



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

JPNS 317.01
Japanese Civilization
Fall 2021
MWF 09:00 - 09:50 (Online - Synchronous and Asynchronous)

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Darcy Gauthier

OFFICE HOURS: Zoom by appointment

LECTURE LOCATION:

Live lectures will be hosted on Zoom (access details will be posted on the course website)

E-MAIL: darcy.gauthier@ucalgary.ca - *Please only send emails to this official University of Calgary email account. You will also need to use your U of Calgary email address for all course-related communications. Please include the course code (JPNS 317.01) in your subject heading. I will try to respond to your emails within 24 hours (excluding weekends and holidays).*

DESCRIPTION

A survey of Japanese civilization from prehistory to the modern era, covering political systems, culture, religions, literature, schools of thought, and material life in Japan. Several themes will run through the course including connections between Japan and its neighbours, "outsiders" in Japan, gender and sexuality, disasters, the relationship between language, culture, and history, and the recurring tensions between people, state, nation, and empire. We will also at times challenge the nature and assumptions of historical research and examine alternative forms of historicism and historical periodization.

OBJECTIVES

Course content will be divided into six units each covering a different topic corresponding to a period in Japan's history: Introduction to "Japan" and its Prehistory, The Emperor System, Warriors and the State, Japan's Westernization Process, Showa Imperialism, and Japan in the "Present." Each unit will cover some of Japan's most significant historical events, literary and cultural achievements, and social and political developments.

OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to recall the major historical, cultural, literary, social, and political developments related to Japanese civilization, identify some of the characteristics and limitations of historical research, and articulate their own personal responses to the course materials.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

The textbook for this course is Brett L. Walker's [A Concise History of Japan](#) (2015). It is available electronically through the University of Calgary's library website.

In addition to the textbook, you will also have required weekly supplementary readings and videos, which will be made available either through the U of Calgary library or for download on the course website.

Students are required to have a device capable of accessing Zoom (for live lectures), Youtube (for pre-recorded lectures), and U of Calgary's D2L courseware.

RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS

Various optional reading and viewing material may be suggested throughout the course.



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COURSE NOTES

This course will be run fully online/remotely using the University's learning management system, D2L. Each week is divided into three sections. A pre-recorded lecture video will be uploaded each Monday (except on holidays of Sep. 6 and Oct. 11, where they will be uploaded on Tuesday). A live lecture will be held every Wednesday from 9-9:50am where we will look more closely at a particular element of interest. A workshoping session will be held every Friday from 9-9:50am to prepare for assignments, do "in-class" activities, and discuss materials in a more informal setting. No classes will be held on the week of Nov. 7-13 (Term Break). The live lectures will be hosted on Zoom (access will be posted on the course website).

ASSESSMENT

Multiple-choice quizzes (x10) – 30%

Midterm Response Paper (x1) – 20% - Due Oct. 23

Final Project Proposal – 10% - Due Dec. 4

Final Project – 25% Due Dec. 18

Participation (in live lecture and weekly D2L discussion boards) – 15%

All **deadlines** expire at 11:59pm on the due date. **Penalty for late work** -5 (out of 100) each day.

Multiple-choice quizzes will be posted weekly (most weeks) on D2L. They will contain simple multiple-choice questions and will test your understanding of the week's materials.

The **Midterm Response Paper** will consist of a short critical response to one of the primary required readings. It should be *roughly* 400-600 words, 1.5-2.5 pages, double-spaced, 12pt font, 1" margins. You will be expected to draw upon the assigned readings and your own ideas when answering the response question, rather than using external sources.

The Final Project Proposal should be three paragraphs and will describe your plan for the final project (see below), plus list all your sources (course readings, lecture notes, and at least ONE other source you feel is appropriate). Topics and guidelines will be posted along with suggestions for how to find sources.

The Final Project must be based on your project proposal (see above). You have two options for the final project:

1. An argumentative essay (2000 words, 8 pages, double-spaced, 12pt font, 1" margins)
2. A creative project (video, narrative essay, comic book, work of fiction, etc.) accompanied by a written project statement (400-600 words, 1.5-2.5 pages, double-spaced, 12pt font, 1" margins). The statement of purpose must explain your project and how it relates to this course.

Both the Midterm paper and Final Project (proposal) will be graded based on three main criteria: grasp of subject matter; capacity to analyze, synthesize, evaluate, and respond to course materials; and quality of writing and organization.

Participation is graded based on what you contributed on the **discussion board** (weekly topic questions will be posted for discussion) and in the **weekly live group sessions**. Attendance is not recorded in live sessions, only participation. You are NOT expected to participate in every live session or comment on all discussion board topics. The quality of your participation is more important than the quantity. That means, most of all, demonstrating interest in the materials, for example by asking questions, responding to other students in constructive ways, or sharing your insights into the course.

GRADING SCALE



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Assignments will be given a percentage grade. Below is a list of equivalencies:

Grade	Grade Point Value	Percentage	Description
A+	4.0	90-100	Exceptional, exceeds expectations
A	4.0	85-89	
A-	3.7	80-84	
B+	3.3	77-79	Good to very good, meets expectations
B	3.0	73-76	
B-	2.7	70-72	
C+	2.3	67-69	Satisfactory to Adequate
C	2.0	63-66	
C-	1.7	60-62	
D+	1.3	57-59	Inadequate to Unsatisfactory
D	1.0	50-56	
F	0.0	0-49	

More details can be found in the [U of Calgary Calendar](#).

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.



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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.