



SO 310 CONTEMPORARY URBAN SOCIETY IN JAPAN

IES Abroad Tokyo

DESCRIPTION:

We will explore the nature of contemporary urban society and culture in Japan in a course structured from a spatial planning perspective, with each week featuring a category of urban space. The course sources from so-called machizukuri (community design), social sciences, and anthropology studies. By the end of the course students are expected to understand the social realities of Japan, spatial structures, organization of the living environment and the interaction of people with it. We will see how an often-overlooked social group – children - lies at the heart of urban community.

We will look into the origins and spatial characteristics of Japanese cities, the formation of cities through rural-urban migration, neighborhood organization, and urban social problems in Japan. We will trace the social change from the group and family consciousness interconnected with the local community to the individualized modern lifestyle.

The class is project-based with each student working on an urban studies project of their design and writing a final paper based on that. Classwork will be supplemented by excursions and observational sketching exercises.

CREDITS: 3

CONTACT HOURS: 45

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: English, with some Japanese terms

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:

- Lectures
- Workshops
- Moodle tasks
- Class Discussion
- Field Trips
- Student Presentations

REQUIRED WORK AND FORM OF ASSESSMENT:

- Class Participation and Discussion - 10%
- Weekly Sketch+Note (creative observation task) on Moodle - 10%
- Reflections on Excursions - 10%
- Research Proposal - 10%
- Literature Review - 10%
- Fieldwork Diary - 10%
- Mid-Term Exam - 10%
- Final Presentation - 10%
- Final Paper - 20%

CLASS PARTICIPATION AND DISCUSSION (10%)

Class attendance is mandatory. Students will be evaluated on the basis of how professionally they participate in class discussions and how they demonstrate their understanding of the subjects that are covered in the course. Reflection assignment due dates are indicated on Moodle (usually on the day of the class for reading reflections or a week later for reflections on class excursion reflections). Other assignments due dates are listed on the schedule below. No late assignments are accepted.

REFLECTION PAPERS (10%)

4 reflection assignments (300-500) indicate the student's experiences, findings, and reflections from course-related trips.

WEEKLY OBSERVATION SKETCH AND NOTE AND REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT (10%)

1. Each week, students are encouraged to do a creative task. A sketch-note - short visual material, based on your observation practice and experience in Japan. Interpretation is up to you. It is not limited to the class topic, but it would be great if it can connect your thoughts to the weekly discussions (previous weeks, etc.), social phenomena and of course, your research topic.
2. What I mean by sketch+ note? The structure of sketch+ note is simple: It is a hand-drawn image with a short description/explanation/comment. It can contain a mix of drawing with text. It doesn't have to be a "beautiful picture", rather an informative visual representation + text commentary, explaining the picture. The accent of the task is to communicate your observation, your perception of the theme and make it broader for everyone by sharing. It can be an observation of your living environment/urban society in Japan – how people use umbrellas, what kind of signs you see in the station/ or visual analysis of a key word – e.g. the origin of some Japanese kanji etc. I will provide examples during our first week.
3. Introducing this exercise, I am aiming to expand our curiosity towards your living environment in the broader sense and share different perspectives we have. It will possibly lead to unexpected discoveries, help to perceive the subject of urban society and it's environment beyond "reading text" format.
4. "Submit" your response in the weekly forum discussion thread in the Moodle page for the course. It's important that you are not late when posting these things, as we will read everyone's responses in the beginning of class.
5. It is necessary to have a **plain sketchbook** throughout your stay in Japan (there are options in 100-yen store), where you can write/draw your observations and questions. Just take a photo of a page and upload it to the Moodle designated forum.
6. If you submit all of your reactions on time, you will receive a full 20% for this element of your final grade. However, what I expect is that you will have fun with this task. Finally, if you do these small sketches and notes, by the end of your stay in Japan you will have a sketchbook full of your own unique observations and memories.
7. **LATE SUBMISSION POLICY:** No late outlines will be accepted. To count for grades, submissions must be done in the week they are due. The deadline is "before the class". (But you still can share them later and keep them for yourself).

MID-TERM (10%)

The in-class midterm will be held during the sixth week of our class. It will consist of short questions and an essay. I will ask you to reproduce what you have learned in the class so far by filling approx. 100 words about each week's materials to enhance your memory.

