

JAPANESE150 EXPLORING JAPAN COURSE SCHEDULE (2018)

PART 1: HISTORY

WEEK 1: INTRODUCTION

1. (26 July) Introduction to the course and a short video clip *Pikadon* (1978)
2. (27 July) Hiroshima, Nagasaki, and the construction of Japan as victim

No tutorial and no readings this week. Please **book your Week 2 library training session** by the end of this week (see 'tutorial' section of this syllabus for the details).

WEEK 2: THE TOKUGAWA PERIOD

3. (2 August) Tokugawa unification and the 'closed country'
4. (3 August) Tokugawa economy: emerging capitalism and unique culture

Tutorial: **Library Training Session. We will meet in the computer lab, Information Commons** (Since the space in the computer lab is limited, you need to select your time via CANVAS or Library website - see "Tutorial" section of the syllabus for the details)

WEEK 3: BARBARIANS AT THE GATE

5. (9 August) Opening Japan and end of Tokugawa regime: domestic changes and foreign influences
6. (10 August) Remaking Japan in the late nineteenth century

Tutorial: Writing reviews [reading: sections on plagiarism and referencing styles in the syllabus; please come with some basic ideas you'd like to use in your review]

WEEK 4: WAR AND AGRESSION

7. (16 August) Japan before and after the WWI
8. (17 August) Pearl Harbour to Pacific War

Tutorial: "Race" in the war

800 words article REVIEW: DUE in WEEK 4 (4pm Thursday 17th Aug) Please read the section on the coursework in the syllabus carefully.

WEEK 5: THE END OF THE WAR AND NEW JAPAN

9. (23 August) The Occupation, Democratic Constitution and Pacifism (RS)

10. (24 August) Postwar Economic Development (RS)

Tutorial: Article 9 and Japanese pacifism

WEEK 6: REMEMBERING THE WAR

11. (30 August) The Nanjing Massacre (RS)

12. (31 August) The Yasukuni Shrine (RS)

Tutorial: War memory in East Asia

----- **Mid-semester Break (4 – 16 Sept)** -----

PART 2: SOCIETY AND CULTURE

WEEK 7: SOCIETY AND GENDER

12. (20 Sept) Making home-makers (RS)

13. (21 Sept) Women at work (FCF)

Tutorial: Gender equality in Japan

WEEK 8: MINORITIES

14. (27 Sept) *Burakumin* and Koreans (RS)

15. (28 Sept) Ainu and Okinawans (RS)

Tutorial: Essay writing

WEEK 9: WORKING LIFE

16. (4 Oct) Salaryman and OL (RS)

17. (5 Oct) Precarity in the 21st century: Homeless, freeter, NEET and Working Poor (RS)

Tutorial: Work and masculinity in Japan

1,500 words Essay due in Week 8 (4pm Thu, 5 Oct)

PART 3: LANGUAGE, LITERATURE AND POPULAR CULTURE

WEEK 10: LITERATURE

18. (11 Oct) Premodern Literature

19. (12 Oct) Contemporary Literature

Tutorial: The Tale of Genji

WEEK 11: RELIGION AND LANGUAGE

21. (18 Oct) Japanese religion (MM)

22. (19 Oct) Japanese language (HM)

Tutorial: Loanwords and linguistic purism

WEEK 12: Pop culture and Conclusion

23. (25 Oct) Popular Culture: Miyazaki Hayao's animation (RS)

24. (26 Oct) Conclusion: SUMMARY AND EXAM PREPARATION (RS)