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AS.100.248
JAPAN IN THE WORLD
Spring 2017

Course Description

This course is an introduction to Japan's history from 1700 to the present with emphasis on the influences of an increasing global circulation of ideas, goods, and people in early modern and modern times. Topics include samurai, nation-building, gender, imperialism, World War II, the postwar economy, and contemporary popular culture.

Assignments

25% Class Participation
10% Blackboard Postings
20% Primary Source Analysis Paper
20% Midterm Exam
25% Final Exam

Participation: Class meetings on Mondays and Wednesdays will consist of a combination of lecture and discussion. Sections meet on Fridays. Your participation grade will be calculated based on the following: attendance at every lecture class and section meeting; completion of required readings; and active participation in discussions.

Postings: Each week students will post **TWO** discussion questions on Blackboard (under the "Discussions" tab) in response to the week's readings. The questions you post will help guide the discussion in sections. The deadline for posting is **12:00pm (noon) on Thursdays**.

Papers: Students will write a short paper (6-8 pages) in which they will closely analyze a primary source material (political document, memoir, oral history, journalism, fiction, film) that has been introduced in class. This paper is due by **5:00pm on Friday, April 21st**. Submit your paper via the "Assignments" tab on Blackboard.

Exams: The in-class midterm exam will take place on **Wednesday, March 15th**. The in-class final exam will be administered on **Tuesday, May 16th.**

Course Policies

Late papers: The grades of late papers will be lowered one level for each day they are late (e.g., a grade of B becomes a B- if one day late, a C+ if two days late, etc.).

Ethics: In this course, you are expected to be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include cheating on exams, plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. Report any violations you witness to the instructor. You may consult the associate dean of student affairs and/or the chairman of the Ethics Board beforehand.

Disabilities: Any student with a disability who may need accommodations in this class must obtain an accommodation letter from Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720, studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu.

Texts

The following required texts are available at the bookstore for purchase or on reserve at the library.

- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present,* 3rd ed. (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2014)
- TANIZAKI Junichirō, *Naomi* [1924] (Vintage, 2001)
- Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore F. Cook, *Japan at War: An Oral History* (New York: The New Press, 1992)
- NAKAZAWA Keiji, *Barefoot Gen Volume II: The Day After* [1973] (San Francisco: Last Gasp, 2004)

Other readings for this course will be available on electronic reserve. Check under the "E-Reserves" tab on the course website or library website.

Schedule

Week 1: Introduction

Jan 30 (M) – Overview of the Course

Feb 1 (W) – The Tokugawa Polity

- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, Chapter 1, pp. 11–21

Week 2: Early Modern Society

Feb 6 (M) – Status in Society

- "Trying to Get By on a Fixed Income" and "Outcastes in Tokugawa Society" in Constantine Vaporis, *Voices of Early Modern Japan*, Chps 23 and 30.

Feb 8 (W) – Closed Country?

- "Regulating Foreign Relations: The 'Closed Country Edicts,' 1635, 1639" in Constantine Vaporis, *Voices of Early Modern Japan*, chp 17.

Week 3: End of an Order

Feb 13 (M) – "Expel the Barbarians!"

- Yokohama Boomtown: Foreigners in Treaty-Port Japan (1859-1872) – a unit on the MIT web-based "Visualizing Japan." Go to: http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/yokohama/index.html
- Globetrotters' Japan: People – Foreigners on the Tourist Circuit in Meiji Japan – a unit on the MIT web-based "Visualizing Japan." Go to: http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/gt_japan_people/index.html

Feb 15 (W) – The Samurai Revolution

- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, Chapter 5, pp. 61–75

* * * **Extra Credit**: Wed, Feb 15, 12noon-1:30pm, Sherwood Room in Levering Hall: East Asian Studies Speaker Series Talk by Dr. Caleb Carter, "Between Two Tales: A Demon, A Dragon, and the Formation of a Mountain Deity in Medieval Japan"

3% will be added to your final participation grade if you attend and submit a one-page summary of the talk.

Week 4: Nation-Building

Feb 20 (M) – Modernization Equals Westernization?

