Sociology 4438(section 001)/ 6638(section001)
3 credit hours
Japanese Society
Spring 2012
Time: Tuesday & Thursday 2-3:20pm
Location: BEH S 114

Instructor: Dr. Akiko Kamimura, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.A.
Office: 314 BEH S
Phone: 801-581-7858
E-mail: akiko.kamimura@soc.utah.edu
• I prefer to only be contacted through Canvas email.
Office Hours: By appointment

Course description:
This course introduces the student various aspects of Japanese society and culture. The focus of this course is the post-World War II period, mainly after 1980. The topics include class and stratification, geographical and generational variations, globalization, firms and management, labor market, education, natural disasters, migration, minority groups, health policy, rights, legal system and process, religion, ritual, festivals, traditional and popular culture, and sports.

Objectives:
At the end of the course, the student will be able to:
- Describe Japanese society and culture
- Understand what is and is not unique about Japanese society and culture
- Address changes occurring in Japanese culture and society during the late 20th or early 21st century
- Think critically about a wide range of perspectives of Japanese society and culture

Teaching and learning methods:
Teaching strategies include lecture and discussion. Students are expected to read course materials prior to the class, raise questions, and come prepared to discuss the issues on topics of the day.

Grading:
Undergraduate students
Weekly assignments: 90% (6 points*15)
Class participation and attendance: 10%

Total 100 points

Graduate students
Weekly assignments: 60% (4 points*15)
Presentation: 10 %
Final paper: 20%
Class participation and attendance: 10%

Total 100 points

Grading Scale:
100-93 points: A
92-90 points A-
89-87 points B+
86-83 points B
82-80 points B-
79-77 points C+
76-73 points C
72-70 points C-
69-67 points D+
66-63 points D
62-60 points D-
59 and below F

Assignments:
All assignments are to be completed on Canvas. No late assignment or paper will be accepted.

Weekly assignments (undergraduate students 90 points- 6 points*15; graduate students 60% -4 points*15):
1-2 pages
Single-spaced (Times New Roman, 12 pts) or text entry on Canvas
The student will receive specific questions for each assignment on Canvas.
The questions will be posted on Canvas by 10 am on Friday each week.
Due: 9am on Tuesday for the topic(s) of the previous week (except for the last assignment)

Presentation (graduate students 10 points):
Presentation based on your final paper.

Final paper (graduate students 20 points)
10-15 pages
Double-spaced (Times New Roman, 12 pts)
One inch margin
Title and your name on the first page
Page numbers
References at the end of paper (not included in paper count)

If your background is social science:
Pick one (or more) theory in your discipline and one specific topic on Japanese society or culture. Develop an argument on the topic. Defend your argument using the theory. Why is your topic important or interesting? Why is the theory that you choose suitable for your argument? What are the limitations of the theory for using to support your argument?
If your background is not social science:
Talk to the instructor to create your paper project

Readings:
Required text books:

All other reading materials are available on Canvas or on the web.

Faculty and student responsibilities:

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in the classroom setting, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee.

The student must understand and be familiar with the University of Utah Student Code http://www.admin.utah.edu/ppmanual/8/8-10.html.
The failure to comply with the student code, including academic misconduct, may result in the serious consequence such as failure in the course, and/or expulsion from the university.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services (CDS), 162 Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations.

Class and Reading Schedule:
*This outline is tentative and subject to change at any time.

Jan 10 (Tu) Introduction
Sugimoto Ch 1 (pp. 1-36)

Jan 12 (Thu) Globalization of Japan
Goodman Ch 1, 4
Assignment #1 due 9 am Jan 17 (Tue)

Jan 17 (Tu) Migrant groups
Goodman Ch 3, 11, 13-15

Jan 19 (Th) Immigrant/refugee health
Sugimoto Ch 7 (pp. 189-218)

Assignment #2 due 9 am Jan 24 (Tue)

Jan 24 (Tu) Japanese Health Policy Workshop 1: Immigrant Health
Time: 2-5pm [2-3:20 required]
Location: TBA
Speaker: Dr. Yasuhide Nakamura, MD, Osaka University, Japan
Title: “Healthcare for non-Japanese residents: beyond the barriers of language and culture”
Panel discussants:
Shu Cheng, PhD, Executive Director of Asian Association of Utah
Dr. Caren Frost, PhD, MPH, Research Professor of Social Work and Director of International Social Work Research
Dr. Jessica Greenwood, MD, MSPH, Assistant Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine
Dr. Kim Korinek, PhD, Associate Professor of Sociology

