

Subject	Japanese Culture D				
Categories	JYPE科目				
Day・Period	Friday / 2nd Period				
Year	2025				
Semester	Spring Semester				
Credit(s)	2				
Instructor (Position)	SHIDARA, Koji (part-time lecturer)				
Eligibility	【JYPE】				
Language	English				
Notes					
Class Subject	Japanese Culture				
Objectives and Summary of Class	An exploratory culture course, Japanese Culture D 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 aspects of the country; reading literature; fieldwork at places of cultural significance. Those who took Japanese Culture C in the fall semester should take Japanese Culture D in the spring semester since they make a pair. Culture B and D courses overlap in part due to the nature of certain special events taking place during the semester.				
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 Japan and Tohoku Region, rebuilding effort from the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, and certain ways people expressed themselves at different times in history.				
Contents and Class Schedule	Class contents include lectures and discussions accompanied with fieldwork opportunities. Fourteen years since the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, the subject of disaster prevention and mitigation has come to hold an important place in the culture of this nation. Japanese Culture class has been contributing to this cause following the 2011 event and will continue to do so during this semester as well, albeit in a small way.				
	Class Schedule: 1. Apr. 11 Course introduction: Fall semester review; historical overview of Japan and Tohoku Region 2. Apr. 18 Sendai Castle: The role it played and its destiny 3. Apr. 25 17-th century Sendai mission to Vatican & Japan today “Even Unto the World’s End”—Reading movie script outlining the Sendai mission 4. May. 09 Visiting Sendai City Museum—seeing artifacts related with the topics of the course (during class hour) 5. May 16 King of oyster farming: The dream of a young man from Okinawa 6. May 23 Surviving the 2011 Tsunami: Discussing survivor accounts from the Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami 7. May 24 (whole day Saturday) Nurturing the Millennium Hope Hills: Planting and maintaining the Pacific coastal green embankment in Iwanuma City 8. May 30 Reading “Warm Hands”: Coming to terms with the 2011 tsunami 9.&10. May 31 (Whole day Saturday) Ishinomaki fieldwork: Seeing rebuilding status from 2011 tsunami attack; meeting the author of Warm Hands. Destinations include: Ishinomaki Higashi Nursery School; Dogenin Buddhist Temple; coastal hamlets. 11. Jun. 13 Preparing for fieldwork in Tomiya and Iwadeyama: The oldest working sake brewery in Miyagi—looking into what it takes to carry on a four-century old business; former samurai school—examining the spirit that enables the feudal-age school to be preserved. 12. Jun. 21 (whole day Saturday) Visiting Uchigasaki Brewery in Tomiya and former samurai school Yubikan in Iwadeyama 13. Jun. 27 Discussing a novel based on 17th-century Sendai mission to the Vatican 14. July 11 Student Presentation 15. July 18 Student Presentation				
Evaluation Method	Evaluation will be based on class participation, weekly posting assignment on the class web site, final paper and presentation.				
Textbook and References					
書名	著者名	出版社	出版年	ISBN/ISSN	資料種別
Surviving the 2011 Tsunami: 100 Testimonies of Ishinomaki Area Survivors of the Great East Japan Earthquake	Editorial Office of the Ishinomaki Kahoku	Junposha	2014	9784845113514	Textbook
Warm Hands	Miki Onosaki	Pantaka	2013	978-4-938532-34-5	Textbook

Japan: The Story of a Nation	Edwin O. Reischauer	Tuttle Publishing	2012	978-4-8053-0666-6	Reference
The Samurai	Shusaku Endo	New Directions Publishing	1982	978-0-8112-1346-2	Reference
Strong in the Rain: Surviving Japan's Earthquake, Tsunami, and Fukushima Nuclear Disaster	Lucy Birmingham et al	Palgrave Macmillan	2012	9780230341869	Reference

U R L	Google Classroom
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	The university will subsidize part of the bus charter cost involved with fieldwork, and transportation arrangements will be determined once the semester begins and the class size is known. Please note that the class schedule may need to be revised as the semester proceeds.
Last Update	

One-credit courses require 45 hours of study. In lecture and exercise-based classes, one credit consists of 15-30 hours of class time and 30-15 hours of preparation and review outside of class. In laboratory, practical skill classes, one credit consists of 30-45 hours of class time and 15-0 hours of preparation and review outside of class.