- KANAGAKI Robun, "The Beefeater" (1871)
- FUKUZAWA Yukichi, "An Outline of a Theory of Civilization" (1875)

Feb 22 (W) – Women and the Industrial Revolution

- Patricia Tsurumi, *Factory Girls: Women in the Thread Mills of Meiji Japan* (1990), chapter 5 [focus on poems and songs]
- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, excerpt from Chapter 7, pp. 93–103

Week 5: The Making of Empire

Feb 27 (M) –Trajectory Toward Empire/Colonialisms East and West

- John Lie, "Modern Japan, Multiethnic Japan" in *Multiethnic Japan* (Harvard, 2001), chp 4.

Mar 1 (W) – Politics of the People?

- KANEKO Fumiko, "The Road to Nihilism" in *Reflections on the Way to the Gallows: Voices of Japanese Rebel Women,* ed. Mikiso Hane, pp. 75-125.

Week 6: Society and Nation in Crisis

Mar 6 (M) – Troubled Twenties

- TANIZAKI Junichirō, *Naomi* (1924)

Mar 8 (W) – The Path to War

Week 7: Midterm (no section meetings)

Mar 13 (M) – Midterm Review and Evaluations

Mar 15 (W) – Midterm Exam

Week 8: Spring Break

Week 9: World War II

Mar 27 (M) – "Total War"

- Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore F. Cook, *Japan at War: An Oral History*. Read the following selections:
    - Introduction (pp. 3-20)

- The short introductions to each of the 6 parts of the book (pp. 23-27; 71-75; 171-176; 261-266; 339-342; and 403-406)
- At least ONE story from each of the 6 parts of the book. Read more if interested.

Mar 29 (W) – Dealing with Defeat

- Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, Chapter 13, pp. 224–241

Week 10: The Allied Occupation, 1945 – 1952

Apr 3 (M) – Occupiers/Occupied

- Bill Hume, with John Annarino, *Babysan: A Private Look at the Japanese Occupation*. Tokyo: Kasuga Boeki K.K., 1953.
- KOJIMA Nobuo, "American School" (1954) in *Contemporary Japanese Literature: An Anthology of Fiction, Film, and Other Writings Since 1945* ed. Howard Hibbett. New York: Knopf, 1977.

Apr 5 (W) – Democratization and Demilitarization

* * * * Blackboard posting for this week: a description of your primary source and an explanation of your argument for the paper * * *

Week 11: Subordinate Independence

Apr 10 (M) – The Cold War System and Struggles

- Tokyo 1960: Days of Rage & Grief – a unit on the MIT web-based "Visualizing Japan." Go to: http://ocw.mit.edu/ans7870/21f/21f.027/tokyo_1960/index.html

Apr 12 (W) Beginnings of the Miracle

Week 12: The Miracle Years

Apr 17 (M) – High Growth

Apr 19 (W) – The Price of Affluence

- Brett Walker, *Toxic Archipelago* (University of Washington Press, 2014), Chp 5.

*** * Fri, April 21st: PRIMARY SOURCE ANALYSIS PAPER DUE * ***

Week 13: Global Japan

Apr 24 (M) – Children's Media Culture

- Koichi IWABUCHI, "How 'Japanese' is Pokémon?" in Joseph Tobin, ed., *Pikachu's Global Adventure: The Rise and Fall of Pokémon* (Duke University Press, 2004), pp. 53–79.

Apr 26 (W) – World Sushi

- Theodore C. Bestor, "How Sushi Went Global," *Foreign Policy* (Nov. 1, 2000)

Week 14: History Matters: Managing the Past

May 1 (M) – Victim Narratives

- NAKAZAWA Keiji, *Barefoot Gen Volume II: The Day After* [1973] (San Francisco: Last Gasp, 2004)
- Optional: John Dower, "The Bombed: Hiroshimas and Nagasakis in Japanese Memory," *Diplomatic History* 19, 2 (March 1995): 275–295.

May 3 (W) – Forgetting and Remembering

- Keith Howard, ed., *True Stories of the Comfort Women* (London: Cassell, 1995), pp. 31 – 69, 143–157, 177–192. [read at least 2 of the stories]
- FUJIOKA Nobukatsu, "Why Middle-School Students Should Not Be Taught about 'Military Comfort Women'"

*** * * Tuesday, May 16th: FINAL EXAM, 9am-12pm * * ***