



**SCHOOL OF ASIAN AND EUROPEAN LANGUAGES AND CULTURES
JAPANESE PROGRAMME**

Japanese Programme

JAPA 221

**Readings in Japanese Culture & Society
[2nd Trimester - 22 points]**

Course Outline (2006)

Staff

Kaya Oriyama, Lecturer [Course Coordinator]
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Consultation hours: Tue 3:30-4:30pm

Shirley Pack, Administrator
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Hours: 10:45am - 4:30pm Mon-Fri
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You are very welcome to see the lecturer during consultation hours or by appointment.

You are advised to check Blackboard and the notice board (7th floor VZ) regularly for information on courses, programme changes, as well as Japanese Culture Club activities.

Timetable

Lectures:

Tuesdays 1-3 (HU221)

Fridays 1-3 (HU221)

Course Objectives and Outcomes

This course is designed for students who have completed JAPA104 and also enrolled in JAPA201. It aims to enhance students' understanding and knowledge of Japanese culture and society through the reading of selected Japanese texts and audio visual material. Students are to further develop functional fluency in both written and spoken Japanese through self-expression and discussion on a variety of topics. In addition, the course work is intended to help students develop research and analytical thinking skills.

Students passing the course will be able to:

- 1) Read a variety of authentic material including newspaper and journal articles;
- 2) Discuss various issues of Japanese culture and society in written and spoken Japanese;
- 3) Demonstrate a deeper understanding of Japanese culture and society relating to every day life;
- 4) Demonstrate research and analytical thinking skills.

Study Approach

Before attending each lecture, you are expected to read the relevant section of the required text, newspaper or journal articles. You are also expected to do research in the library and on internet to enrich your knowledge on the relevant topic. The purpose of the lecture is to reinforce and expand your self-study and provide a chance for you to clarify any problems arising from your study. During the lecture, you are expected to help and respect each other's learning through group work and collaboration.

You should study kanji, vocabulary, and grammar in your own time and review them often. This is necessary to develop higher levels of literacy and communication skills.

Prescribed Text

Aspects of Japanese Society (The Japan Times, 2001) (\$76.95).
Available at the University Book Centre.

Recommended (available in the library)*

Japan at a Glance – Q&A. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1997. (\$48.95)

Also available at the book centre.

Japan Almanac. Asahi shimbun. 2006.

Eigo de hanasu 'Zatsugaku Nippon' Q&A [Japan trivia]. Soboku na gimon tankyuukai hen. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1998.

Hendry, J. *Understanding Japanese society*. New York: Routledge. 3rd ed. 2003.

Matsui, Yoshikazu. *Nihongo gakushusha no tame no Nihon bunkashi*. Tokyo: Bonjinsha. 1995.

March, R. M.
Reading the Japanese mind: the realities behind their thoughts and actions. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1996.
Working for a Japanese company: insights into the multicultural workplace. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1992.

Miura, A. & Sakamoto, T. *Japanese cultural episodes for speed reading*. Tokyo: Bonjinsha. 1997.

Nakane, Chie. *Japanese society*. [Tate shakai no ningen kankei] Harmondsworth, Penguin, 1973.

Reischauer, E. & M. B. Jansen. *The Japanese today: change and continuity*. Cambridge, MA: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. 1995.

Sugimoto, Yoshio. *An introduction to Japanese society*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 2nd ed. 2002.

Sugimoto, Y. & R. Mauer.
Images of Japanese society: a study in the social construction of reality. New York : KPI, 2002.
Constructs for understanding Japan. New York: KPI. 1998.
Nihonjinron no Hoteishiki [The Structure of *Nihonjinron*]. Tokyo: Chikuma School. 1995.

* Audio visual resources available at the **Language Learning Centre** (Level 0, vZ).

Assessment Requirements

This course is internally assessed using the following criteria:

1. Weekly quizzes (1% x 10)	10%
2. Class participation	10%
3. Assignments (10% x 2)	20%
4. Progress Test (approx. 1.5 hours)	10%
5. Oral presentation(15%)/hosting(5%)	20%
6. Final Test (approx. 2 hours)	30%

The test and assessment due dates are written on the course schedule attached. There will be no alternative test times. Therefore, if you are unable to sit any tests, you must contact the lecturer prior to the test. If you miss any tests without giving prior warning, the mark for this test would be nil. Failure to submit an assignment on time or give an oral presentation will incur a zero mark. However, you may contact the lecturer prior to the due date if there are unforeseen reasons. If it is a medical reason, a medical certificate must be provided.

1. Weekly short quizzes will be conducted at the beginning of the lecture where a new topic in the textbook is introduced to check students' preparatory reading comprehension on each topic (Note: 2 quizzes in Week 2).

2. Participation marks will include preparing and completing homework for the lectures, and contribution to the discussions.
3. The two assignments should be approximately two to three genkoo yooshi (Japanese script paper) pages long (one genkoo yooshi is 400 letters).
- 4&6. The written tests (Progress test and Final Test) will be conducted for the duration of the lecture time. You are NOT permitted to use books or dictionaries (including electronic ones) for reference.
5. Students will give a short oral presentation (10 min) in Japanese on a cultural topic, after which they will host the class for an additional 10-15 min. This will provide students with the opportunity to discuss topics and issues of interest in Japanese.