RESEARCH PROJECT, FINAL PAPER & PRESENTATION (30% total: 20% paper and 10% presentation)

Each student will conduct a research project on a topic related to the course, focusing on a particularly urban phenomenon or neighborhood. All students must engage in empirical field research outside of class as well as finding materials (primary and secondary) from other sources. The following steps in the project are graded:

- *Research Proposal:* A proposal of 500-1000 words outlining the topic, questions, literature, data and fieldwork plans, and a bibliography of at least five sources.
- *Literature Review:* A review of the research literature related to your project using at least five sources (may include up to two course readings)
- *Fieldwork Diary:* A diary of the fieldnotes, interview materials and/or observations for the project.
- *Final Presentation:* A presentation in the class about the project.
- *Final Paper:* A paper of 3000 words reporting on the project with an introduction, literature review, methodology section, findings section and conclusion.

1. For your final assignment, I would like you to produce a 10–12-page paper (3000) on contemporary urban society problem/phenomena in Japan. Feel free to choose among various topics we mentioned in the class. However, you must develop the theme using your personal observations (collect primary data in your fieldwork diary).
2. You can be creative when writing your paper, and I expect that the approaches that people will bring will be different as we all have different skill sets and different disciplinary interests and experiences. A good paper should bring together many different ways of knowing and doing. It will also include a variety of sources. Please limit the number of internet sources that you use in your paper, and I encourage you to make use of primary sources, secondary sources are also fine. (Your observations, if clear, are classified as the primary source of data).
3. Paper Proposal: Before submitting your project, you need to submit a typed single page 200-300 word proposal (abstract) with a title and a tentative bibliography in a standard bibliographic format (Chicago Manual of Style, MLA, etc.). At the beginning of your proposal, please write a tentative thesis statement/question or a problem that you hope to investigate. Limit your project by space and time. Please write your name when submitting your proposal.
4. This proposal is due on the day before our fifth week of class. Please upload your proposal on our Moodle. I must have this proposal for you to continue on with your project.
5. The first draft of your paper (at least 8 double-spaced pages) is due the night before the tenth session of the course. Please make sure that you cite what sources you have consulted with.
6. In the final session, students will give a 10-minute presentation of their project (10%) using PowerPoint or Keynote. Feel free to add participants' comments into the final version of your paper.
7. The final version of your paper is due a week of our final class by Moodle.
8. **LATE PAPERS POLICY: No late papers will be accepted.**

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

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

- Develop and refine independent research and writingskills
- Make field observations of urban society and analyzethem
- Analyze and report on urban social problems inJapan
- Describe how the life of Japanese urban dweller is spatiotemporally organized around elements like school, housing, shrine etc.

CASES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

This is important. Plagiarism or any other form of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in this course. Any assignment (exam, paper, etc.) that is the product of deliberate academic dishonesty will receive a failing grade. Extreme cases (verbatim plagiarism) will be reported to the IES Abroad Tokyo Center. If you are unclear on what counts for plagiarism, let me know.

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
Week 1	Course Introduction and self-introduction	- Sorensen, André. The making of urban Japan: cities and planning from Edo to the twenty-first century. Vol. 53. Psychology Press, 2002. Chapter 1, 1-44 - Cybriwsky, Roman. Tokyo: The Shogun's City at the Twenty-First Century. NY and Chichester: John Wiley, 1998. Chapter 3, pp. 54-99. - Berkhof, Anna. Feeling at Home in Tokyo in Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo. 239-245 Recommended: - Short history of Tokyo 12 min. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngdNGX_23Gs - Jinnai, H. Tokyo: A Spatial Anthropology. Berkeley. University of California Press. Tokyo (ch.2), pp. 66-118.
Week 2	Field trip 1 From Edo to Tokyo (Fukugawa Edo Museum [400 yen], Kiyosumi Gardens or visit to Japanese Traditional Wooden Boat Association [optional free boat ride])	- Farrer, James. "Seeing the Kanda River." <i>Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture</i> 22, no. 4 (2022): 49-53. - Fruneaux, Christian, The Noble Art of Subjective Self- Exploration. Pp. 36-43 in <i>Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo</i> edited by C. Fruneaux and E. Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo - Fanelsa, Niklas, Hidden Terrain, in <i>Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo</i> edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo, pp. 86-95. Recommended: - Video: •Fukugawa: Criss-crossed by Canals •Tokyo Skytree and the Waterways of Edo - Jinnai, Hidenobu, 1995. <i>Tokyo</i> (intro and ch. 1) 1-65,
Week 3	Approaches to Studying the Japanese City	- Reiher and Kottman Studying Japan Handbook of Research Designs, Fieldwork and Methods, 157-237. Recommended readings on methods of the course: Walking: - Rose, M. (2020). Pedestrian practices: Walking from the mundane to the marvellous. In <i>Mundane methods</i> (pp. 211-229). Manchester University Press. Sketching: - Causey, Andrew. <i>Drawn to see: Drawing as an ethnographic method</i>. University of Toronto Press, 2017. - Heath, S., & Chapman, L. (2020). The art of the ordinary: Observational sketching as method. In <i>Mundane Methods</i> (pp. 103-120). Manchester University Press. - Izumi Kuroishi (2011) <i>Visual Examinations of Interior Space in</i>

