

Course Code: VJ23F50 / Google Classroom Code: grqpujh

Subject	【JYPE】 Japanese Culture A
Categories	Japanese Culture
Day/Period	Wednesday 13:00-14:30
Year	2021
Semester	Fall Semester
Credit(s)	2
Instructor (Position)	Koji SHIDARA (Part-Time Lecturer)
Eligibility	JYPE
Language	English

Class Subject	Japanese Culture						
Objectives and Summary of Class	An exploratory culture course, Japanese Culture A is offered for foreign students to learn about and share insights into various aspects of the living culture of Japan. The course comprises three basic approaches: discussion of certain cultural characteristics of the country; reading literature; fieldwork (online) at venues of cultural significance. Under the current COVID-19 situation, the course for this semester is designed to be attended real-time online only initially. If international travel restrictions are lifted, the course may eventually be attended in person in the actual classroom on Aobayama Campus.						
Goal of Study	Students will gain a new perspective of the culture of this nation by examining the interconnection of various elements including the history and culture of Tohoku Region, rebuilding effort from the 2011 earthquake and tsunami attack, as well as certain ways Japanese people expressed themselves at different periods in history.						
Contents and Class Schedule	<p>*Special Note: The first time the class meets—Wednesday, October 6—will be an opportunity for both the lecturer and the students to check that the online setup works properly. The necessary information including the type of app to be utilized will be given via Google Classroom site for the course. Please also note that the class schedule may need to be revised as we proceed in the course because of various restrictions related with COVID-19 or other circumstances.</p> <p>Fieldwork is what has characterized this course for many years, but because of COVID-19, the class will not be able to conduct any fieldwork activity in a physical sense unless the situation changes dramatically for the better and the university revises its guideline. However, the class will experience the real Japan online where possible, visiting places and meeting people. The year 2021 marked the tenth year since the Great East Japan Earthquake, and the topic of disaster prevention and mitigation has come to take on an increasingly important meaning in the culture of this nation. Japanese Culture class has been contributing to this cause since soon after the 2011 event and will continue to be involved with it in ways that the circumstances allow for us to do so.</p> <p>Class Schedule:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Course introduction &amp; short lecture “What’s in a name?”</li> <li>2. Overview of the history of Japan and Tohoku Region</li> <li>3. Visiting a Japanese sake brewery online</li> <li>4. The Keicho Embassy: 17-th century samurai dispatched to the Vatican</li> <li>5. The Millennium Hope Hills: Applying tradition to innovative tsunami safety measure</li> <li>6. “Warm Hands”: Coming to terms with the 2011 tsunami</li> <li>7. Rebuilding Ishinomaki: Actions taken by the author of “Warm Hands”</li> <li>8. “Surviving the 2011 Tsunami: 100 Testimonies of Ishinomaki Area Survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake”: Reading tsunami survivor accounts</li> <li>9. Japanese popular music and anime: Finding something common to enjoy and celebrate</li> <li>10. “We Are No Traitors!”: Ardor for the Shiroishi-jo Castle</li> <li>11. Reading early 20th-century Japanese literature: A glimpse into culture 100 years ago</li> <li>12. Reading children’s literature: Coming to know what Japanese children learn</li> <li>13. Place of Sendai in contemporary novels</li> <li>14. Senryu: Appreciating and enjoying three-line Japanese poetry</li> <li>15. Student presentation</li> </ol>						
Evaluation Method	Evaluation will be based on class participation, weekly web assignment, final paper and presentation.						
Textbook and references	No	Title	Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN/ISSN	Classification
	1.	『Warm Hands』	Miki Onosaki	Pantaka	2013	<a href="#">978-4-938532-34-5</a>	Textbook
	2.	『Surviving the 2011 Tsunami: 100 Testimonies of Ishinomaki Area Survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake』	Editorial Office of the Ishinomaki Kahoku	Junposha	2014	<a href="#">978-4-8451-1351-4</a>	Textbook
	3.	『The Samurai』	Shuaku Endo	New Directions Publishing	1997	<a href="#">0-8112-1346-3</a>	Reference

	4. 『The Oxford Book of Japanese Short Stories』	Theodore W. Goossen	Oxford University Press	2010	<a href="#">9780199583195</a>	Reference
	5. 『Japan: The Story of a Nation』	Edwin O. Reischauer	Tuttle Publishing	2012	<a href="#">978-4-8053-0666-6</a>	Reference
	6. 『Strong in the Rain: Surviving Japans Earthquake, Tsunami, and Fukushima Nuclear Disaster』	Lucy Birmingham et al	Palgrave Macmillan	2012	<a href="#">9780230341869</a>	Reference
📌 URL						
📌 Preparation and Review	Students are required to post reflections on the topic of each lecture or activity on class web forum site every week.					
📌 In addition	While the class as a whole may not be able to carry out any fieldwork together, opportunities may arise where students can take part in certain activities on an individual basis as long as the university's guideline is observed. Students will be provided with relevant information from the course for these potential opportunities.					
📌 Last Update	2021/09/21 20:55					