

JAPA 221 Readings in Japanese Culture & Society

School of Languages & Cultures

Trimester 2 2008

22 Points

STAFF

Kaya Oriyama, Lecturer [Course Coordinator]
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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.

CLASS TIMES AND ROOMS

Lectures:

Monday 3-5pm KK202

Wednesday 3-5pm KK202

AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND CONTENT OF COURSE

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.

TEXTS

Prescribed Text

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

Recommended (available in the library)*

Japan at a Glance – Q&A. Tokyo: Kodansha International. 1997. (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) or the library.

ASSESSMENT

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%

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 in class and on Blackboard.

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.

PENALTIES

The penalties to be incurred for late submission of work, for not sitting tests, and for not presenting on the assigned date. 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.

WORKLOADS AND MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In order to earn the right to sit the final test, students must attend at least 80% of all lectures, 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 you are having difficulty or feel that you are not making satisfactory progress despite spending the appropriate time on study, you should consult your coordinator.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES AND STUDENT EVALUATIONS

In the second week of lectures, staff will facilitate the election of a class representative. Student reps are a valuable means of communication between teaching staff and students. Each trimester student reps of SLC courses will meet together with the Head of School. At the end of the course all students will be asked to fill out questionnaires prepared by the University's Teaching and Development Centre in order to evaluate individual lecturers' performance and/or the course as a whole.

GENERAL ADVICE

Contact Person:

Students with Disabilities

Dr Rick Millington vZ613 Phone 463 5976 Email: Rick.Millington@vuw.ac.nz

Maori and Pacific Students

Dr Rick Millington vZ613 Phone 463 5976 Email: Rick.Millington@vuw.ac.nz

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; or suspension from the course or the University. Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

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 hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

JAPA 221 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE 2008

Week	Monday Class	Wednesday Class	Due Dates /Notes
wk 1 7 July~	Introduction コースの紹介 & Reading skills	Popular Culture 大衆文化 & 映画鑑賞	
wk 2 14 July~	Housing Conditions 住宅事情 Quiz 1	Marriage 結婚 Quiz 2	
Wk 3 21 July~	Women's Social Progress 女性の社会進出	Aging Society 高齢化社会 Quiz 3	
wk 4 28 July~	Japanese cuisine 日本料理・食文化 Quiz 4	Discussion	映画鑑賞 日本文化セン ター(29, 31/7 6時~)
wk 5 4 August~	Equal Society 平等社会 Quiz 5	Discussion	映画鑑賞 LLC (TBA)
wk 6 11 August~	Traditional Arts 伝統芸術 Quiz 6	Progress Test (10%)	11 August Assignment 1
Mid-Trimester Break			
wk 7 1 September~	Education 教育 Quiz 7	Discussion	
wk 8 8 September~	Business Culture 日本的経営 Quiz 8	Discussion	
wk 9 15 September~	Attitudes to Work 日本人の労働観 Quiz 9	Discussion	
wk 10 22 September~	Group Consciousness 集団意識と肩書き Quiz 10	Discussion	22 September Assignment 2
wk 11 29 September~	Dialect Culture 方言文化	Discussion	
wk 12 6 October~	Revision/Discussion	Final Test (30%)	