



HS/AS/GS 341 WAR & MEMORY IN MODERN JAPAN

IES Abroad Tokyo

DESCRIPTION:

Japan is a nation that has undergone huge changes in the last 150 years, transforming from a feudal society ruled by warriors to an expansionistic imperial state, and then to a modern democracy with a pacifist constitution. This course explores how issues of militarism, pacifism, and nationalism have shaped Japanese identity and history.

One event that took place over 70 years ago – the Second World War – looms large over Japan’s current politics and society. This course will explore how postwar Japan has struggled to come to grips with a war that was fought in the name of a “Greater East Asian Co-prosperity Sphere,” yet resulted in millions of deaths throughout Asia and left Japan’s major cities in ruins. The war brought about years of American Occupation and the adoption of a constitution that bans Japan from officially maintaining a military or waging war. Through lectures, group discussions, and student presentations, we will gain a better understanding of how these issues have influenced Japan’s society, its domestic politics, and its relationship with its Asian neighbors. This course is not a traditional history of Japan’s conduct in wars. Rather, it is an interdisciplinary examination of Japan’s war experience and its impact on postwar Japan. This course will trace Japan’s journey from a militaristic autocracy to a pacifist democracy

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English

INSTRUCTOR: TBD

PREREQUISITES: None

ADDITIONAL COSTS: Students are required to pay for their transportation to excursion sites and may also have to pay modest entrance fees to events and exhibitions.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION:

Class sessions will consist of lectures, active group discussions, and student presentations. Assignments for the course consist of weekly responses to each week’s class, short response papers about course-related trips, a final paper, and a final presentation. Assignments will be submitted via Moodle.

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- A. Course Participation: 10%
- B. Presentation: 20%
- C. Mid-term exam: 15%
- D. Weekly reading analyses: 20%
- E. Research Paper & Presentation (Final Exam): 35%

Course Participation – 10% - Class discussions are a major part of this course, and all students are expected to share their views in class. Since there is not always enough time for everyone’s voice to be heard, students will also be given an opportunity to write down their opinions of lectures/discussions. Contributions to class discussions should reflect that the student has read the assigned reading for that day and has been attentive during the lecture/discussion.

Presentation – 20% - Students will choose an academic article or academic book chapter from a list prepared by the professor and handed out on the first day of class. Presentations are scheduled to fit with the general theme of specific dates of the course. Each week, selected students will give a 20-minute presentation summarizing and analyzing the article/chapter. Power point will be used for the presentations and the files should be uploaded to Moodle the evening before the scheduled presentation. The presentation should also include discussion questions to ask the other students.



Mid-Term Exam – 15% - On the 6th week of the class, there will be an in-term examination. It will be a combination of short answer questions with one short essay. The questions will be related to the major concepts and ideas covered in the previous weeks' readings and lectures.

Weekly Reading Analyses - 20% (6 assignments) - After completing a week's readings, students are required to submit short responses on Moodle (3-4 pages each). The response should analyze major points of the reading and include the student's opinions, as well as any questions that the reading raised. [Students may choose 6 different readings to respond to, and each response is worth a little over 3% of the course grade.]

Research Paper & Presentation (Final Exam) - 35% - Each student will be required to write a research paper (about 10-15 pages) about a regional, national, or international controversy involving political activism, Japan's war remembrance, the U.S. military in Japan, or the military policy of Japan's government. (For example: regional disputes over museum exhibits or history education, anti-base protests in Okinawa, overseas dispatches of the Self-Defense Forces, anti-Japanese protests in China/Korea, overseas war memorials, etc.) Papers are due three days before the final class, and will be submitted via Moodle. On the last day of the course, students will give 5-minute presentations summarizing their papers. The paper will be 85% of the assignment grade and the presentation will be 15% of the grade. The instructor will provide a list of possible paper topics, but students are also free to suggest papers that fit with their own research interests.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of social scientific approaches to historical memory, national identity, and nationalism
- Express viewpoints on various perspectives of current controversies in East Asia involving the remembrance of World War II
- Evaluate the importance of the pacifist and anti-war movement in postwar Japanese society & politics
- Analyze the domestic and international significance of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki
- Integrate historical discussions into an understanding of the current security situation in East Asia, and Japanese political debates over re-militarization
- Construct analytical essays, give power-point presentations, and lead academic discussions.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