The written tests will meet primarily the first objective for this course. Students will speed-read various passages in Japanese and answer comprehension questions as well as questions which seek their personal views on various topics. The Assignments and oral presentation will allow students to research and discuss areas of Japanese culture and society which are of particular interest to them in more depth.

Workloads & Mandatory Course Requirements:

In order to earn the right to sit the final test, students must attend at least 75% of all lectures and tutorials, sit all tests, and hand in all assignments by the due date.

There are 4 contact hours per week consisting of two 2 hours lectures. Faculty workload guidelines suggest that students should devote a total of 15 hours a week including class contact hours to this course for its duration in order to maintain satisfactory progress.

If you find difficulty or feel that you are not making satisfactory progress despite spending the appropriate time on study, you should consult your coordinator.

Contact Person for Students with Disabilities:

Dr Andrew Barke
vZ705 Phone 463 6467
Andrew.Barke@vuw.ac.nz

Contact Person for Maori & Pacific Students:

Dr Keren Smith
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keren.smith@vuw.ac.nz

JAPA 221 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE 2006

Week	Tuesday Class	Friday Class	Due Dates
wk 1 10 July~	Introduction コースの紹介 & Reading skills	Popular Culture 大衆文化 & Special guest talk	
wk 2 17 July~	Housing Conditions 住宅事情	Marriage 結婚	
Wk 3 24 July~	Women's Social Progress 女性の社会進出	Aging Society 高齢化社会	
wk 4 31 July~	Japanese cuisine 日本料理・食文化	Discussion	
wk 5 7 August~	Equal Society 平等社会	Discussion	
wk 6 14 August~	Traditional Arts 伝統芸術	Progress Test (10%)	15 August Assignment 1
Mid-Trimester Break			
wk 7 4 September~	Education 教育	Discussion	
wk 8 11 September~	Business Culture 日本的経営	Discussion	
wk 9 18 September~	Attitudes to Work 日本人の労働観	Discussion	
wk 10 25 September~	Group Consciousness 集団意識と肩書き	Discussion	26 September Assignment 2
wk 11 2 October~	Dialect Culture 方言文化	Discussion	
wk 12 9 October~	Revision/Discussion	Final Test (30%)	

General University policies and statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at www.vuw.ac.nz.

Student and staff conduct

The Statute on Student Conduct together with the Policy on Staff Conduct ensure that members of the University community are able to work, learn, study and participate in the academic and social aspects of the University's life in an atmosphere of safety and respect. The Statute on Student Conduct contains information on what conduct is prohibited and what steps are to be taken if there is a complaint. For information about complaint procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct, contact the Facilitator and Disputes Advisor or refer to the statute on the VUW policy website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/studentconduct

The Policy on Staff Conduct can be found on the VUW website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/staffconduct

Academic grievances

If you have any academic problems with your course you should talk to the tutor or lecturer concerned; class representatives may be able to help you in this. If you are not satisfied with the result of that meeting, see the Head of School or the relevant Associate Dean; VUWSA Education Coordinators are available to assist in this process. If, after trying the above channels, you are still unsatisfied, formal grievance procedures can be invoked. These are set out in the Academic Grievance Policy which is published on the VUW website at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/policy/academicgrievances

Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely.

Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

www.vuw.ac.nz/home/studying/plagiarism.html

Students with Impairments (see Appendix 3 of the Assessment Handbook)

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities. The policy aims to give students with disabilities the same opportunity as other students to demonstrate their abilities. If you have a disability, impairment or chronic medical condition (temporary, permanent or recurring) that may impact on your ability to participate, learn and/or achieve in lectures and tutorials or in meeting the course requirements, please contact the course coordinator as early in the course as possible. Alternatively, you may wish to approach a Student Adviser from Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss your individual needs and the available options and support on a confidential basis. DSS are located on Level 1, Robert Stout Building:

telephone: 463-6070

email: disability@vuw.ac.nz

The name of your School's Disability Liaison Person is in the relevant prospectus or can be obtained from the School Office or DSS.

Student Support

Staff at Victoria want students to have positive learning experiences at the University. Each faculty has a designated staff member who can either help you directly if your academic progress is causing you concern, or quickly put you in contact with someone who can. In the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences the support contact is **Dr Allison Kirkman, Murphy**

Building, room 407. Assistance for specific groups is also available from the Kaiwawao Maori, Manaaki Pihipihinga or Victoria International.

In addition, the Student Services Group (email: student-services@vuw.ac.nz) is available to provide a variety of support and services. Find out more at:

www.vuw.ac.nz/st_services/

VUWSA employs Education Coordinators who deal with academic problems and provide support, advice and advocacy services, as well as organising class representatives and faculty delegates. The Education Office (tel. 463-6983 or 463-6984, email at education@vuwsa.org.nz) is located on the ground floor, Student Union Building.