

WE '01
Pms

HISTORY OF MODERN JAPAN, POLITICS, AND CULTURE
COURSE SYLLABUS

Course: History (HI) 44460 – Chaminade University
Instructor: Terrence Monroe: 734-5914
Term: Winter Evening: January 8 – March 21, 2001
Class: Monday, 1645 – 2055 hrs, Pearl Harbor, Bldg. 679, 2nd Floor
Text: Morton, W. Scott; Japan: Its History and Culture, Third Edition, McGraw-Hill, Inc., 1994

Johnson, Chalmers, Japan: Who Governs? The Rise of the Developmental State; W.W. Norton & Co., 1995

Course Overview:

This course examines those major events and issues in Japan's modern history that shaped its politics, culture, and industrialization. It makes comparisons and describes linkages, historically and culturally, between Japan, its Asian neighbors, and the Western powers. It addresses Japan's conflicts in its modern history and surveys its unprecedented economic development and impact on the global community. More than a chronology of Japan's modern history, the course explores certain customs, perspectives, and institutions that persist up through the present day.

Objectives:

- Interpret contemporary Japanese national developments with reference to past traditions.
- Understand the historical significance of the Meiji Restoration.
- Understand the causes of Japan's post-WW II economic development.
- Appreciate the diversity of Japan and its Asian neighbors, their inter-relationships and interactions with the West.

Learning Methodology:

Classes will meet as outlined for lectures and student reports on assigned reading. Lectures will supplement and expand upon the text material. Students are expected to make a brief report on assigned reading per a sign-up sheet.

Assigned Reading Reports:

Readings from the assigned text will be discussed in class. Individual reports on assigned reading will be scheduled early in the course per a sign-up sheet. These presentations should not exceed 10 minutes.

Research Project:

The research project provides an opportunity to explore in depth a personality or topic in a broad range of subjects pertinent to Hawaii's history, politics, or culture. Students will provide a topic of their research project by Session 3. Research projects will be evaluated on the depth of the material covered and also on the quality of the presentation itself. Sources for research include references cited in the text, library searches, interviews with experts in the field, and personal or professional experiences related to the topic. Project outlines will be submitted no later than two weeks prior to scheduled presentation date. The research paper should be typed in acceptable term paper format.

Evaluation:

Final grades will be based upon a cumulative 100 points.

- Class participation (25%)
- Research project, including a short paper (5 pages or less) and presentation (25%)
- Book review (20%)
- Final examination (30%)

Grading Scale:

A = 90 – 100 points

B = 80 – 90 points

C = 70 – 80 points

D = 60 – 70 points

Consultation:

By appointment before class.

Assigned Readings:

Students are expected to have completed the week's reading before the class session.

Schedule:

January 8: Course overview: focus, administrative notes, student requirements. Japan Before the 17th Century. Reading: Morton, Chaps. 1-10. Students may sign up for assigned reading reports.

January 15: Tokugawa Shogunate. Reading: Morton, Chap. 11-12. Student research project topics due.

January 22: Meiji Restoration and the New Order. Students submit research project topics. Reading: Morton, Chap. 13.

January 29: The Meiji Revolution in Politics. Reading: Morton, Chap. 14.

February 5: The Meiji Revolution in Cultural, Economic, and Social Developments. Reading: Morton, Chap. 15.

February 12: The Era of Parliamentary Ascendancy. Reading: Morton, Chap. 16; Johnson, Chaps. 5-6.

February 19: The Rise of Militarism. Reading: Morton, Chap. 17; Johnson, Chap. 7-8.

February 26: War and Defeat. Reading: Morton, Chap. 18; Johnson, Chap. 9-10.

March 5: Reform and Reconstruction. Reading: Morton, Chap. 18; Johnson Chap 13-14.

March 12: Modern Japan. Research projects due.