

**The University of Western Ontario
Department of History**

History 2605E: Survey of Japanese History

Wednesday 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

Instructor: Carl Young

Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30-3:30
or by appointment

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The purpose of this course is to investigate the development of Japan and its interactions with the outside world from prehistory to the present day. Although much of the focus of the course will be political and economic, we will also look at how these factors interacted with cultural and intellectual developments. Being an island nation off the eastern coast of Asia has permitted Japan to receive many influences from the continent, but has also isolated it at the same time, allowing it to develop unique political, social, cultural and economic structures.

Japan first consolidated itself as an aristocratic state in the 6th century CE. Between the mid-12th to the mid 19th centuries CE, Japan was ruled by a variety of military regimes that marked its politics, society and culture. The Tokugawa military regime, which ruled Japan between 1600 and 1868, restricted contact with the outside world. Western powers eventually broke through this self-imposed isolation in the 1850's and Japan was forcibly integrated into the new economic and political order imposed on the world by the European powers in the mid-19th century. Although starting from a position of disadvantage, Japan managed over a period of 50 years to become the first industrialised nation in Asia. It not only succeeded in maintaining its autonomy in the new international system, but began establishing a new empire in the Asia-Pacific, making it the only non-Western imperial power in the 19th and 20th centuries. By the end of World War I, Japan was considered one of the Great Powers, essential to the world balance of power. However, Japan's ongoing campaigns of expansion in Asia in the 1930's would eventually lead to disaster in World War II and the end of Japan's overseas empire. The legacy of this period is still a major part of Japan's national experience, however, and set the foundation for its even stronger success in the latter half of the 20th century, this time as an economic rather than a military power.

Required Texts

Mikiso Hane and Louis G. Perez, *Premodern Japan: A Historical Survey (2nd edition)*, Westview Press, 2015

Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan (Third Edition)*, Oxford University Press, 2014

The Gossamer Years: A Diary of a Noblewoman of Heian Japan, Tuttle Publishing, 1964

Hagakure: The Book of the Samurai, Kodansha International, 1979

James L. Huffman, *Modern Japan: A History in Documents* (2nd edition), Oxford University Press, 2011

Course Evaluation

Term Paper (10-15 pages)	20%
Book Review (5-8 pages)	15%
2 Source Document Assignments (7.5% each; 3-6 pages)	15%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%
Quizzes	<u>10%</u>
	100%

The term paper will be a research paper on topics of your choice in the history of Japan. Suggested topics will be posted on the course WebCT site early in the beginning of the second semester. The suggested length of the paper is approximately 10-15 pages. The paper will be due on **March 9 by 5:00 PM.**

The book review will be based on **one** of the two books (*The Gossamer Years* and *Hagakure*) assigned in the first semester and will be due on **Nov. 11 by 5:00 PM.** Students will be required to set out the main themes of the book, referring to the book with examples showing how the authors bring out their themes. They will also comment as to what the books reveal about the characters involved and their ideas and the book's contribution to better understanding related historical events and Japanese society and culture at the time the books were written.

The two source document assignments will be based on documents from *Modern Japan: A History in Documents*. Questions based on the documents will be posted on the course WebCT site and students will choose **one** question and write a 4-6 page analysis of the documents relating to the question for each assignment. The first source document assignment on themes from the Tokugawa period to the late Meiji period will be due on **Dec. 9 by 5:00 PM.** The second source document assignment on themes from the late Meiji period to the present will be due on **March 30 by 5:00 PM.**

There will be two exams in the course, one in the December exam period covering topics from the first semester and the other in the April exam period covering topics from the second semester. The exams will be made up of a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions.

There are four scheduled quizzes throughout the course. These will be composed of between 15- 25 multiple-choice questions each and will be held in the first 10 minutes of class for which they are scheduled. They will mainly be based on the keywords for the lectures and the readings that are on the course WebCT site.

If you should have any questions pertaining to the structure or content of the course, please do not hesitate to contact me during my office hours, or by phone or e-mail to make an appointment.

Lateness and Absence Policy

The term paper, book review assignment, and the source document assignments will be accepted late. However, there will be a penalty of 2% a day that will be applied for every day the assignments are late, including weekends and holidays. In case of family emergency or illness, penalties can be removed from assignments by undergoing the process laid out in the next paragraph relating to academic accommodation on medical or compassionate grounds. If you have missed class, try and get notes from another member of the class.

Students are reminded that academic accommodation on medical grounds can in most instances **only** be granted if supported by a **University of Western Ontario Student Medical Certificate**. This form can be accessed at the following website: https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf or be picked up at the Academic Counselling Office in the student's home faculty. (For Social Science students, this is located at SSC 2105) Further details on this policy can be found at the following website: <http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf>

If you do hand in your assignment late, please hand it in to the wooden drop-off box outside the History Department office at Lawson Hall. The staff will pick up the assignment and stamp it with a date and time and put it in my mailbox. This provides greater security and clarity for the handing in of the assignment. Please avoid shoving the paper under my office door if at all possible, because it could get lost.

Academic Dishonesty

It is expected that proper footnoting and referencing will be used for all the papers of this course. Plagiarism is a serious offence and can bring forth severe academic penalties. Please refer to the University calendar and to the department website for more details. More detailed information is provided at the end of this course outline.