Jan 26 (Th) Minorities – Ainu, Burakumin & Ryukyuans/Okinawans

Assignment #3 due 9 am Jan 31 (Tue)

Jan 31 (Tu) Japanese and Japanese Americans in the U.S.
Goodman Ch 9
February 2 (Th) Japan’s overseas communities (other than in the U.S.)
Goodman Ch 5-8

Assignment #4 due 9 am Feb 7 (Tue)

February 7 (Tu) Class and stratification

February 9 (Th) Geographical and generational variations
Sugimoto Ch 3 (pp. 61-87)

Assignment #5 due 9 am Feb 14 (Tue)

February 14 (Tu) Work and education
Sugimoto Ch 4 & 5 (pp. 88-155)

February 16 (Th) Labor market & education

Assignment #6 due 9 am Feb 21 (Tue)


Assignment #7 due 9 am Feb 28 (Tue)

Feb 28 (Tu) Japanese Health Policy Workshop 2: Disaster Medicine
Time: 2-5pm [2-3:20 required]
Location: TBA
Speaker: Dr. Naruo Uehara, MD, DPH, Tohoku University, Japan
Title: “Be prepared; the lessons of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Disaster” (tentative)
Panel discussants:
Dr. Steve Alder, PhD, Associate Professor and Chief of the Division of Public Health
Dr. DeVon Hale, MD, Professor of Internal Medicine and Pathology and Director of Travel Medicine and Tropical Disease Clinics
Dr. David Sundwall, MD, Professor of Family and Preventive Medicine
Dr. Lina Svedin, PhD, Assistant Professor of Political Science

Mar 1 (Th) Religion, ritual and festivals

Assignment #8 due 9 am Mar 6 (Tue)

Mar 6 (Tu) Firms and management 1: globalization
Mar 8 (Th) Firms and management 2: knowledge management

Assignment #9 due 9 am Mar 20 (Tue)

Mar 20 (Tu) Rights in Japanese society and history
Feldman Ch 1-2

Mar 22 (Th) Patient rights
Feldman Ch 3

Assignment #10 due 9 am Mar 27 (Tue)

Mar 27 (Tu) AIDS policy and rights
Feldman Ch 4

Mar 29 (Th) Brain death and organ transplantation
Feldman Ch 5

Assignment #11 due 9 am Apr 3 (Tue)

Apr 3 (Tu) Rights and legal process
Feldman Ch 6-7

Apr 5 (Th) Sports
Baseball vs soccer
Olympics (Tokyo 1964, Sapporo 1972, Nagano 1998)
Female athletes (Ai Miyazaki, Kumiko Krum-Date, Nadeshiko Japan, etc)
Japanese American athletes on Japanese media (Kristi Yamaguchi, Mirai Nagasu, the Shibutanis, etc.)

Assignment #12 due 9 am Apr 10 (Tue)

Apr 10 (Tu) Health System

Apr 12 (Th) Long-term Care Insurance

Assignment #13 due 9 am Apr 3 (Tue)

Apr 17 (Tu) Japanese Health Policy Workshop 3: Long-term Care
Time: 2-5pm [2-3:20 required]
Location: TBA
Title: “Comparison of public and private care management agencies under LTCI (Long-term Care Insurance) in Japan”
Speaker: Dr. Nanako Tamiya, MD, MS, University of Tsukuba, Japan
Panel discussants:
Dr. Byron Bair, MD, MBA, MS, Professor of Geriatrics
Dr. Rebecca Utz, PhD, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Dr. Frances Wilby, LCSW, PhD, Executive Director of W. D. Goodwill Initiative on Aging
Dr. Codrina Rada, PhD, Assistant Professor of Economics

Apr 19 (Th) Graduate student presentations

Assignment #14 due 9 am Apr 24 (Tue)

Apr 24 (Tu) Graduate student presentations

Assignment #15 due 9 am Apr 27 (Fri)

Final paper (graduate students only) due 9 am Apr 27 (Fri)
[If the number of graduate students is small, traditional and popular culture will be covered on Apr 19 and/or Apr 24.]

Traditional and popular culture

**Traditional culture**: Tea ceremony, flower arrangements (Ikebana), performing arts (Kabuki, Noh, Kyogen), music, dance, crafts, clothes

**Popular culture**: Manga, amine, karaoke, J-POP, Hello Kitty, *emoji*
Sugimoto Ch 9 (pp. 249-277)

*Updated 10/18/2011*