At IES Abroad Tokyo, attendance is mandatory for all classes, including course-related trips. Given the three-hour format, missing one class is the equivalent of missing an entire week of a regular semester. Unexcused absences will result in grade penalties. The first unexcused absence will lower your final grade by one-third of a letter grade, and each additional unexcused absence will reduce your grade by a full letter grade. For example, one missed class turns an A into an A-, two missed classes turn it into a B-, three into a C-, and so on.

Absences are excused only for unavoidable reasons, such as documented illness or other circumstances approved in advance by the instructor. Lateness to class (including class excursions) may count as unexcused absences at the instructor's discretion. Missed exams, tests, presentations, or assignments can only be rescheduled for documented medical or family emergencies.

If a student has accumulated absences representing 25% of the total class hours, the Academic Program Manager (APM) and Centre Director (CD) will contact them to schedule a disciplinary review, and their home institutions will be informed of the result.

CONTENT:

Week	Content	Assignments
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Week 1	The Way of the Warrior? Creating Japan's Warrior Tradition This lecture introduces students to the concept of <i>invented tradition</i> – how many practices or beliefs that are considered “traditional” or “ancient” are actually quite recent in origin, and sometimes are even consciously invented.	• Turnbull, Stephen. "The Ninja: An Invented Tradition?" <u>Journal of Global Initiatives</u>, 9, no. 1 (2014): pp. 9-26. • Benesch, Oleg. "The Early Bushidō Boom, 1894- 1905" in <u>Inventing the Way of the Samurai</u>. London: Oxford University Press, 2016. Pp. 76-110.
Week 2	Meiji Era Japan – Building a military-centric society This lecture discusses how Meiji period leaders created a system of indoctrination that turned Japan into a society centered on supporting the Imperial Japanese military.	• Partner, Simon. "Peasants into Citizens?: The Meiji Village in the Russo- Japanese War." In <u>Monumenta Nipponica</u>, 62, no. 2 (2007): 179-209. • Cook, Theodore F. "Making “Soldiers”: The Imperial Army and the Japanese Man in Meiji Society and State." in <u>Gendering Modern Japanese History</u>, Eds. Barbara Molony and Kathleen Uno. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005. Pp. 259-299.
Week 3	Gender & War Studies of war have traditionally ignored the importance of gender and the perspectives of women. While all lectures and reading selections in the course strive to include various perspectives, this week of the course will devote special attention to gender and war. There will also be 2 student presentations.	• Earhart, David C. "Warrior Wives." in <u>Certain Victory: Images of World War II in the Japanese Media</u>. Hoboken: Taylor and Francis, 2015. Pp. 147-83. • Faison, Elyssa. "Gender and Korean Labor in Wartime Japan." in <u>Gender and Labour in Korea and Japan: Sexing Classes</u>. Edited by Ruth Barraclough. London: Routledge, 2011. Pp. 23- 43.
Week 4	Course-related trip #1: Women's Active Museum on War and Peace (Tokyo) This is a museum operated by the Women's Fund for Peace & Human Rights, a Japanese organization that is dedicated to preserving the memories of Asian women who were forced sexual slavery by the wartime Japanese military. Location: 2-3-18 Nishiwaseda, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 169-0051 AVACO.bld 2F Tel: +81 (03) 3202 4633	• Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. "You Don't Want to Know About the Girls? The "Comfort Women", the Japanese Military and Allied Forces in the Asia-Pacific War", <u>The Asia-Pacific Journal</u>, Vol. 13, Issue 31, No. 1 (2015). Pp. 1-21. • Herr, R. S. "Can Transnational Feminist Solidarity Accommodate Nationalism? Reflections from the Case Study of Korean 'Comfort Women'." <u>Hypatia</u>, 31 (2016). Pp. 41–57. • Soh, Chunghee Sarah. "Military Prostitution and women's sexual labour in Japan and Korea." in <u>Gender and Labour in Korea and</u>