		Movements to Modernize Housing in Japan, c. 1920–40, <i>Interiors</i>, 2:1, 95-124 Network: Bestor, Theodore C. "Inquisitive observation: Following networks in urban fieldwork." <i>Doing fieldwork in Japan</i> (2003): 315-334.
Week 4	Neighborhood Tokyo Field trip 2 Visiting Iwase Neighborhood Association In this trip we'll see how Japanese local communities care about their members well-being by creating small-scale groups of social support.	- Houwelingen, Pepijn van. "Neighborhood Associations and Social Capital in Japan." <i>Urban Affairs Review</i> 48, no. 4 (July 2012): 467–97. - Sorensen, André, and Carolin Funck, eds. <i>Living cities in Japan: citizens' movements, machizukuri and local environments</i>. Routledge, 2007. Neighborhood Associations and machizukuri processes: strengths and weaknesses pp224-246 - Dahl, Nils. "Governing through kodokushi. Japan's lonely deaths and their impact on community self-government." <i>Contemporary Japan</i> 32, no. 1 (2020): 83-102. - Dimmer, Christian. <i>New Urban Commons</i> pp. 298-302 in <i>Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo</i> edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo. Recommended: - Kirby, Peter. "Tokyo's Vermin Menace" in <i>Troubled Natures</i>. University of Hawai'i Press, 2011. 85-101 - Ermilova, M. (2023). <i>Growing Roots in the Japanese Neighborhood: Green Community Projects and Homemaking Lived by a Female Russian Scholar in Japan</i>. 白山人類学= Hakusan Review of Anthropology, 26, 103-138. - Documentary on Kodoku-shi (lonely death) in Japan Warning! Disturbing content https://youtu.be/WRDlqgd-Kvc
Week 5	Housing typology in Japan, Empty houses This week we will talk about the housing types and housing- related problems and solutions in Japanese society.	- Sugimoto, Yoshio. <i>An introduction to Japanese society</i>. Cambridge University Press. 6 Gender and Family System I The Family Registration System and Ideology pp 156-163 Recommended: - Asihara, Y. <i>The Hidden Order</i>. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1989. Whole book. - Nakabayashi, Hiroshi. "Uzo Nishiyama's planning methodology based on investigations of common people's lives." <i>International Planning History Society Proceedings</i> 18, no. 1 (2018): 1128-1137. - Seidenberg, Steven, and Carolyn L. White. "Kanazawa's Empty Spaces." <i>Places Journal</i> (2021). https://placesjournal.org/article/kanazawas-empty-spaces/
Week 6	Midterm exam	

