

Subject	Studies of Japanese Culture(Special Lecture)II		
Timetable	Thu.4Period		
Semester	6	Credit(s)	2Credits
Instructor	KOPYLOVA OLGA		
Course Number	LHM-OHU309E	Language Used	The course will be conducted in English.
Course of Media Class		Main Subjects	○
Course Title	Japanese Popular and Consumer Culture from Edo to the late 20th Century ②		
Course Objectives and Course Synopsis	<p>This course focuses on the history of popular culture in modern and contemporary Japan (from Edo to the early 2000s): its main media forms, genres, and practices. It aims to describe multiple phenomena that have shaped cultural production and consumption patterns in Japan, as well as various media and artifacts now known worldwide. Beyond the main topic of the course, described above, students will get a better grasp of popular culture in general and understand the main factors and powers involved of its development. The assignments introducing various samples of academic writing on the Japanese popular culture will allow students to discover new lines of inquiry potentially applicable in their postgraduate research.</p>		
Learning Goals	<p>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Describe the overall history of popular culture in Japan from the Edo period to the early 2000s. 2) Explain how historical circumstances, technological developments, and social changes came together to give life to new forms of entertainment media, genres, professions, and creative industries. 2) Recognize specific features of Japanese media and consumer behavior, but also find analogs and parallels in other countries where possible; use this understanding of the specific and the common to discern worldwide trends in popular culture. 		
Class Schedule and Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Course introduction; defining popular culture 2. WWII: Life and entertainment during the war, censorship, and propaganda 3. WWII aftermath: Japan during and after the occupation (reading assignment 1) 4. Animated movie screening: In This Corner of the World (2016) (reaction paper) 5. TV Era: The impact of TV on other media 6. Postwar anime: The legacy of Tetsuwan no Atomu (Astroboy) (reading assignment 2) 7. Special effects on screen: Kaijū movies and tokusatsu 8. Movie screening: Godzilla (1954) 96 min. (reaction paper) 9. The affluent 70s: The arrival of kawaii culture (creative assignment) 10. Social, political, ecological crises reflected in popular media 11. Animated TV series screening: Tokyo Magnitude 8.0 (2009) (reaction paper) 12. Opening the mountains: Hiking and mountain-climbing booms in Japan 13. Early history of game centers and video games in Japan 14. Mass media, press, and scandal in Japan (reading assignment 5) 15. Movie screening: シン・ゴジラ (2016) — till prime minister's death (reaction paper) <p>(講義構成は変更することがあります) (the lecture content may be subject to change)</p>		
Grading Plan	<p>ATTENDANCE (20%) Students absent for five or more classes may be disqualified from the course. If you must be absent from class, you must notify the lecturer in advance. Presence in class=1, participating online (without special reason)=0.5</p> <p>ASSIGNMENTS (80%) Assignments (40%): Reading assignments are based on articles by Western academics on the history of popular and mass media in Japan.</p> <p>Reaction papers (40%): You will write a short reaction paper after each movie/anime screening. The reaction paper must comment on the contents of the movie as well as the relevant topic covered in the preceding lectures (with the exception of the last screening). The rubric for reaction papers will be provided separately.</p>		
Textbooks and Recommended Readings	No textbook will be required as readings will be provided by the instructor.		
Assignments	<p>Out-of-class preparation covers 3 hours a week on average and includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > revision of lecture contents based on slides (slides to be distributed after class) (<1 h) > reading and writing assignments (2-5 h) > reaction papers completed and submitted after the lecture (1 h) 		
Practical business			
Other Remarks	<p>If you have any questions regarding the course, feel free to contact me via the following email: kopylova.olga.d4@tohoku.ac.jp You can also find me in my office (building C13, 827) on Mon.~Fri. 8:30 am-17.30 pm.</p>		

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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.