	Homepage: http://wam-peace.org/en/	<u>Japan: Sexing Classes</u> . Edited by Ruth Barraclough. London: Routledge, 2011. Pp. 44-59.
Week 5	Hiroshima & Nagasaki – the Legacy of the Atomic Bombs This week will introduce Japanese views of this issue, both in political discourse and in popular culture. There will also be 3 student presentations.	- Dower, John. "The Bombed: Hiroshimas and Nagasakis in Japanese Memory" In <u>United States and Asia at War A Cultural Approach</u>. Eds. by Philip West, Steven I. Levine, and Jackie Hiltz. Armonk: Taylor and Francis, 2015. Pp. 27-50. - Silver, Mark. "Framing the Ruins: The Documentary Photographs of Yamahata Yosuke (Nagasaki, August 10, 1945)." in <u>Imag(in)ing the War in Japan: Representing and Responding to Trauma in Postwar Literature and Film</u>, Eds. David Stahl and Mark Williams. Leiden: Brill, 2010. Pp. 228-67. (61 pages total)
Week 6	War Crimes & War Responsibility Topics to be covered include the following: the Tokyo War Crimes Tribunal, the return of purged politicians to office, the Yasukuni Shrine, and unofficial and official attempts by Japan to reconcile with its former enemies. The Mid-Term examination will be held this week in class.	- Maga, Tim. "Rush to Judgment? Ethics, Fairness, and the IMTFE." in <u>Judgment at Tokyo: The Japanese War Crimes Trials</u>. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2001. Pp. 120- 39. - Totani, Yuma. "Pal's Dissent and its Repercussions" in <u>The Tokyo War Crimes Trial: The Pursuit of Justice in the Wake of World War II</u>. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009. Pp. 295-330.
Week 7	The American Military in Japan: Occupation & Alliance This lecture deals with the changes introduced by the American Occupation government of 1945- 1952 and the issue of America military bases in Japan. There will also be 2 student presentations.	- Inoue, Masamichi S. <u>Okinawa and the U.S. Military: Identity Making in the Age of Globalization</u>. New York: Columbia University Press, 2017. Pp. 1-69. - Sodei, Rinjiro. <u>Dear General MacArthur: Letters from the Japanese during the American Occupation</u>. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield, 2001, pp. 47-62.
Week 8	Pacifism & the Anti-Nuclear Movement in Postwar Japan This lecture discusses how peace activists in Japan have fought to prevent Japan from re-militarizing and engaging in foreign wars. There will also be 3 student presentations.	- Hirakawa, H. "Maiden Martyr for "New Japan": The 1960 Aomori and the Rhetoric of the Other Michiko." <u>U.S.-Japan Women's Journal</u>, vol. 51, 2017, pp. 12-27. - Saruya, Hiroe. "Imagining "World Peace": The Antinuclear Bomb Movement in Postwar Japan as a Transnational