Week 7	Parks and other places for children and children's places	- Kinoshita, I. (2009). Charting generational differences in conceptions and opportunities for play in a Japanese neighborhood. <i>Journal of Intergenerational Relationships</i>, 7(1), 53-77. - Three generations play map Recommended: - Kawahara, A. Y. (2007). Thirty-foot telescopic nets, bug-collecting video games, and beetle pets: Entomology in modern Japan. <i>American Entomologist</i>, 53(3), 160-172.
Week 8	School as a center of community School education in Japan	- Drianda, Riela Provi, and Isami Kinoshita. "Danger from traffic to fear of monkeys: Children's independent mobility in four diverse sites in Japan." <i>Global Studies of Childhood</i> 1, no. 3 (2011): 226-242. - Maeyama, Soichiro. Community Watch/Patrol and Neighborhood Safety Commons: Test Case of Matsunaga Safety Patrol Team, Fukuyama City (Hiroshima, JPN). <i>Urban Management: Bulletin of the Faculty of Urban Management, Fukuyama City University</i> 5 (2014): 41-54. Recommended: - Naito, Takashi, and Uwe P. Gielen. "Bullying and Ijime in Japanese schools." In <i>Violence in schools</i>, pp. 169-190. Springer, Boston, MA, 2005. - Nagata, Yoshiyuki. "A Caring Community that Cultivates Children's Inner Life Force: Free Space Tamariba (En)." - Introducing the Japanese show on Netflix - 'Old Enough' (初めての使い方) https://youtu.be/ptLYEhJp9R0
Week 9	Shrine and temple: Matsuri festivals, death rituals Field trip 3	- Bestor, Theodore C. <i>Neighborhood Tokyo</i>. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1989. Chapter 7 The Festival and the local Social Order - Plutschow, Herbert. "Matsuri in everyday Japan." <i>Japan Quarterly</i> 44, no. 3 (1997): 66. Recommended: - Atmosphere of some prominent festivals in Japan in video: - Onbashira Matsuri (Suwa City, Chino City, Nagano Pref.) https://youtu.be/jf9hSqRLHMQ?t=127 - Awadori Matsuri (Tokushima) https://youtu.be/A9dVUSwoxGI?t=367 - Kanda Matsuri - Gion Matsuri (Kyoto) - Tenjin Matsuri (Osaka) - Nebuta Matsuri (Aomori) - Tanabata Matsuri (Sendai) - Kanamara Penis Festival (Tokyo)

Week 10	Convivial Tokyo Field trip 4 Kichioji, Nishi-Ogikubo or Shimo-Kitazawa TBD The postwar black markets, politics of gentrification and development, the importance of a human scale of urban life.	- Havens, Thomas R.H. <i>Parkscapes: Green Spaces in Modern Japan</i>. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011, Intro, Chapter 1: 1-53, Chapter 3: 85-121 - Masuda, Noboru. "Disaster refuge and relief urban park system in Japan." <i>Landscape Architecture Frontiers</i>, vol. 2, no. 4, Aug. 2014, pp. 52. Recommended: - Terada, Toru, Makoto Yokohari, and Mamoru Amemiya. "11 Urban farming in Tokyo." <i>Green Asia: Ecocultures, Sustainable Lifestyles, and Ethical Consumption</i> (2016): 155.
Week 11	Part 1 Disaster-revitalized area Japan is a country heavily exposed to natural calamities like earthquakes, typhoons, tsunami, floods, landslides etc. Therefore, preparedness to disaster is one of the pillars of community building in Japan. Even though with latest technologies life in the cities seems very safe, every municipality has a disaster plan. We will weigh the pros and cons of technology, community, and traditional knowledge in disaster risk management looking into particular cases in Tohoku.	- Littlejohn, Andrew. "Dividing worlds: Tsunamis, seawalls, and ontological politics in northeast Japan." <i>Social Analysis</i> 64, no. 1 (2020): 24-43. Recommended: - Check the hazard map of Chiba city: O https://www.city.chiba.jp/other/jf_hazardmap/map_en.html?lay=saigai_01 - Matsuura, Shohei, and Rajib Shaw. "Concepts and Approaches of School-Centered Disaster Resilient Communities." In <i>Community Practices for Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan</i>, pp. 63-89. Springer, Tokyo, 2014. - Reiher and Kottman <i>Studying Japan Handbook of Research Designs, Fieldwork and Methods</i>, pp. 300-22 & 455-78. Peer-led discussions of fieldwork diaries Individual discussions with instructor Completing class evaluations

	Part 2	
	Data Analysis and Reflections on Fieldwork	
Week 12	Final Paper presentations	
	Final paper due	

REQUIRED READINGS:

