

Course Title: Japan in Asia: A Survey Course on Japan's Interactions with Northeast Asia, US and India

Course Description

This course is a survey of issues pertaining to Japan that include energy leadership, demographic changes, robotic technologies and soft power/creative innovation in popular culture. This course does not pretend to be comprehensive but highlights selectively some aspects of Japan's unique development not only through text but also through visual materials and visits to actual sites. In the context of perceptions of the Asia-Pacific economic shift, it also situates Japan and its interactions in Northeast Asia without omitting the great importance and significance of US and India to the region.

Grading:

Quiz: 40%. Consists 10 multiple choice questions, 4 points or 4% total course grade each

Class Project Presentation: 40%

Class participation: 20%

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ASC 1 Introduction

Reading:

- (1) Introduction to the course contents and its requirements.

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ASC 2 Pacific century: Regional and Global Perspectives

Reading:

- (1) Borthwick, Mark, "Pacific century: Regional and Global Perspectives" in Pacific Century The Emergence of Modern Pacific Asia (Australia: Westview Press), 1998, pp. 507-550 (43 pages, first 20 pages)
- (2) Discussion of reading

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ASC 3 Pacific century: Regional and Global Perspectives

Continue Reading:

- (1) Borthwick, Mark, "Pacific century: Regional and Global Perspectives" in Pacific Century The Emergence of Modern Pacific Asia (Australia: Westview Press), 1998, pp. 507-550 (43 pages, second 23 pages)
- (2) Discussion of reading

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ASC 4: The Popular Cultural Soft Power (Northeast Asia and Japan)

Readings:

- (1) Tsutsui, William M., "Japan as Soft Superpower" in Japanese Popular Culture and Globalization (Ann Arbor: Association for Asian Studies Inc.), 2010, pp. 59-69. (10 pages)
- (2) A Historiographical Survey and Literature Review of Soft Power in Northeast Asia
- (3) Discussion of Reading

ASC 5: Fukuoka as the Gateway to Asia: Visit to Fukuoka City Museum

Fukuoka City Museum opened on October 18, 1990 as a place for people to trace and learn the cultural development of the city through the history of the region and the lifestyle of its population. The museum is located in the fashionable bayside Momochihama district with many cultural and entertainment attractions including the Fukuoka City Public Library, Fukuoka Tower and Marizon

By Municipal Subway

13 minutes ride from Hakata Station, or 7 minutes ride from Tenjin Station.

Get off at Nisijin Station, use exit No. 1, and walk about 15 minutes.

■By Nishitetsu Bus

30 minutes ride from Hakata Station, or 15 minutes ride from Tenjin

Take bus bound for Noko Ferry Landing, Nisikoshita, and Muromi Danchi via Urban Expressway, get off at Hakubutukan kita-guchi and short walk.

Take bus bound for Fukuoka Tower Minami-guchi and Fujisaki via Urban Expressway, get off at Hakubutsukan Minami-guchi and short walk.

Take bus bound for Nishijin or Fujisaki, get off at Shuyukan-mae bus stop and walk about 15 minutes.

(Source of information: http://museum.city.fukuoka.jp/english/ec/ec_fr3_103.html)

ASC 6: Japan and the Oil Crisis

Reading:

(1) Takamichi, Mito, State Power Oil Corp. State power and multinational oil corporations (Japan: Kyushu University Press), 2001. Chapter 9 pp. 193-226

(2) Discussion of reading

ASC 7: Visit to Kyushu Energy Science Center

Visit to Kyushu Energy Science Centre (if planning allows)

Address: 4-13-55, Yakuin, Chuo-ku, Fukuoka Telephone: 092-522-2333

Open/Closed: Open:09:00-17:00 Closed:Monday, or if holiday, following Monday.

Notes: Free Parking O.K.

ASC 8: Quiz

Class participants are tested on their knowledge of Lessons 1-7

ASC 9: Northeast Asia – Energy and Environment

(1) Perceptions of “Clean” Energy within Northeast Asia: A Historical Survey and Historiography of More Recent Northeast Asian Developments in the Gas Energy Industry in the Twenty-First Century

(2) Learning from Japan: A History of Environmental Initiatives by Japan in Northeast Asia

(3) Discussion of reading

ASC 10: The Rise of China and India

Reading:

- (1) Koide, M, "A Japanese Perspective on the Rise of China and India" in The Rise of China and India a New Asian Drama (New Jersey, London and Singapore: World Scientific), 2009.
 - (2) Living with Energy Giants: A Historical Survey of Japan, US, India, China Energy Entities in the International System
 - (3) Discussion of Reading
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ASC 11: Robotic Nation

Reading:

- (1) Ishikawa, Akira and Atsushi Tsujimoto, Creative Marketing for New Product and New Business Development (London and New Jersey: Hackensack), 2006, Chapter 8 Robot Development Case Examples, pp. 243-274 (31 pages)
- (2) Technological Solutions for Aging Demographics in Japan: A Robotic/Techno Managerial Approach

Discussion of reading and analyze selected video clips on this subject

ASC 12: Japan's Technological Leadership (Visit to Robo Square)

Visit to Robo Square (if planning allows)

This is the world's first robot museum that offers the chance to experience robots first-hand and has a collection of 111 robots of 41 types. The square offers the public a glimpse into the latest robotic technologies and artificial intelligence research, organized in special zones, such as most advanced robots, two-way communication with robots, and robot development. The goal of the square is to make Fukuoka a town of robotic encounters, where robots and humans share the same space and robots become an active component in everyday life. (Source: <http://robosquare.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/>)

ASC 13:

Project Presentation 1

ASC 14:

Project Presentation 2

ASC 15:

Project Presentation 3 (depending on number of class participants) and conclusion of course