History 2605E Readings—Sept.2015-April 2016

Hane & Perez= Mikiso Hane and Louis G. Perez, *Premodern Japan: A Historical Survey* (2nd edition), Westview Press, 2015

Gordon= Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan (Third Edition)*, Oxford University Press, 2014

Huffman= James L. Huffman, *Modern Japan: A History in Documents* (2nd edition), Oxford University Press, 2011

Sept. 16—Introduction

Sept. 23-- Early Japan

Hane & Perez, p. 1-56

Sept. 30 & Oct. 7—Culture, Society, and Politics in Heian Japan

Hane and Perez, p. 57-76; *The Gossamer Years*

Oct. 14 —The Rise of Warriors and the Kamakura Shogunate

Hane & Perez, p. 81-118

******Quiz 1—Oct. 14******

Oct. 21 & 28—The Ashikaga Shogunate and Civil War in Japan

Hane & Perez, p. 119-177

Nov. 4 & 11—Politics, Culture, and Society in Tokugawa Japan

Hane & Perez, p. 179-251; Huffman, 9-37; *Hagakure*

******Book Review Assignment due Nov. 11******

Nov. 18—Crisis and Revolutionary Restoration

Hane & Perez, p. 253-314; Huffman, p.39-47

******Quiz 2—Nov. 18******

Nov. 25 & Dec. 2 & 9—Politics, Economy, and Society in Early Meiji Japan

Gordon, p. 61-112; Huffman, p. 49-71

******1st Source Document Assignment due Dec. 9******

******Mid-term Exam during December examination period******

Jan. 6, Jan. 13, & Jan. 20—Early Japanese Imperialism and the Impact of Empire

Gordon, p. 113-137; Huffman, p. 73-95

Jan. 27 & Feb. 3--The Tumultuous Twenties

Gordon, p. 139-180; Huffman, p. 97-119

******Quiz 3—Jan. 27******

Feb. 10 & 24—The Manchurian Incident and the Darkening Thirties

Gordon, p. 181-201; Huffman, p. 121-131

Feb. 15-19—Reading Week—No class

March 2 & 9—The Drive for a “New Order” and the Greater East Asia War

Gordon, p. 202-223; Huffman, 131-147

******Term Paper due March 9******

March 16—Embracing Defeat: The US Occupation

Gordon, p. 224-241; Huffman, 149-160

******Quiz 4—March 16******

March 23 & 30—Recovery and Affluence: Building a New Japanese Model

Gordon, p. 243-307; Huffman, p.160-190

******2nd Source Document Assignment due March 30******

April 6—Uncertainty and Hope in the Late 20th and Early 21st Centuries

Gordon, p. 308-354; Huffman, p. 190-199

******Final Exam in the April exam period******

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

Prerequisites and Antirequisites:

Unless you have either the requisites for this course, as described in the Academic Calendar description of the course, or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites. The Academic Calendar description of each course also indicates which classes are considered antirequisites, i.e., to cover such similar material that students are not permitted to receive academic credit for both courses.

Academic Offences:

Scholastic Offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitute a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Plagiarism:

Students must write their essays and assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea, or a passage from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing such as footnotes or citations. Plagiarism is a major academic offense (see Scholastic Offence Policy in the Western Academic Calendar).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

The following rules pertain to the acknowledgements necessary in academic papers.

A. In using another writer's words, you must both place the words in quotation marks and acknowledge that the words are those of another writer.

You are plagiarizing if you use a sequence of words, a sentence or a paragraph taken from other writers without acknowledging them to be theirs. Acknowledgement is indicated either by (1) mentioning the author and work from which the words are borrowed in the text of your paper; or by (2) placing a footnote number at the end of the quotation in your text, and including a correspondingly numbered footnote at the bottom of the page (or in a separate reference section at the end of your essay). This footnote should indicate author, title of the work, place and date of Publication and page number. Method (2) given above is usually preferable for academic essays because it provides the reader with more information about your sources and leaves your text uncluttered with parenthetical and tangential references. In either case words taken from another author must be enclosed in quotation marks or set off from your text by single spacing and

indentation in such a way that they cannot be mistaken for your own words. Note that you cannot avoid indicating quotation simply by changing a word or phrase in a sentence or paragraph which is not your own.

B. In adopting other writer's ideas, you must acknowledge that they are theirs.

You are plagiarizing if you adopt, summarize, or paraphrase other writers' trains of argument, ideas or sequences of ideas without acknowledging their authorship according to the method of acknowledgement given in 'A' above. Since the words are your own, they need not be enclosed in quotation marks. Be certain, however, that the words you use are entirely your own; where you must use words or phrases from your source; these should be enclosed in quotation marks, as in 'A' above.

Clearly, it is possible for you to formulate arguments or ideas independently of another writer who has expounded the same ideas, and whom you have not read. Where you got your ideas is the important consideration here. Do not be afraid to present an argument or idea without acknowledgement to another writer, if you have arrived at it entirely independently. Acknowledge it if you have derived it from a source outside your own thinking on the subject.

In short, use of acknowledgements and, when necessary, quotation marks is necessary to distinguish clearly between what is yours and what is not. Since the rules have been explained to you, if you fail to make this distinction, your instructor very likely will do so for you, and they will be forced to regard your omission as intentional literary theft. Plagiarism is a serious offence which may result in a student's receiving an 'F' in a course or, in extreme cases, in their suspension from the University.

Medical Issues:

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links to the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

SUPPORT SERVICES:

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to [Mental Health@Western](mailto:MentalHealth@Western), <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/> for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Morgan Sheriff, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84999 or msherif5@uwo.ca