

ATW 2012 Course Syllabus
"Migration, Globalisation, and Identity in Contemporary Japan"
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Course Description

How do we understand a rapidly globalising Japan? What are some of the keywords necessary to grasp the complexities of Japanese society in the twenty-first century? This course attempts to answer such questions by covering a broad range of topics related to contemporary Japanese society, including Nihonjinron and national identity, cultural diplomacy and soft power, 'international' marriage, minorities, migration, and multiculturalism. While the focus is firmly on Japan, the importance of Japan's position in and relations with Asia will become clear as the course develops.

Format

Generally, classes will be split into two parts, the first half comprising a lecture, and the second half a small-group activity.

Grading

The final grade will be a combination of attendance, punctuality, class participation (including the mid-term debate), and the final exam. If you're going to miss a class or if there is anything else that might affect your grade, please let me know (my e-mail is at the top of the page).

Readings

All readings are my own, unless a different author is specified. I recommend you look over each reading before the next class.

Class Schedule

Week 1 (National Identity)

- ASC 1: Introduction

- ASC 2: Nihonjinron

2004 'Maintaining Identities: Discourses of Homogeneity in a Rapidly Globalising Japan'. *Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies* (<http://www.japanesestudies.org.uk/articles/Burgess.html>) (April 19)

- ASC 3: Soft Power and Cultural Diplomacy

Forthcoming 'Globalisation and the (Belated) Opening of Japan: Challenges and Opportunities in Reducing the Perception Gap between Japan and the Rest of the World', in *Opening Japan: The Future of Japan's Economy, Science, and Technology*. edited by Ross Mouer.

- ASC 4: 3.11

2011 'Media Grasp for Words to Sum up Post-3/11 Grit'. *Japan Times* (June 21), p.12 (available at <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/fl20110621zg.html>).

2011 'Japanese National Character Stereotypes in the Foreign Media in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake: Myth or Reality?'. *The Tsuda Review* 56 (November), pp.23-56.

- ASC 5: The Japanese Language

2012 'It's Better if they Speak Broken Japanese': Language as a Pathway or an Obstacle to Citizenship in Japan?', in *Language and Citizenship in Japan*. edited by Nanette Gottlieb. London and New York: Routledge, pp.37-57.

Week 2 (Non-Japanese in Japan)

- ASC 6: Minorities and the Discourse on Difference

2008 'Celebrating 'Multicultural Japan': Writings on 'Minorities' and the Discourse on 'Difference'. *Electronic Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies* (<http://www.japanesestudies.org.uk/articles/2008/Burgess.html>).

- ASC 7: Foreign Workers and Crime

Ellis, Thomas, and Koichi Hamai

2007 'Crime and Punishment in Japan: From Re-integrative Shaming to Popular Punitivism'. *Japan Focus* (<http://japanfocus.org/products/details/2340>) (Jan. 29).

- ASC 8: DEBATE ("Japan should Import More Foreign Workers")

- ASC 9: Human Rights

Japan Times

2008 'Prejudice among obstacles facing non-Japanese tenants'. (Nov 18), (available at <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/text/fl20081118zg.html>).

Yamanaka, Keiko

2002 'Ana Bortz's law suit and minority rights in Japan (JPRI working paper)'. *Japan Policy Research Institute* 88 (September), (available at <http://www.jpri.org/publications/workingpapers/wp88.html>).

- ASC 10: Multicultural Japan?

2007 'Multicultural Japan' Remains a Pipe Dream'. *Japan Times* (March 27), p.16 (<http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/fl20070327zg.html>).

2007 'Multicultural Japan? Discourse and the 'Myth' of Homogeneity'. *Japan Focus* (<http://japanfocus.org/-Chris-Burgess/2389>) (March 24).

2010 'The 'Illusion' of Homogeneous Japan and National Character: Discourse as a Tool to Transcend the 'Myth' vs. 'Reality' Binary'. *Japan Focus* (<http://japanfocus.org/-Chris-Burgess/3310>) (March 1).

Week 3 (Japan in the World)

- ASC 11: Internationalisation and Globalisation

2010 'Higher education: opening up or closing in? Contradictory reform goals could scotch chances of success'. *Japan Times* (March 23), p.12 (available at <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/fl20100323zg.html>).

2010 'The 'Global 30' Project and Japanese Higher Education Reform: An Example of a 'Closing in' or an 'Opening up'?. *Globalisation, Societies and Education* 8:4 (November), pp.461-75.

- ASC 12: International Marriage and Divorce

2008 '(Re)Constructing Boundaries: International Marriage Migrants in Yamagata as Agents of Multiculturalism', in *Multiculturalism in the New Japan: Crossing the Boundaries Within*. edited by Nelson Graburn, John Ertl and R. Kenji Tierney. New York and Oxford: Berghahn, pp.63-86.

- ASC 13: "International" Children

2011 '(Mis)Managing Diversity in non-Metropolitan Public Schools: The Lack of State-Sponsored Support for 'Newcomer' Children', in *Minorities and Education in Multicultural Japan: An Iterative Perspective*. edited by Ryoko Tsuneyoshi, Kaori H. Okano and Sarane Boocock. London and New York: Routledge, pp.191-212.

- ASC 14: Japan's Relations with China and Korea

Saito, Hiro

2011 'Northeast Asia's Difficult Past: Essays in Collective Memory'. *Social Science Japan Journal* 14:1 (Winter), pp.75-78 (available at <http://ssjj.oxfordjournals.org/content/14/1/75.short>).

- ASC 15: Final Exam