		Movement." In <u>Transnational Japan as History: Empire, Migration, and Social Movements</u>, Eds. Pedro Iacobelli, Danton Leary, and Shinnosuke Takahashi. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. Pp. 187-210. • Ogura, Toyofumi. <u>Letters from the End of the World: a Firsthand Account of the Bombing of Hiroshima</u>. Kodansha International, 2001. Pp. 49-78.
Week 9	Historical Revisionism This lecture discusses the rise right-wing nationalist groups and their impact on Japan's relationship with its Asian neighbors. There will also be 2 student presentations.	• Yoshida, Takashi. "The Internationalization of the Nanjing Massacre." in <u>The Making of the "Rape of Nanking": History and Memory in Japan, China, and the United States</u>, London: Oxford University Press, 2009. Pp. 129-179. • Suzuki, Shogo. "The Rise of the Chinese "Other" in Japan's Construction of Identity: Is China a Focal Point of Japanese Nationalism?" <u>The Pacific Review</u> 28, no. 1 (2014). Pp. 95-116. (72 pages total)
Week 10	Japan's Non-Military Military: The Self-Defense Forces This lecture discusses issues surrounding Japan's de facto military, the Japan Self-Defense Forces. There will also be 2 student presentations.	• Fruhstick, Sabine. "On Base" and "Postwar Postwarrior Heroism" in <u>Uneasy Warriors: Gender, Memory, and Popular Culture in the Japanese Army</u>. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 2007. Pp. 14-86.
Week 11	Course-related trip #2: The JGSDF Public Information Center (Tokyo) The Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) Public Information Center is a public facility featuring attractions for seeing and feeling modern Japanese military equipment and gear, and for experiencing its activities and training programs through a 3D theater and simulator. This excursion relates to class discussions of present-day attempts to re-militarize Japan and gain public acceptance for a more active military. Location: Oizumi Gakuen-cho Nerima-ku, Tokyo Postal code:178-0061	• Frühstück, Sabine. "'To Protect Japan's Peace We Need Guns and Rockets:' The Military Uses of Popular Culture in Current-day Japan," <u>The Asia-Pacific Journal</u>, Vol. 34-2-09 (2009). Pp. 1-21. • Musashi, Katsuhiro. "The Ground Self-Defense Force and Civilian Control." in: Eldridge R., Midford P. (eds) <u>The Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force</u>. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017. Pp. 233-263

	From Seibu Ikebukuro Line Oizumi-gakuen Station North Exit, bus for Asaka Station to Zeimu-daigaku-kenkyujo-mae Homepage: http://www.mod.go.jp/gsdf/eae/prcenter/	
Week 12	“Proactive Pacifism” & Military “Normality” This week of the course will have the students deliver short presentations on their research paper. It will also discuss recent political and social developments that put Japan closer to participation in war than almost any other period since 1945.	• Liff, Adam P. "Policy by Other Means: Collective Self-Defense and the Politics of Japan's Postwar Constitutional Reinterpretations." <i>Asia Policy</i> 24, no. 1 (2017): Pp. 139-72. • Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. "The Constitution, Human Rights and Pluralism in Japan: Alternative Visions of Constitutions Past and Future." <i>The Asia-Pacific Journal</i>, 1st ser., 16, no. 5 (March 1, 2018): Pp. 1-13. • Lummis, C. Douglas. "We, the Japanese People: Rethinking the Meaning of the Peace Constitution." <i>The Asia-Pacific Journal</i>, 2nd ser., 16, no. 5 (March 1, 2018): Pp. 1-14.
	The final paper for this course is due at 5PM, three days before the final class (Week 12).	

COURSE-RELATED TRIPS:

- Women's Active Museum on War and Peace
- The JGSDF Public Information Center

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Benesch, Oleg. "The Early Bushidō Boom, 1894-1905" in *Inventing the Way of the Samurai*. London: Oxford University Press, 2016. Pp. 76-110.
- Cook, Theodore F. "Making “Soldiers”: The Imperial Army and the Japanese Man in Meiji Society and State." in *Gendering Modern Japanese History*, Eds. Barbara Molony and Kathleen Uno. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2005. Pp. 259-299.
- Dower, John. "The Bombed: Hiroshimas and Nagasakis in Japanese Memory" In *United States and Asia at War A Cultural Approach*. Eds. by Philip West, Steven I. Levine, and Jackie Hiltz. Armonk: Taylor and Francis, 2015. Pp. 27-50.
- Earhart, David C. "Warrior Wives." in *Certain Victory: Images of World War II in the Japanese Media*. Hoboken: Taylor and Francis, 2015. Pp. 147-83.
- Faison, Elyssa. "Gender and Korean Labor in Wartime Japan." in *Gender and Labour in Korea and Japan: Sexing Classes*. Edited by Ruth Barraclough. London: Routledge, 2011. Pp. 23-47.
- Fruhstuck, Sabine. "On Base" and "Postwar Postwarrior Heroism" in *Uneasy Warriors: Gender, Memory, and Popular Culture in the Japanese Army*. Berkeley, Calif.: University of California Press, 2007. Pp. 14-86.
- Hirakawa, H. "Maiden Martyr for "New Japan": The 1960 Ampo and the Rhetoric of the Other Michiko." *U.S.-Japan Women's Journal*, vol. 51, 2017, pp.12-27.
- Liff, Adam P. "Policy by Other Means: Collective Self-Defense and the Politics of Japan's Postwar Constitutional Reinterpretations." *Asia Policy* 24, no. 1 (2017): Pp. 139-72.

