Sociology 4438(section 001)/ 6438(section 001/002)
3 credit hours
Japanese Society
Spring 2013
Time: Tuesday & Thursday 9:10-10:30am
Location: BEH S 115

Instructor: Dr. Akiko Kamimura, Ph.D., M.S.W., M.A.
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• 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, education, globalization, firms and management, natural disasters, migration, minority groups, health policy, 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: 75 points (5 points*15)
Class participation and attendance: 25 points

Total 100 points

Graduate students (001)
Presentations: 60 points (15 points*4)
Final paper: 30 points
Class participation and attendance: 10 points

Total 100 points

Graduate students (002)
Presentation: 15 points
Final paper: 30 points
Class participation and attendance (while in SLC): 10 points
Research in Japan 45 points

Total 100 points

Grading Scale:
100-92.5 points: A
92-89.5 points A-
89-86.5 points B+
86-82.5 points B
82-79.5 points B-
79-76.5 points C+
76-72.5 points C
72-69.5 points C-
69-66.5 points D+
66-62.5 points D
62-59.5 points D-
59 and below E

Class attendance/participation:
One point deduction per one missed class. The first two missed activities will not affect total points. A make-up will be considered only if the student submits a note from a hospital or other PROFESSIONAL individual or organization (up to twice per semester). A make-up will include additional reading materials and a brief paper. A make-up must be completed within 2 weeks after the class activity. (Students need to submit a note from professional individual/organization before they start a make-up process.)

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

Undergraduate students

Weekly assignments (75 points- 5 points*15)
1-2 pages
Single-spaced (Times New Roman, 12 pts) or text entry on Canvas
The student can see any course materials and own class notes but should not collaborate with or seek help from other people. If the student uses materials outside of the course, the source should be properly cited.
Due: 8 am on Tuesday for the topic(s) of the previous week (except for the last assignment- due April 26 (F) at 8am)

Graduate students (001)

Presentations (4 presentations, 60 points in total):
The last presentation will be based on a final paper.
Final paper (30 points)  
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)  

Presentation topic due (for the first three presentations) 8am Jan 22 (Tue)  
Paper topic due 8 am Feb 5 (Tue)  
Paper draft due 8 am Mar 5 (Tue)  
Final paper due 8 am Apr 26 (Fri)  

Readings:  
Required text books:  

All other reading materials are available on Canvas.  

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. There may be guest lectures or guests from Japan.

WEEK 1 Introduction

Jan 8 (Tue) Introduction
Jan 10 (Thu) Geographical and generational variations
   Sugimoto Ch 3 (pp. 61-87)

WEEK 2 Social class

Jan 15 (Tue) Class structure: demographics of class structure
   Ishida & Slater Ch. 2

Jan 17 (Thu) Social classes in a low fertility rate
   Ishida & Slater Ch. 3

WEEK 3 Education 1

Jan 22 ( Tue) Education system
   Ishikida Ch 1

Jan 24 (Thu) Elementary, middle, and high school
   Each student will read one of the chapters, Ishikida 2-1, 2-2, 3-1 or 3-2.
   We will discuss who will read which chapters.
WEEK 4 Education 2

Jan 29 (Tue) Higher education
   Ishikida 5-2

Jan 31 (Thu) Internationalization of education
   Ishikida Ch 7

WEEK 5 Japanese companies

Feb 5 (Tue) Management & Human resources
   Jacoby Ch 1

Feb 7 (Thu) Japanese companies
   Jacoby Ch 3

WEEK 6 Globalization of Japan

Feb 12 (Tue) Globalization of Japan
   Each student will read one of the chapters, Goodman Ch 1 or 4.
   We will discuss who will read which chapters.

Feb 14 (Thu) Migrant groups
   Each student will read one of the chapters from Goodman Ch 3, 10, 11, 13, 14 or 15.
   We will discuss who will read which chapters.
   Ishikida 10-2

WEEK 7 Japanese living outside of Japan

Feb 19 (Tue) Japanese and Japanese American in the U.S.
   Goodman Ch 9

Feb 21 (Thu) Japanese overseas communities
Each student will read two of the chapters from Goodman Ch 5, 6, 7 or 8.
We will discuss who will read which chapters.

**WEEK 8 Minorities**

Feb 26 (Tue) Minorities – Ainu, Okinawan & Burakumin
*Each student will read one of the following articles. We will discuss who will read which article.*

Feb 28 (Thu) Education for minorities
Ishikida Ch 9

**WEEK 9 Religion and traditional culture 1**

Mar 5 (Tue) Religion, ritual and festivals

Mar 7 (Thu) Traditional culture – overview
- Tea ceremony, flower arrangements (Ikebana), performing arts (Kabuki, Noh, Kyogen), music, dance, crafts, clothes
WEEK 10 Traditional culture 2
No reading this week. Students will actually try calligraphy and traditional games.
Mar 19 (Tue) Calligraphy
Mar 21 (Thu) Traditional games

WEEK 11 Sports and leisure
Mar 26 (Tue) Sports
Each student will read one of the following articles. We will discuss who will read which article.

Mar 28 (Thu) leisure, hobbies, popular culture, anime

WEEK 12 Health 1
Apr 2 (Tue) health system

Apr 4 (Thu) maternal and child health

WEEK 13 Health 2
Apr 9 (Tue) long-term care, cancer & palliative care
Each student will read one of the long-term care articles and one of the palliative care articles. We will discuss who will read which articles.

Apr 11 (Thu) infectious diseases, organ transplantation

**WEEK 14 Natural disasters & conference**

Apr 16 (Tue) Natural disasters
White Paper on Disaster Management 2011 Executive Summary

Apr 18 (Thu) Asia Center Conference “Constructing Health in Japan” location TBA

**WEEK 15**

Apr 23 (Tue) Graduate student presentations (001 #4/ 002)