

Department	International College of Liberal Arts		
Semester	Spring 2023	Year Offered (Odd/Even/Every Year)	Every Year
Course Number	HIST/JPNA170		
Course Title	Introduction to Japanese History		
Prerequisites	None		
Course Instructor	Lee I-Zhuen Clarence	Year Available (Grade Level)	1
Subject Area	Japan Studies: History	Number of Credits	3
Class Style	Lecture	Class Methods	Face to face

(NOTE 1) Class Methods are subject to change

(NOTE 2) Depending on the class size and the capacity of the facility, we may not be able to accommodate all students who wish to register for the course"

Course Description	<p>The purpose of this course is to provide an interdisciplinary introduction to both the premodern and modern aspects of Japanese History. We will study and think through selected aspects of Japanese history, thought, literature, and religion beginning from the earliest time to the contemporary period. The focus will be on significant developments and representative works. As you work through this class, always consider the following questions: What is Japan, and who says so?</p> <p>The course will be mainly lecture-based with a section of each class allocated to discussion. Students are expected to come prepared for discussion by completing the assigned readings before class.</p>
Class plan based on course evaluation from previous academic year	N/A
Course related to the instructor's practical experience (Summary of experience)	None
Learning Goals	Concretely, after completing this course, you should be able to better interpret news and information about Japan. You will also be prepared for further study of Japan at iCLA and beyond.

iCLA Diploma Policy	DP1/DP2/DP3/DP4
---------------------	-----------------

iCLA Diploma Policy

(DP1) To Value Knowledge – Having high oral and written communication skills to be able to both comprehend and transfer knowledge

(DP2) To Be Able to Adapt to a Changing World – Having critical, creative, problem-solving, intercultural skills, global and independent mindset to adapt to a changing world

(DP3) To Believe in Collaboration – Having a disposition to work effectively and inclusively in teams

(DP4) To Act from a Sense of Personal and Social Responsibility – Having good ethical and moral values to make positive impacts in the world

Active Learning Methods	Flipping the Classroom, Group Discussion, Mini-Presentations, etc.
Use of ICT in Class	Google Docs, Padlet, Etc.
Use of ICT outside Class	None
Expected study hours outside class	Students are expected to complete the readings/viewings before class (which are usually of realistic length) while thinking about the study questions. They should expect to spend 2 hours per class session. All readings will be in English or with English subtitles.
Feedback Methods	Regular feedbacks will be given to all assignments/tests/finals in the form of comments. Students may approach the instructor at any point in the course to ask for more individualized feedback. Students are to consult with the instructor on their group project/essay.

Grading Criteria		
Grading Methods	Grading Weights	Grading Content
Participation and Discussion	25%	
Four Small in-class tests	20%	
Group Creative Project / Essay	25%	
Final Exam	30%	

Required Textbook(s)	Varley, H. Paul. Japanese Culture. 4th ed. updated and expanded. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2000. (ISBN: 9780824863081 / https://uhpress.hawaii.edu/title/japanese-culture/) All other readings/viewings can be found on UniPa.
----------------------	---

Other Reading Materials/URL	None
Plagiarism Policy	<p>Plagiarism is the dishonest presentation of the work of others as if it were one's own. Duplicate submission is also treated as plagiarism. Depending on the nature of plagiarism committed, you may fail the assignment and/or the course. Repeated acts of plagiarism will be reported to the University, which may result in additional penalties.</p> <p>ChatGPT and other AI tools are not replacements for your original and critical thoughts. The ultimate goal of this course and any tool used to submit your assignments is to enhance your own learning and understanding, not to undermine it. Having AI write your paper therefore constitutes plagiarism, and will result in the failure of the assignment and/or the course.</p>
Other Additional Notes	<p>This course meets twice a week. Students are expected to attend every session punctually. Screenings and reading assignments must be completed prior to class. Doing so will ensure that you are well equipped for discussion and participation. As students also know, according to YGU/iCLA regulations, students who fail to attend a third of the course will lose the eligibility to be evaluated, and will not earn any credits for the course.</p> <p>Please refer to the YGU student handbook for university policies.</p>

(NOTE 3) Class schedule is subject to change

Class Schedule	
Class Number	Content
Class 1	Overview and Introduction to the study of Japan
Class 2	An overview of Prehistoric Japan Reading: Varley, pp. 1-18
Class 3	Nara Period and Buddhism Reading: Varley, 19-42
Class 4	The Manyōshū and Nara Literary Culture Readings: 1) Varley 42-47 2) Selections from Manyōshū
Class 5	The Kojiki, the Nihonshoki, and "Beginnings" Readings: Selections from Kojiki & Nihonshoki
Class 6	The Heian Capital and the Heian Period Reading: Varley, pp. 48-76
Class 7	Heian Court Culture, Imperial Poetic Anthologies, and the Tales of Ise Readings: 1) Selections from the Kokinshū 2) Selections from the Tales of Ise
Class 8	Heian Court Women's Cultures: The Pillow Book and Heian Diary Literature / In-class Test 1 Reading: Selections from the Pillow Book
Class 9	The Tale of Genji Reading: Selections from the Tale of Genji

Class 10	Decline of Aristocratic Rule and Rise of Warriors -- The Genpei War Reading: Varley, pp. 77-89
Class 11	Narrating the Genpei War Reading: Selections from the Tale of Heike
Class 12	The Kamakura Period and the births of "new" Buddhism Reading: Varley, pp. 91-113
Class 13	The Medieval Period, aesthetics, and Muromachi Tales / In-Class test 2 Reading: Varley, pp. 114-139
Class 14	Europeans, Unification, and Expansion Reading: Varley, pp. 140-163
Class 15	Tokugawa Stability and the SPAM system Reading: Varley, pp. 164-183
Class 16	The Floating world and the Genroku Period Reading: Varley, pp. 183-204
Class 17	Tokugawa Thought and the Discovery of the self Reading: Varley, pp. 205-234
Class 18	The Beginning of the Bakumatsu Period: Internal Crisis and Foreign Pressure Reading: Varley, pp. 235-256
Class 19	Religious/Social Millennialism and social unrest Reading: "Tenrikyō" and "Ōmoto"
Class 20	Bakumatsu Kabuki / In-Class Test 3 Reading: Kawatake Mokuami, "Benten the Thief"
Class 21	The Meiji Period: Modernization and Nationalization Reading: Varley, pp. 256-270
Class 22	The Sino/Russo-Japanese Wars and Taishō Democracy Reading: Varley, pp. 271-303
Class 23	The Rise of Ultrnationalism and Expansionism Reading: Peter Duus, Modern Japan, pp. 214-236
Class 24	State Shintō Reading: Selected Documents on State Shinto

Class 25	<p>Postwar American Occupation and Constitution</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Varley, pp. 304-307 2) Reishauer Memorandum 3) "Occupation Years"
Class 26	<p>Postwar Growth: from Japan and the world to "Japan as No. 1"</p> <p>Readings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Varley 307-325 2) Oe Kenzaburo's Nobel Acceptance Speech
Class 27	<p>Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and Nuclear Japan</p> <p>Viewing:</p> <p>Watch "Barefoot Gen" (1983)</p>
Class 28	<p>Shadows of the Past and contemporary Japanese Society</p> <p>Reading:</p> <p>"The History Problem"</p>
Class 29	<p>Student Presentations</p>
Class 30	<p>Student Presentations and Final Review</p>