- Maga, Tim. "Rush to Judgment? Ethics, Fairness, and the IMTFF." in Judgment at Tokyo: The Japanese War Crimes Trials. Lexington, KY: University Press of Kentucky, 2001. Pp. 120-39.
- Molasky, Michael S. "A Base Town in the Literary Imagination." in The American Occupation of Japan and Okinawa: Literature and Memory. London: Routledge, 2006. Pp.55-72.
- Nozaki, Yoshiko. "Educational Reform and History Textbooks in Occupied Japan." In Democracy in Occupied Japan: The U.S. Occupation and Japanese Politics and Society, edited by Mark E. Caprio. Abingdon: Routledge, 2009. Pp. 118-46.
- Partner, Simon. "Peasants into Citizens?: The Meiji Village in the Russo-Japanese War." In Monumenta Nipponica, 62, no. 2 (2007): 179-209.
- Saruya, Hiroe. "Imagining "World Peace": The Antinuclear Bomb Movement in Postwar Japan as a Transnational Movement." In Transnational Japan as History: Empire, Migration, and Social Movements, Eds. Pedro Iacobelli, Danton Leary, and Shinnosuke Takahashi. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016. Pp. 187-210.
- Silver, Mark. "Framing the Ruins: The Documentary Photographs of Yamahata Yosuke (Nagasaki, August 10, 1945)." in Imag(in)ing the War in Japan: Representing and Responding to Trauma in Postwar Literature and Film, Eds. David Stahl and Mark Williams. Leiden: Brill, 2010. Pp.228-67.
- Sodei, Rinjiro, and John Junkerman. Dear General MacArthur: Letters from the Japanese during the American Occupation. Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2006.
- Suzuki, Shogo. "The Rise of the Chinese "Other" in Japan's Construction of Identity: Is China a Focal Point of Japanese Nationalism?" The Pacific Review 28, no. 1 (2014). Pp. 95-116.
- Totani, Yuma. "Pal's Dissent and its Repercussions" in The Tokyo War Crimes Trial: The Pursuit of Justice in the Wake of World War II. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2009. Pp. 295-330.
- Turnbull, Stephen. "The Ninja: An Invented Tradition?" Journal of Global Initiatives, 9, no. 1 (2014): pp. 9-26.
- Yoshida, Takashi. "The Internationalization of the Nanjing Massacre." in The Making of the "Rape of Nanking": History and Memory in Japan, China, and the United States, London: Oxford University Press, 2009. Pp. 129-179.

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

Students may find the following books to be useful supplementary material.

- Dower, John W. Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II. New York: W.W. Norton &/New Press, 2000.
- Eldridge, Robert D., and Paul Midford. The Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force: Search for Legitimacy. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan, 2017.
- Seaton, Philip A. Japan's Contested War Memories: The "Memory Rifts" in Historical Consciousness of World War II. New York: Routledge, 2010.
- Seraphim, Franziska. War Memory and Social Politics in Japan, 1945-2005. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2008.
- Yamazaki, Jane. Japanese Apologies for World War II: A Rhetorical Study. New York: Routledge, 2013.