

Course Syllabus

Course Information

(course number, course title, term, any specific section title)

HST 4359.003

MODERN JAPAN

F 9:30-12:15

Professor Contact Information

(Professor's name, phone number, email, office location, office hours, other information)

Dr. Joan E. Mortensen

Office Hours: Before and after class & By appointment

Phone: 972-727-5220 (home)

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Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

(including required prior knowledge or skills)

Course Description

This course is a survey of Japanese history from 1600 to the present day. It is divided into three units. The first unit begins with the unification of Japan by the great samurai lord Tokugawa Ieyasu in 1600. The Tokugawa rulers inaugurated a period of almost 300 years of peace in Japan. Yet, what did Japan's elite warriors or samurai do during 300 years of peacetime? The class will look at the ethos of Bushido or the "Way of the Warrior" as it was articulated during the Tokugawa period. The Tokugawa era (1600-1868) was also the most creative epoch in the development of Japanese art and literature.

The second unit will examine the Japan's "response" to its encounter with the West in the 19th century. The approach of Commodore Perry's "Black Ships" to Japan's shores unleashed great forces of social and political change which culminated in the restoration of the Meiji emperor and the dissolution of the samurai class.

The final unit of the course discusses Japan's role in World War II, the American occupation of Japan and Japan's economic miracle in the post-war years. This unit also will explore Japan's contemporary popular culture, focusing in particular on baseball and anime.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Students will understand the traditional Japanese socio-political order, the causes underlying Japanese militarism in the 20th century, and the factors contributing to Japan's post-war

economic boom. Students will participate in discussions about primary source materials and literature written during this historical period.

Required Textbooks and Materials

Andrew Gordon, A Modern History of Japan
Roger J. Davies & Osamu Ikeno, The Japanese Mind
Saburo Ienaga, The Pacific War
Yukichi Fukuzawa, Autobiography of Yukichi Fukuzawa
Kazuo Ishiguro, An Artist of the Floating World
Fumiko Enchi, The Waiting Years
Ivan Morris, The Nobility of Failure, printout available in bookstore printout or on reserve in library.

There will also be handouts during the course of the semester. The full length film, *The Twilight Samurai* will be shown in class along with portions of other films such as *The Last Samurai*, *Millennium Actress*, and *Letters from Iwo Jima*.

Suggested Course Materials

Assignments & Academic Calendar

(Topics, Reading Assignments, Due Dates, Exam Dates)

Aug. 17: Introduction to Class; Patterns in Japanese History
Origins of the samurai; The Unification of Japan,
Reading: handouts

Aug. 24: Tokugawa Shogunate, Zen & Bushido, "The Way of the Warrior", The Tokugawa, The Closing of Japan
Gordon, Japan, pp. 1-19
The Japanese Mind, sections on *Aimai*, *Amae*, *Bigaku*, *Bushido*, *Chinmoku*, *The Do Spirit*, *Wabi-Sabi*, *Shudan Ishiki*.

Aug. 31: Tokugawa Society, The Culture of the Floating World
Reading: Gordon, Japan, pp. 21-45
Nobility of Failure, Handout on "Amakusa Shiro"

Sept. 7 : Dutch learning. 19th cent. crisis in Tokugawa Bakufu.
The arrival of Commodore Perry
Autobiography of Fukuzawa Yukichi, Chapters 1-5
Handout on Dutch learning.

Quiz 1

- Sept 14: From Tokugawa to Meiji
 Fukuzawa Yukichi, Ch. 6-11
 Reading: Gordon, pp. 46-76
- Sept. 21: From Tokugawa To Meiji
The Twilight Samurai –film
 Complete Autobiography of Fukuzawa Yukichi
Research Paper Intro and Bibliography due. (2-3 pages)
- Sept. 28: The Meiji Period
Test 1
 Reading: Gordon, pp. 77-114,
Nobility of Failure, “Saigo Takamori”
 Fumiko Enchi, The Waiting Years, pp. 1-79
- Oct. 5: The beginnings of Japanese Imperialism
 Complete The Waiting Years.
The Japanese Mind, sections on *Danjyo Kankei*, *Gambari*, *Giri*,
Hedataru to Najimu, *Honne to Tatemae*, The Japanese *le* System ;
 Gordon, pp. 115-160
- Oct. 12: Taisho Democracy
 Gordon, pp. 161-203
The Pacific War: Chapters 1-4
- Oct. 19 : Sino- Japanese War; Expansion of War into the Pacific
Quiz 2
 Reading: The Pacific War: Chapters 5-8
 Gordon, pp. 204-225
- Oct. 26 : The Kamikaze Pilots, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, The Japanese Surrender
Research Paper Due
Nobility of Failure, “The Kamikaze Fighters”
The Japanese Mind, *Soshiki*
The Pacific War: Complete
- Nov. 2: The American Occupation.
 Reading: An Artist of the Floating World
The Japanese Mind, *Haragei*, *Itoko-Dori*, *Ikuji*, *Kenkyo*, *Omiiai*,
 Gordon, pp. 226-243
- Nov. 9: Post War Japan: The Economic Miracle
Test 2
 Gordon, pp. 245-290
- Nov. 16: Japan Today
The Japanese Mind, *Amakudari*, *Kisetsu*, *Nemawashi*, *Ryosaikenbo*,
Sempai-Kohai, *Uchi to Soto*, *Zoto*

Gordon, pp. 290-332
Nov. 30: Test 3 Optional Test In Class. **Final Essay Due.**

Grading Policy

(including percentages for assignments, grade scale, etc.)

GRADING:

Map Quiz – 5%
Tests – 50%
Research Paper – 25 %
Final Essay 20%

Students are expected to complete all elements of the class. No incompletes will be given.

Last day to withdraw from classes with with WP/WF- **October 11.**

Course & Instructor Policies

(make-up exams, extra credit, late work, special assignments, class attendance, classroom citizenship, etc.)

Much of the material covered in the lectures is not in the reading.

Hence, class attendance is important and will be noted. If you cannot attend class, you should ask someone to take notes for you and pick up the class handouts. When you attend class, you are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class. There will be a 10-15 minute break during class. If you need to leave early, I need to know before the beginning of class.

Cell phones must be turned off during class.

Please bring the books we are studying to class with you.

Late papers: The research paper should be turned in on time. If a paper is turned in within one week, I will take off 5 points. After that, I will take 15 points off for being late.

Field Trip Policies

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional information is

available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a

UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of **F**.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:
The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22
PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688
(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.