation date online, by visiting “People” → “Group Presentation” in Canvas.

2. Pop Quizzes (15%)

There will be ten pop quizzes on the assigned readings occurring at the beginning of the class on random days. Your eight best scores will be counted towards your final grade. No make-up is allowed unless you have a legitimate reason for absence/lateness supported by written documentation such as a doctor's note.

3. Three Essays (40%; 10% +15% +15%)

- Three analytical papers will be assigned for this class. The deadlines are specified in the “Class Schedule” section below. The first and the third papers provide students with the opportunity to take a deeper look at the assigned readings discussed in previous classes. The second essay is an analytical essay on Japanese art piece at the Harn Museum of Art.
- The length requirements are 1500 words for the first and the third essays, and 1000 words for the second essay, excluding heading, title, header and footer, footnotes, and references. (An essay meets the length requirement if its word count is not less than 90% and not more than 110% of the target word count.)
- All three essays should be submitted as a hard copy and a digital copy. The hard copy should be submitted at the beginning of class on the due dates. The digital copy should be submitted in MSWord or PDF format to “Assignments” in E-learning (Canvas) by the due date.
- Please make sure to finish the essay early enough so that you will be able to accommodate any emergency at the last minute, such as an internet outage, printer malfunction, etc.
- Any sources that you cite or refer to should be listed on a separate “references” page with full bibliographic information provided. Document sources of information in the paper itself by last name plus year of publication followed by a page number (e.g., “Tabuchi 2012: 112”). Follow the Chicago Manual of Style for the bibliographies (list of references), or use another style as long as you use it consistently.
- Use 12-point font Times New Roman, 1” margins, and double space.
- More details for each essay and a rubric will be provided separately.
- Late submission of essay will be penalized by a **10% point reduction up to the first 24 hours**, a 20% point reduction from 24-48 hours late, etc., unless you have a legitimate reason for lateness supported by a written document, such as a doctor’s note. In such cases, consult with the instructor IN ADVANCE of the deadline.

3. Two Exams (30%; 15% each)

There are two in-class exams on Tuesday, 10/4/16 and Tuesday, 11/1/16. The first exam covers all material up to 9/22, and the second exam covers all material from 9/27 to 10/27. The exams contain a variety of question types (multiple choice, true/false, short answers, fill-in-the-blank, essay).

No make-up will be provided, unless prior notification to the instructor via e-mail or phone and written documentation of illness or family emergency is provided. Consult with instructor to schedule the make-up exam.

Grading Scale:

A	93% and above	A-	90% and above		
B+	87% and above	B	83% and above	B-	80% and above
C+	77% and above	C	73% and above	C-	70% and above
D+	67% and above	D	63% and above	D-	60% and above
E	Less than 60%				

Other Requirements and Important Notes

Policies and Expectations

1. Attendance and Participation:

Class sessions will combine lectures, discussions, media, and presentations. Your attendance and active participation is essential to the success of the course, and to your grade. Read the assigned texts carefully ahead of time, and be prepared to discuss them. Engage in active reading. Mark the texts and/or take notes as necessary. Discussion questions will be provided before each session.

Two unexcused absences are permitted without penalty. Beyond that, 1% will be deducted from the final grade unless you have a legitimate reason supported by written documentation such as a doctor's note. Arriving to class late or leaving class early (before the class is dismissed) without a legitimate reason on two occasions will be counted as one unexcused absence. You are responsible for catching up with the content and assignments for missed classes, excused or unexcused.

Please refer to <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx#absences> for the university policy on attendance.

2. Use of electronic devices:

Please set your phones to silent mode (no vibration, either) or turn them off during the class. You may use e-readers and laptops for in-class activities, such as reading and taking notes. If you use your electronic devices for non-class-related activities, such as browsing the internet, texting, etc., **that class will be counted an unexcused absence, and you will be banned from using electronic devices for the rest of the semester.**

3. Academic Honesty:

Academic honesty and integrity are a fundamental part of university education. Academic dishonesty of any kind will not be tolerated. All of your assignments and exams must be a result of your own honest and original effort. All sources of information, including print, digital, and verbal, must be

acknowledged, and properly cited. For more on academic honesty, please refer to <https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Some Common Issues:

- * The **words** of another person copied verbatim should be placed in quotation marks and accompanied by an appropriate citation.
- * The **ideas** of another person, even if expressed with your own entirely new wording, should be properly acknowledged and accompanied by an appropriate citation.
- * **NEVER** copy the words of another person, change a few words or phrases here and there, and present it as your own work.

4. **Special Accommodations:** Please let me know about any questions or concerns regarding submission of assignments, testing, or other class requirements. You are welcome to visit me during my office hours, speak to me after class, or contact me via phone or email. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

GEN ED

- a. **Gordon Rule:** This course satisfies Gordon Rule 4 (4000 words) for writing requirements by means of three essays. **The total words in all papers should amount to 4000 words.** You must get **C or higher for each essay** in order to receive a writing credit.
- b. This course counts as **Humanities (H)** and **International (N)**.

Class Schedule

※**All of the readings are required.**

※**All the readings marked CR are available online.**

※**May be adjusted as the semester proceeds. Updates will be provided as necessary.**

Japan's Beginnings

1. 8/23 T Introduction and Orientation
2. 8/25 R (2) Japan: What, Where, and When?
 - Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapters 1 and 3.
3. 8/30 T Prehistoric Japan
 - Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 1-26.
 - Varley, *Japanese Culture*, Chapter 1. CR

Yamato Kings to the Court (530-794)

4. 9/1 R (2) Myth and Songs
 - Selected Readings from *Record of Ancient Matters*. CR
 - “Japan in the Chinese Dynastic Histories.” CR
 - Selected Readings from *Songs of the Myriad Leaves*. CR
 - Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 27-56.
5. 9/6 T Special Session: Japanese Education [Shimane University Students' Class Visit]
 - Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapter 5.

