

科目コード／科目名 (Course Code / Course Title)	Japanese Society2		
テーマ／サブタイトル等 (Theme / Subtitle)	Critical Issues and Debates in Contemporary Japan		
担当者名 (Instructor)	楠本 和佳子(KUSUMOTO WAKAKO)		
学期 (Semester)	秋学期(Fall Semester)	単位 (Credit)	2単位(2 Credits)
科目ナンバリング (Course Number)	CMP2231	言語 (Language)	英語 (English)
備考 (Notes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ・F 科目上級(外国語による総合系科目) ・定員 20 名 ・他に特別外国人学生が履修 ・この授業は英語で実施する ・履修者は TOEIC®700 点相当以上の英語力を有していることを前提に授業を実施する 		

授業の目標 (Course Objectives)

The aim of this course is to help students understand critical issues of Japanese society in socio-cultural and historical contexts. Students will also learn to use their everyday experience and observation as materials for class discussion and their final research project.

授業の内容 (Course Contents)

In the summer of 2015, which marked the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII, security-related bills were passed in the Japanese Diet amid huge protests -- a significant departure from Japan's pacifist posture in the postwar era. In May of the following year, Barack Obama landed in Hiroshima, becoming the first incumbent U.S. President to visit the city since August 1945. A historic event in the eyes of many Japanese, the entire process of Obama's visit was broadcast live, nationwide, on NHK.

Even after more than seven decades, Japan has been living the 'postwar' period, which characterized various aspects of its culture, society and politics. Is it going to change from this point on and, if so, how?

Taking up the topics such as work, family, gender, and education that are important in analyzing any modern society, we will pay special attention to the way they are argued in the context of postwar Japan. Furthermore, we will consider locally specific topics that are hotly debated in recent years: e.g., Article 9 and security-related bills, the 3-11 incident and its repercussions, Imperial Household, Okinawa, nuclear energy, new immigrants and, of course, COVID-19.

Since public opinions on these matters are deeply polarized, we will first read the texts that help us understand the nature of the issues, then move on to discuss the way they are portrayed/analyzed in the academic and popular discourses (both local and international). Students are expected to complete a semester project on a Japan-related topic of their choice, which must include ethnographic data obtained through fieldwork.

In order to complement our work in the classroom, students must remain active researchers, interacting with people they encounter, following the current news, and exploring the topics in which they become interested. Their semester project should incorporate all the work they have done in- and outside of the classroom. The result will be presented in class and submitted as a final research paper.

授業計画 (Course Schedule)

1. Introduction to the Course
2. War & Pacifism
3. Nuclear Power
4. Okinawa
5. Imperial Family
6. Getting Old in Japan
7. Work and Employment (& Midterm Report of Your Project)
8. Making Alternative Life Choices
9. Marriage, Family & Gender Issues
10. Newcomers & New Immigration Laws
11. Newcomers & New Immigration Laws
12. Presentations
13. Presentations
14. Presentations

授業時間外(予習・復習等)の学習(Study Required Outside of Class)

As stated in the Course Contents, students are required to do a small-scale fieldwork for their semester project. Details of the procedures will be explained in class. Reading and writing assignments for each week will be stated in syllabus as well as announced in class. Follow the instructions carefully.

成績評価方法・基準(Evaluation)

最終レポート(Final Report)(35%)/Class Participation(25%)/Homework and Assignments(30%)/Project Presentation(10%)

◆ Please note that, by University policies and rules, you will be disqualified from the class if you miss more than 1/3 of the course.

テキスト(Textbooks)

Various book chapters and articles will be provided via Blackboard. Various videos and film clips will be shown in class when appropriate.

参考文献(Readings)

その他(HP等)(Others(e.g.HP))

注意事項(Notice)