

## Syllabus format 2025

<b>Semester</b>	2025Summer		
<b>Course</b>	Japanese Culture in the Modern Era		
<b>Instructor</b>	TBD		
<b>Instructed only by foreign language</b>			
<b>Instruction Language</b>	English		
<b>Active Learning included</b>			
<b>Active Learning Type</b>	Discussion, Debates	Group work	Presentation
	Flipped Class	Practicum/Fieldwork	Experience
	Investigation	Mock classes	PBL Others
<b>Course Description</b>	<p>This course will provide a general overview of Japanese society and culture in the postwar period. This course will introduce students to the historical background and modern social implications of contemporary Japanese culture. We will explore a wide range of artistic mediums including music, art, manga, animation, fashion, advertising, and film. Topics will include hikikomori (shut-ins that refuse to leave the home for work or school), chronic over-work including karoshi (death from overworking), declining population and the population bomb, and extreme population density in cities. In addition, the concepts of kaizen (continuous improvement), and wa (social harmony) will be introduced and analyzed. The course meets for a minimum of 45 hours per two-week period. Students receive 4 Oberlin University credits and a Certificate of Completion for passing with a minimum grade of a D.</p>		
<b>Course Objectives</b>	<p>By the end of the session, students should be able to understand:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) A basic understanding of contemporary challenges facing Japanese society</li> <li>2) The major influences that have shaped postwar culture in Japan</li> <li>3) How to view the positive attributes of modern Japanese society through an international perspective</li> </ol>		
<b>Course Schedule</b> ※Fill in according to the number of times the class is to be held.			
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	
<b>1st</b>	15-Jul	Introduction: Class Orientation and House Rules Nihonjinron, Japaneseness and Homogeneousness: Japan Phenomenon and the Politics of Identity Building	
<b>2nd</b>	16-Jul	Film viewing: Muhomatsu no issho (Rikshaw Man, Inagaki) 1958 Class Activity POSTWAR CULTURAL IDEOLOGIES: RECONCILING PRE WAR NATIONALISM WITH POSTWAR DEMOCRACY	
<b>3rd</b>	17-Jul	Class Tour: Tokyo Imperial Palace/Yasukuni Shrine	
<b>4th</b>	18-Jul	HISTORY AND MEMORY IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN Class Activity and Discussion	
<b>5th</b>	21-Jul	Guest lecture	
<b>6th</b>	22-Jul	Film viewing: TBA	
<b>7th</b>	23-Jul	BODY, DRESS AND FASHION CULTURE IN JAPAN Class Activity and Discussion	
<b>8th</b>	24-Jul	FOOD, CONSUMPTION AND CONVENIENCE DEATH AND CARE IN JAPAN Class Activity and Discussion	
<b>9th</b>	25-Jul	ECOLOGY, NATURE, LANDSCAPES CULTURE CULMINATING ACTIVITY/GROUP PERFORMANCE	
<b>Supplementary Activities</b> ※Fill in according to the number of times the class is to be held.			
	<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	

<b>1st</b>		
<b>2nd</b>		
<b>3rd</b>		
<b>Textbook</b>	The instructor will provide class materials.	
<b>Supplementary Reading</b>		
<b>Homework</b>	Daily homework will focus on study and fieldwork for development of the final presentation/project/test.	
<b>Grading</b>	90-100 = A 80-89 = B 79-70 = C 60-69 = D 50 and below = F Breakdown: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Class Participation: 25%</li> <li>•Attendance: 25%</li> <li>•Assignments: 20%</li> <li>•Final Project: 30%</li> </ul>	
<b>Contact with Instructor</b>		
<b>U R L</b>		
<b>Courses taught by faculty with practical experience</b>		
<b>Keywords</b>		
<b>Others</b>		