In-class discussion with Shimane University's students.

6. 9/8 R (2) **Aristocrats and the Court Culture (794-1150)**
 - Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 57-86.
 - Selections from Sei Shonagon, *The Pillow Book*. CR
 - Tsunoda, *et. al.*, “The Vocabulary of Japanese Aesthetics I.” CR

Group Presentation #1: *The Pillow Book*

7. 9/13 T State and Religion
 - Coaldrake, “The Grand Shrines of Ise and Izumo,” CR
 - Muju Ichien, “Shinto-Buddhist Syncretism.” CR
 - Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapter 8.

Group Presentation #2 Religious Culture

Samurai, Salvation, and Warring States (1150-1600)

8. 9/15 R (2) Warrior and Recluse
 - Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 87-118.
 - Selected Readings from *The Tales of the Heike*. CR
 - Kamo no Chomei, *An Account of a Ten-Foot-Square Hut*. CR

Group Presentation #3: *An Account of a Ten-Foot-Square Hut*

9. 9/20 T Medieval Literature, Theater, and Art

- Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 119-150.
- *No Play Takasago*. CR
- Tsunoda, *et. al.*, “The Vocabulary of Japanese Aesthetics II.” CR

First Paper Due

10. 9/22 R (2) Samurai Values

- Ikegami, “The Rite of Honorable Death.” CR
- Tsunoda, *et. al.*, Selections from “Heroes and Hero Worship.” CR
- Bolitho, “The Myth of the Samurai.” CR
- Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 151-178.

Group presentation #4: Samurai Values (on Ikegami and Bolitho)

Early Modern Culture – Urban Culture and Politics (1600-1868)

11. 9/27 T Early Tokugawa Period Politics and Culture

- Tokugawa: Era of Peace. CR.
- Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 179-218.

12. 9/29 R (2) Popular Fiction and Drama in the Floating World

- Ihara Saikaku, *Calendar Maker’s Wife* and *Great Mirror of Male Love*. CR
- Chikamatsu Monzaemon, *Love Suicides at Sonezaki*. CR
- Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 219-252.

Group presentation #5: *Calendar Maker’s Wife* and *Great Mirror of Male Love*

13. 10/4 T

First In-Class Exam (everything up to 9/22 lecture)

14. 10/6 R (2) Reorienting Japan

- Hiraga Gennai, *Rootless Weeds*, CR.
- Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 253-288

Group presentation #6: *Rootless Weeds*

15. 10/11 T The Fall of the Bakufu and International Encounters

- David Lu, “Debates Over the Opening of Japan” and “The Harris Treaty of 1858” in *Japan : a Documentary History*. Armonk, N.Y. : M.E. Sharpe, c1997. (E-book: <http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,uid&db=nlebk&AN=1642&site=eh>) pp. 281-295. (Note: Only one person may access the e-book at any given time, so do not wait until the last minute. Also, please log out as soon as you are done using the E-book.)
- Hane, *Premodern Japan*, pp. 289-314.

16. 10/13 R (2) Civilization and Its Discontents

- Kanagaki Robun, “The Beefeater.” CR
- Hattori Busho, “The Western Peep Show.” CR
- Futabatei Shimei, “Ukigumo.” CR
- Hane, “Meiji Japan: An Assessment.” CR

Group presentation #7: “The Beefeater,” “The Western Peep Show,” and/or “Ukigumo.”

Modernization, War, and Post-War (1868-1950)

17. 10/18 T Democracy to Nationalism

- Conrad Schirokauer, *et. al.*, *A Brief History of Japanese Civilization*, Chapters 10-11. CR

18. 10/20 R (2)

Harn Museum of Art – Meet at the Harn Museum of Art

19. 10/25 T The War Experience

- Haruko and Theodore Cook, *Japan at War: An Oral History*. New York: New Press, 1992. CR

20. 10/27 R (2) Post-War and Occupation

- Kojima Nobuo. “The American School.” CR
- Nosaka Akiyuki. “America Hijiki.” CR
- Conrad Schirokauer, *et. al.*, *A Brief History of Japanese Civilization*, “The Occupation.” CR

Group presentation #8: “The American School” and “America Hijiki.”

21. 11/1 T

Second In-Class Exam (Covers 9/27-10/27 lectures)

Contemporary Japanese Culture – Japan’s Various Sides

22. 11/3 R (2) Haruko (In-class movie)

23. 11/8 T Minorities and Social Marginalization

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapter 10.
- Saga, selections from *Memories of Silk and Straw: A Self-Portrait of a Small Town*, CR.

Group Presentation #9: Minorities and marginalized people in Japan.

24. 11/10 R (2) Japanese Family Culture

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapters 4 and 15.

Group Presentation #10: Japanese “Family Culture”

25. 11/15 T Japanese Work Culture

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapter 6.

Group Presentation #11: Japanese “Work Culture”

Second Essay Due

26. 11/17 R (2) Japan’s Appetite – Food Culture and Popular Culture

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapters 13 and 16.

Group Presentation #12: Japanese “Popular Culture”

27. 11/22 T Japanese Technology

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapter 7.

Group Presentation #13: Japanese Technology

11/24 R Thanksgiving Break – No Class

28. 11/29 T Japanese Politics

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapter 9.

Group Presentation #14: Japanese “Political Culture”

29. 12/1 R (2) Globalization

- Sugimoto, *Modern Japanese Culture*, Chapters 18 and 19.

Group Presentation #15: “Exporting Japan’s Culture”

30. 12/6 T

Review

Final Essay Due