- Bestor, Theodore C. Neighborhood Tokyo. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1989. Chapter 7 The Festival and the local Social Order
- Dahl, Nils. "Governing through kodokushi. Japan's lonely deaths and their impact on community self-government."
- *Contemporary Japan* 32, no. 1 (2020): 83-102.
- Dimmer, Christian. New Urban Commons pp. 298-302 in Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo.
- Drianda, Riela Provi, and Isami Kinoshita. "Danger from traffic to fear of monkeys: Children's independent mobility in four diverse sites in Japan." *Global Studies of Childhood* 1, no. 3 (2011): 226-242.
- Fruneaux, Christiaan, The Noble Art of Subjective Self-Exploration. Pp. 36-43 in Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo.
- Gardner, E. & Fruneaux, C. (eds) Tokyo Totem. flick studio, Tokyo, 2015.
- Havens, Thomas R.H. Parksapes: Green Spaces in Modern Japan. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2011, Intro, Chapter 1: 1-53, Chapter 3: 85-121
- Houwelingen, Pepijn van. "Neighborhood Associations and Social Capital in Japan." *Urban Affairs Review* 48, no. 4 (July 2012): 467-97.
- Jinnai, H. Tokyo: A Spatial Anthropology. Berkeley. University of California Press.
- Kirby, Peter. "Tokyo's Vermin Menace" in Troubled Natures: Waste, Environment, Japan. University of Hawai'i Press, 2011. 85-101
- Kinoshita, I. (2009). Charting generational differences in conceptions and opportunities for play in a Japanese neighborhood. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, 7(1), 53-77.
- Littlejohn, Andrew. "Dividing worlds: Tsunamis, seawalls, and ontological politics in northeast Japan." *Social Analysis* 64, no. 1 (2020): 24-43.
- Love, B. (2013). Treasure Hunts in Rural Japan: Place Making at the Limits of Sustainability. *American Anthropologist*, 115(1), 112-124.
- Maeyama, Soichiro. Community Watch/Patrol and Neighborhood Safety Commons: Test Case of Matsunaga Safety Patrol Team, Fukuyama City (Hiroshima, JPN). *Urban Management: Bulletin of the Faculty of Urban Management, Fukuyama City University* 5 (2014): 41-54.
- Masuda, Noboru. "Disaster refuge and relief urban park system in Japan." *Landscape Architecture Frontiers*, vol. 2, no. 4, Aug. 2014, pp. 52.
- Naito, Takashi, and Uwe P. Gielen. "Bullying and Ijime in Japanese schools." In *Violence in schools*, pp. 169-190. Springer, Boston, MA, 2005.
- Plutschow, Herbert. "Matsuri in everyday Japan." *Japan Quarterly* 44, no. 3 (1997): 66.
- Reiher and Kottman Studying Japan Handbook of Research Designs, Fieldwork and Methods, pp. 300-22 & 455-78.
- Sorensen, André, and Carolin Funck, eds. Living cities in Japan: citizens' movements, machizukuri and local environments. Routledge, 2007. Neighborhood Associations and machizukuri processes: strengths and weaknesses pp 224-246

- Sorensen, André. The making of urban Japan: cities and planning from Edo to the twenty-first century. Vol. 53. Psychology Press, 2002. Chapter 1. pp 1-44
- Sugimoto, Yoshio. An introduction to Japanese society. Cambridge University Press. 6 Gender and Family System I The Family Registration System and Ideology pp 156-163

RECOMMENDED READINGS:

- Asihara, Y. The Hidden Order. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1989. Whole book.
- Bestor, Theodore C. "Inquisitive observation: Following networks in urban fieldwork." *Doing fieldwork in Japan* (2003): 315-334.
- Ben-Ari, Eyal. Changing Japanese Suburbia. Kegan Paul International.
- Berkhof, Anna. Feeling at Home in Tokyo pp. 239-245 in *Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo* edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo.
- Boontharm, D. Tokyo, Bangkok, Singapore: Intensities, Reuse and Creative Milieu. flick studio, Tokyo, 2013.
- Clammer, John. Difference and Modernity: Social Theory and Contemporary Japanese Society. London and NY: Kegan Paul International, 1995
- Clammer, John. Contemporary Urban Japan: A Sociology of Consumption. Oxford and Malden, Mass: Blackwell, 1997.
- Cybriwsky, Roman. *Tokyo: the shogun's city at the twenty-first century*. Vol. 53. Academy Press, 1998.
- Cybriwsky, Roman. Tokyo: the shogun's city at the twenty-first century. Chapter 1 Academy Press, 1998.
- Ermilova, M. (2023). Growing Roots in the Japanese Neighborhood: Green Community Projects and Homemaking Lived by a Female Russian Scholar in Japan. *白山人類学= Hakusan Review of Anthropology*, 26, 103-138.
- Fanelsa, Niklas, Hidden Terrain, pp. 86-95 in *Tokyo Totem: A Guide to Tokyo* edited by C Fruneaux and E Gardner, flick studio, Tokyo.
- Fujita, Kuniko and R.C. Hill, Eds. Japanese Cities in the World Economy. Temple University Press.
- Gill, Tom. Men of Uncertainty: The Social Organization of Day Laborers in Contemporary Japan. New York: State University of New York Press, 2001.
- Izumi Kuroishi (2011) Visual Examinations of Interior Space in Movements to Modernize Housing in Japan, c. 1920–40, *Interiors*, 2:1, 95-124
- Jinnai, H. Tokyo: A Spatial Anthropology. Berkeley. University of California Press. Chapters 1, 3 & 4
- LeBlanc, Robin. Bicycle Citizens: The Political World of the Japanese Housewife. Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1999.
- Mansfield, S. Tokyo. A Biography. Singapore: Tuttle Publishing, 2016.
- Matsuura, Shohei, and Rajib Shaw. "Concepts and Approaches of School Centered Disaster Resilient Communities." In *Community Practices for Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan*, pp. 63-89. Springer, Tokyo, 2014.
- Mason, Richard, and John Godwin Caiger. *History of Japan: Revised Edition*. Tuttle Publishing, 2011.
- Mimaki, Junko, and Rajib Shaw. "Community Development and Disaster Preparedness in a Depopulated Society: Case of Tosashimizu City, Kochi Prefecture." In *Community Practices for Disaster Risk Reduction in Japan*, pp. 135-153. Springer, Tokyo, 2014
- Nagata, Yoshiyuki. "A Caring Community that Cultivates Children's Inner Life Force: Free Space Tamariba (En)." In
- Nakabayashi, Hiroshi. "Uzo Nishiyama's planning methodology based on investigations of common people's lives." *International Planning History Society Proceedings* 18, no. 1 (2018): 1128-1137.
- Powers, R.G. and H.Kato (eds) Handbook of Japanese Popular Culture. Greenwood Press.
- Radovic, D. and Boontharm, D (eds) small Tokyo, flickstudio.co ltd, Tokyo, 2012.
- Reischauer, E. O. Japan. The Story of a Nation. 4th ed. Singapore, Tuttle Publishing, 2004.
- Robertson, Jennifer. Native and Newcomer: Making and Remaking a Japanese City. University of California Press.
- Seidenberg, Steven, and Carolyn L. White. "Kanazawa's Empty Spaces." *Places Journal* (2021). <https://placesjournal.org/article/kanazawas-empty-spaces/>
- Seidensticker, Edward. Low City, High City: Tokyo from Edo to the Earthquake. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press, 1991.
- Shigeru, Kayano, and Mark Selden. *Our land was a forest: An Ainu memoir*. Hachette UK, 1994
- Shimada, H. Japan's Guest Workers: Issues and Public Policies. Tokyo: Tokyo University Press.

- Shirane, Haruo. *Japan and the culture of the four seasons: nature, literature, and the arts*. Columbia University Press, 2011.
- Terada, Toru, Makoto Yokohari, and Mamoru Amemiya. "11 Urban farming in Tokyo." *Green Asia: Ecocultures, Sustainable Lifestyles, and Ethical Consumption* (2016): 155.
- Treat, J.W. (Ed) *Contemporary Japan and Popular Culture*. London. Curzon Press.
- Vogel, E. *Japan's New Middle Class*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

RECOMMENDED VIDEO:

- Documentary on Kodoku-shi (lonely death) in Japan Warning! Disturbing content. <https://youtu.be/WRDIggd-Kvc>
- Introducing the Japanese show on Netflix - 'Old Enough' (初めてのお使い) <https://youtu.be/ptLYEhjp9R0>
- Short history of Tokyo 12 min. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ngdNGX_23Gs