The University of Western Ontario
HISTORY 3606G
Japan and its Empire, 1868-1945: A Rising and Setting Sun

Fall/Winter 2018-19
Thursdays 9:30 AM-12:30 PM, Location: STVH 2166

Instructor: Dr. Carl Young
Office Hours: Wednesdays 3:30-5:30 PM
Department of History, Office: Lawson Hall 2225
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Course Description:
An investigation of the processes that created Japan's modern nation-state and Asia-Pacific empire between the Meiji Restoration of 1868 and Japan's defeat in World War II in 1945. Themes will include political and economic developments and their impact on society and culture in both Japan and its imperial possessions.

Prerequisite(s):
1.0 History course at the 2200 level or above.

Unless you have either the requisites for this 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. The decision may not 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.

Antirequisite(s):
The former History 3603E

Course Syllabus:
The purpose of the course will be to investigate developments in the history of Japan and its empire between 1868 and 1945. Topics will include political and economic reforms followed by the Meiji regime and its impact on Japanese culture and society; the process of Japan’s early imperial expansion and the impact on both Japan and its new colonies; the growing power of democratic institutions in the early 20th century; the reasons for the rise of the military and renewed imperial expansion in the 1930’s and 1940’s and the impact on Japan and its empire; and the legacy of this period for modern Japan and the wider Asia-Pacific region.

By the end of the course, students should be able to:
• assess the interaction between political, social, economic, cultural, and international factors in the development of Japan between 1868 and 1945
• explain the characteristics of different political regimes in Japan between 1868 and 1945 and their impact on Japan and the surrounding Asia-Pacific region
• Analyze primary and secondary sources on select topics in the history of Japan between 1868 and 1945 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

Course Materials:

Required textbooks


Selected readings available on the course OWL site

Methods of Evaluation:

Term Paper (around 15 pages) 45%
3 Article Analyses (4-6 pages: 10% each) 30%
1 Oral Presentation 10%
Discussion Participation 15%

The term paper will be a research paper on a topic of your choice in the history of Tokugawa Japan between 1600 and 1868. Suggested topics will be handed out early in the beginning of the semester. The suggested length of the papers will be approximately 15 pages. The paper will due on March 14.

The three article/document analyses will be based around the readings for each class. During the 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. The 1st article analysis, on readings between Jan. 17 and Jan. 31, must be done by Jan. 31. The 2nd article analysis, on readings between Feb. 7 and Feb. 28, must be done by Feb. 28. The 3rd article analysis, on readings between March 7 and April 4, must be done by April 4. 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 1 oral presentation in the course of the 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 the 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 15% 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 semester, 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](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_document.pdf). 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](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/medical.pdf). For accommodation for work worth less than 10% of the mark, please contact the instructor for an appointment. If it is determined that documentation is required for either illness or non-illness academic accommodation, then such documentation must be submitted by the student directly to the appropriate Faculty Dean’s office and not to the instructor. It will be the Dean’s office that will determine if accommodation is warranted.

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.
Course Schedule and Readings:

Jan. 10—Introduction

Jan. 17—The Meiji Restoration and Early Meiji Reforms

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

T. Fujitani, “From Court in Motion to Capitals” in T. Fujitani, Splendid Monarchy: Power and Pageantry in Modern Japan (Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1999), 30-92


Jan. 24—Constitutional and Political Debate in Meiji Japan

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


Jan. 31—Society, Economy, and Education in Meiji Japan

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


******Last chance to hand in 1st article analysis—Jan. 31************

Feb. 7—Domestic Politics and Imperial Expansion: 1890-1910

Alexis Dudden, “The Vocabulary of Power” in Alexis Dudden, Japan’s Colonization of Korea: Discourse and Power (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2005), p. 45-73 (available on the course OWL site)


Feb. 14— Taishō Democracy and Empire


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


Feb. 18-22—Winter Reading Week—No class

Feb. 28— Life in the Empire in the 1920’s and 1930’s


*************Last chance to hand in 2nd article analysis—Feb. 28***************

March 7— The Rise of Militarism


March 14— 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”)

March 21— Empire and War

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


March 28— Zenith: Life in the Japanese Wartime Empire


April 4— Nadir: Defeat and the Legacy of the Japanese Empire


************Last chance to hand in 3rd article analysis—April 4*************

Additional Statements

*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

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 for such
checking 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).

**Accessibility Options:**

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 519 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar’s website: www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

**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 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.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation: http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

**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.

**Scholastic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: [www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

**Support Services**

Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to Mental Health@Western, [http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/](http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help.

**Use of Electronic Devices**

No electronic devices will be permitted in tests and examinations
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, Heidi Van Galen, Administrative Officer, Department of History, 519-661-2111 x84963 or e-mail vangalen@uwo.ca.