The aim of this course is to trace the historical development of Japan from 1600 to the present. The course will start with the Tokugawa period between 1600 and 1868 in order to understand some of the social and cultural foundations on which later political regimes built upon in the 19th and 20th centuries. It will then proceed to the Meiji period in the last half of the 19th century, when Japan combined its traditional heritage and new ideas from the West to create a nation-state that also had a strong impact on the Japanese economy, society, and culture. It will also trace the creation of Japan’s overseas empire in the early 20th century and the effect this had on Japan, culminating in its involvement in World War II. The course will conclude with the postwar reconstruction and Japan’s new global economic power in the last half of the 20th century and its impact on Japanese society and culture.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- assess the interaction between political, social, economic, and cultural factors in the development of the Japanese nation-state
- explain the characteristics of the different political regimes in modern Japanese history and their impact on Japanese society, economy, and culture
- Analyze primary and secondary sources on select topics in modern Japanese history through both oral discussion and written work
- Present findings and views from readings through oral presentations
- Synthesise primary and secondary sources to produce a research paper

**Required Texts**


Selected readings available on the course WebCT site

**Course Evaluation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Term Papers (around 15 pages each; 25% each)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Article Analyses (5-6 pages: 5% each)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Oral Presentations (5% each)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

100%

The term papers will be research papers based on topics of your choice in modern Japanese history. Suggested topics will be handed out early in the beginning of the semester. The suggested length of the papers will be approximately 10-15 pages. The first paper will deal with topics from 1600-1900 and will be due on **Nov. 15**. The second paper will deal with topics after 1900 and will be due on **March 13**.

The 6 article/document analyses will be based around the readings for each class. You will need to write **3** assignments per semester. For each semester, students will choose any **3** of the articles or documents assigned and write a 4-6 page paper each on the articles. These papers are **due on the day of the relevant seminar in which the particular reading is assigned. This assignment will not normally be accepted late.** This assignment is more than merely a summary. The main purpose of the paper is to bring forth the main issues of the article or series of documents, discuss how the author(s) bring forth their point of view, and also analyze the effectiveness of the readings in conveying information and opinion, as well as their contribution to the topic under discussion in the particular seminar.

Students will also be required to do **2** oral presentations in the course, one each semester. These will be based on the articles and documents assigned as readings for the seminar. A sign-up sheet will be passed around in the beginning of each semester. This will involve a brief 10-15 minute presentation on the reading in question, which will include a brief summary of the reading and the launching of questions for discussion.

This is a seminar course and the success of the seminar depends a lot on keeping up with the readings, attendance in class, and participation in discussion. It is for this reason that 10% of the course mark depends on seminar participation. Roll will be taken in each class and students will be given marks for participation in the discussions. For each class, students will be marked on a
scale of 1 to 5 for each class and at the end of the course, the marks will be added together to give an overall participation mark.

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 papers 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. The article/document analyses will normally not be accepted late. 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 2105 SSC.) 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. 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 can be seen on the following website

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf and at the end of the syllabus


Sept. 13—Introduction

Sept. 20—Setting up the Tokugawa System

Gordon, p. 11-21 (Chapter 1—“The Tokugawa Polity”)

SJT1, p. 7-27 (Chapter 20—“Ieyasu and the Founding of the Tokugawa Shogunate”)

Sept. 27—Society and Economy in Early and Mid-Tokugawa Japan

Gordon, p. 22-34 (Chapter 2—“Social and Economic Transformations”)


Oct. 4—Intellectual Life in Tokugawa Japan

Gordon, p. 35-46 (Chapter 3—“The Intellectual World of Late Tokugawa”)

SJT1, p. 28-74 (Chapter 21—“Confucianism in the Early Tokugawa Period”)

Oct. 11—Education in Tokugawa Japan

SJT1, p. 217-254 (Chapter 25—“Varieties of Neo-Confucian Education”)

SJT1, p. 255-288 (Chapter 26—“Popular Instruction”)

Oct. 18—Western Thought and Tokugawa Japan

SJT1, p. 125-157 (Chapter 23—“The Evangelic Furnace”)

SJT1, p. 289-313 (Chapter 27—“Dutch Learning”)

Oct. 25—Warrior Values and Lifestyles in Tokugawa Japan

*SJT1*, p. 353-393 (Chapter 29—“The Way of the Warrior II”)


