



## J a p a n e s e   S o c i e t y

**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 20<sup>th</sup> 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:

Goodman, R. (2009). *Global Japan: The Experience of Japan's New Immigrant and Overseas Communities*. New York: Routledge.

Ishikida, M. (2005) *Japanese Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. Lincoln, NE: iUniverse

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

Yeh, C.J., et al., The cultural adjustment and mental health of Japanese immigrant youth. *Adolescence*, 2003. 38(151): p. 481-500.

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.*

Siddle, R. (1997). Ainu: Japan's indigenous people. pp. 17-49. In Michael Weiner (ed.). *Japan's Minorities: the Illusion of Homogeneity*. New York: Routledge.

Neary, I., Burakumin at the end of history. *Social Research*, 2003. 70(1): p. 269-294.

Taira, K. (1997). Troubled national identity: the Ryukyans/Okinawans. pp. 140-177. In Michael Weiner (ed.). *Japan's Minorities: the Illusion of Homogeneity*. New York: Routledge.

Feb 28 (Thu) Education for minorities

Ishikida Ch 9

## **WEEK 9 Religion and traditional culture 1**

Mar 5 (Tue) Religion, ritual and festivals

Tanaka, K. (2010). Limitations for measuring religion in a different cultural context—The case of Japan. *Social Science Journal*, 47(4): 845-852.

Roemer, MK. (2007). Ritual participation and social support in a major Japanese festival. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 46(2): 185-2000.

Mar 7 (Thu) Traditional culture – overview

Tea ceremony, flower arrangements (Ikebana), performing arts (Kabuki, Noh, Kyogen), music, dance, crafts, clothes  
Cang, V.G., Preserving Intangible Heritage in Japn: the Role of the Iemoto System. *International Journal of Intangible Heritage*, 2008. 3: p. 71-81.

## **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.*

Horne, J., Sport and the mass media in Japan. *Sociology of Sport Journal*, 2005. 22(4): p. 415-432.

Horne, J., The global game of football: the 2002 World Cup and regional development in Japan. *Third World Quarterly*, 2004. 25(7): p. 1233-1244.

Okayasu, I., Y. Kawahara, and H. Nogawa, The relationship between community sport clubs and social capital in Japan: A comparative study between the comprehensive community sport clubs and the traditional community sports clubs. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*, 2010. 45(2): p. 163-186.

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

## **WEEK 12 Health 1**

Apr 2 (Tue) health system

Ikegami, N., et al., Japanese universal health coverage: evolution, achievements, and challenges. *Lancet*, 2011. 378(9796): p. 1106-15.

Ikeda, N., et al., What has made the population of Japan healthy? *Lancet*, 2011. 378(9796): p. 1094-105.

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.*



Tamiya, N., et al., Population ageing and wellbeing: lessons from Japan's long-term care insurance policy. *Lancet*, 2011. 378(9797): p. 1183-92.

Olivares-Tirado, P., et al., Predictors of the highest long-term care expenditures in Japan. *Bmc Health Services Research*, 2011. 11.

Sato, M., et al., The effect of a subsidy policy on the utilization of community care services under a public long-term care insurance program in rural Japan. *Health Policy*, 2006. 77(1): p. 43-50.

Yamagishi, A., et al. (2008). Palliative Care in Japan: Current Status and a Nationwide Challenge to Improve Palliative Care by the Cancer Control Act and the Outreach Palliative Care Trial of Integrated Regional Model (OPTIM) Study. *American Journal of Hospice & Palliative Medicine*, 25(5): 412-418.

Miyashita, M., et al. (2008). Quality of Life, Day Hospice Needs, and Satisfaction of Community-Dwelling Patients with Advanced Cancer and their Caregivers in Japan. *Journal of Palliative Medicine*, 11(9): 1203-1207.

Apr 11 (Thu) infectious diseases, organ transplantation

Hirota, Y. and M. Kaji, (2008). History of influenza vaccination programs in Japan. *Vaccine*, 26(50): 6451-6454.

Aita, K. (2011). New Organ Transplant Policies in Japan, Including the Family-Oriented Priority Donation Clause. *Transplantation*, 91(5), 489-491.

Fujita, M., Slingsby, B. T., & Akabayashi, A. (2010). Transplant Tourism From Japan. *American Journal of Bioethics*, 10(2), 24-26

## **WEEK 14 Natural disasters & conference**

Apr 16 (Tue) Natural disasters

Shaw, R. and K. Goda, From disaster to sustainable civil society: The Kobe experience. *Disasters*, 2004. 28(1): p. 16-40.  
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)

*Updated 10/23/2012*