Nov. 1—Urban Culture in Tokugawa Japan

C. Andrew Gerstle, “The Culture of Play: Kabuki and the Production of Texts”, *Oral Tradition* 20:2 (2005), p. 188-216 (available at the course WebCT site)


Nov. 8—Decline of the Tokugawa and Revolutionary Restoration

Gordon, p. 47-59 (Chapter 4—“The Overthrow of the Tokugawa”)

*SJT1*, p. 518-565 (Chapter 34—“The Debate over Seclusion and Restoration”)

Nov. 15—Early Meiji Reforms

Gordon, p. 61-75 (Chapter 5—“The Samurai Revolution”)

*SJT2*, p. 5-29 (Chapter 35—“The Meiji Restoration”)

**************************************************************************1st Term Paper due—Nov. 15**************************************************************************

Nov. 22—Constitutional and Political Debate in Meiji Japan

Gordon, p. 76-92 (Chapter 6—“Participation and Protest”)

*SJT2*, p. 52-80 (Chapter 37—“Popular Rights and Constitutionalism”)

Nov. 29—Society, Economy, and Education in Meiji Japan

Gordon, p. 93-112 (Chapter 7—“Social, Economic, and Cultural Transformations”)

*SJT2*, p. 82-116 (Chapter 38—“Education in Meiji Japan”)

Dec. 6—Domestic Politics and Imperial Expansion: 1890-1910

Gordon, p. 113-137 (Chapter 8—“Empire and Domestic Order”)


**********Dec 10-Jan. 8—Mid-term Examination period and Winter Holidays—No class**********
Jan. 10—Economy and Society in Taishō Japan

Gordon, p. 139-160 (Chapter 9—“Economy and Society”)


Jan. 17—Taishō Democracy and Empire

Gordon, p. 161-180 (Chapter 10—“Democracy and Empire between the World Wars”)

SJT2, p. 148-192 (Selected from Chapter 40—“The High Tide of Pre-war Liberalism”)

Jan. 24—The Rise of Militarism

Gordon, p. 181-201 (Chapter 11—“The Depression Crisis and Responses”)

“War Fever: Imperial Jingoism and the Mass Media” in Louise Young, Japan’s Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism, (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1998), p. 55-114 (available on the course WebCT site)

Jan. 31—Marxism and the Revolutionary Right

SJT2, p. 239-259 (Selected from Chapter 41—“Socialism and the Left”)

SJT2, p. 260-287 (Chapter 42—“The Rise of Revolutionary Nationalism”)

Feb. 7—Empire and War

Gordon, p. 202-223 (Chapter 12—“Japan in Wartime”)

SJT2, p. 288-319 (Chapter 43—“Empire and War”)

Feb. 14—The Occupation and Politics and Education

Gordon, p. 224-241 (Chapter 13—“Occupied Japan”)

SJT2, p. 323-343 (Selected from Chapter 44—“The Occupation Years, 1945-1952”)  

***************Feb. 20-24—Reading Week—No class***************

Feb. 28—The Occupation and Economic Development

SJT2, p. 343-360 (Selected from Chapter 44—“The Occupation Years, 1945-1952”)

March 6—High Growth: Economic and Social Transformations in the 1950’s and 1960’s

Gordon, p. 243-267 (Chapter 14—“Economic and Social Transformations”)


March 13—Democracy and Society in Postwar Japan

Gordon, p. 268-288 (Chapter 15—“Political Struggles and Settlements of the High-Growth Era”)

SJT2, p. 382-412 (Chapter 45—“Democracy and High Growth”)

***************2nd Term Paper due—March 13***************

March 20—“Being Japanese”: Japan and the World in the 1970’s and 1980’s

Gordon, p.289-307 (Chapter 16—“Global Power in a Polarized World”)

SJT2, p. 446-471 (Chapter 47—“Japan and the World in Cultural Debate”)

March 27—Feminizumu: The Women’s Movement in 20th Century Japan

SJT2, p. 472-504 (Chapter 48—“Gender Politics and Feminism”)


April 3—Remembering: Postwar Debates on World War II

SJT2, p. 553-582 (Selected from Chapter 49—“Thinking with the Past”)


April 10—Whither Japan?

Gordon, p. 308-334


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
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

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 'At 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 ACCOMMODATION

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. Please go to http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medicalform.pdf to download the necessary form. 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 is warranted. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once a decision has been made about accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for term tests, assignments, and exams.

If you have any further questions or concerns please contact, Rebecca Dashford, Undergraduate Program Advisor, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84962 or rdashfo@uwo.ca