

**JPN 3500**  
**JAPANESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY**  
**Summer B 2015**  
**MWF 2:30-4:45 pm**  
**PC 416**  
**Global Learning Course**

Instructor: Masako Kubota

Office Hours: by appointment only

makubota@fiu.edu

**COURSE TEXT BOOKS:**

*Honor: Samurai Philosophy of life: The Essential samurai Collection.* Bottom of the Hill Publishing, 2010.

Matsunosuke, Nishiyama. *Edo Culture*, Honolulu, University of Hawai'i Press, 1997.

**Additional readings will be provided by instructor on Blackboard**

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

This course will examine Japan, focusing on the culture, societal life of people and the geography of Japan. A multi-perspective approach will be used to examine during the semester including: class and gender, the effects of modernization and globalization, and daily life and diversions in **Edo the city that became Tokyo**. Students will explore not only the traditional art including Nô play, Kabuki, but also current events and contemporary social concerns. This will be highlighted using case studies and a current events journal to understand, analyze and evaluate contemporary social issues in Japan. Students will examine on local, global, international and intercultural levels and encourage engagement in problem solving.

**GLOBAL LEARNING COURSE OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the semester, students should demonstrate global awareness, global perspective and global engagement through their ability to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the interrelatedness of globalization and diverse aspects of Japanese culture. (Global Awareness)
2. Conduct a multi-perspective analysis of contemporary social issues of Japan, as well as some historical events. (Global Perspective)
3. Construct contemporary issues in Japan by making suggested plans of action. (Global Engagement)

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

The class format will include lecture, film and in class group discussions. There will be a heavy emphasis on class room discussions, so students must be prepared for every class meeting. The discussions are meant to take the lecture material to a more critical level, involving students to generate their own questions to be analyzed during class.

Each student is expected to complete two in class exams, three one-page current event journals, group collaboration research about Samurai code, and the Final paper with PowerPoint presentation of a character who contributed in Edo period. PLEASE NOTE: The instructor will take off points if the above writing assignment requirements are not adhered to. The current event journal and the final paper should be submitted through Blackboard turnitin.

## **DESCRIPTION OF CLASS ASSIGNMENT**

### **I. IN CLASS EXAMS**

There will be two exams in this course. The format will include multiple choices, matching, true or false and short answers. Exam questions will be derived from lecture, class discussion and PowerPoint. **Exams cannot be made up.** If an emergency arises, it is imperative that you contact the instructor **BEFORE the test date**.

### **II. CURRENT EVENT JOURNAL (Global Awareness)**

This assignment is meant to keep students up to date with current news events regarding Japanese culture and society. In order to fully understand the impact that Japan has on the rest of the world today, as well as the impact of globalization on diverse aspects of Japanese society, each student will collect and comment on three news article that relates to a contemporary issue dealing with Japan and its interrelatedness with the rest of the world. Recommended news sources are available on Blackboard file. (There will be three journals to be submitted.)

For every journal entry, a series of points will need to be addressed that examine the student's awareness of local, global, international and intercultural issues that interrelate with Japanese society. The student will also be expected to comment on each article. More information will be given about this assignment in the class.

### **III. GROUP STUDY**

As a small group activity, we will read *Honor: Samurai Philosophy of life: The Essential samurai Collection* that introduces the Samurai code by three authors. After assigned the book to read, each group examines and discusses Samurai code. The method of presenting

has two steps. First of all, students examine and discuss the influence of their philosophy into the modern global world in Discussion Board. Then each group will present the assigned research by PowerPoint.

#### **1V. FINAL PAPER and POWERPOINT PRESENTATION (Global Engagement)**

After reading *Edo Culture*, each student researches the specific characters who contributed to form Edo’s cultural life; samurai, farmer, artist, and merchant lives and their changing status. After the research, student will **“REACT” to the society as the first person and present her/his research by PowerPoint and write the final paper.**

#### **V. DISCUSSION LEADING**

Each student will be assigned to be a discussion leader. The discussions are meant to take the reading material to a more critical level, involving students to generate their own questions to be analyzed during class.

#### **COURSE GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

Attendance and group Discussion Class participation (Weekly quizzes will be included in this)	<b>20%</b>
Three Current Event journals	<b>15%</b>
Two exams	<b>25%</b>
Group Study ( <i>Samurai Philosophy of life</i> )	<b>15%</b>
Final Paper and PowerPoint presentation	<b>25%</b>

#### **GRADING SCALE:**

A	93-100	A-	90-92		
B+	87-89	B	83-86	B-	80-82
C+	77-79	C	73-76	C-	70-72
D+	67-69	D	63-66	D-	63-66
F	0-59				

#### **COURSE POLICIES:**

##### **I. ATTENDANCE and CLASS PARTICIPATION**

It is important for students to attend classes in order to be successful in this course. If a student arrives later or leaves early it is **BOTH** disruptive to the lecturer and students alike. To alleviate this from happening I will count **ONE** absence for every **TWO** late arrivals or early departures. Class participation is required and is necessary to achieve an “A” in this course. Student input is important and vital to a university education and is meant to

challenge students to think deeply and critically, therefore dialogue is highly encouraged. Attendance and class participation will make up 20% of the course grade.

**Penalty of absences** are as follow (No extra work can make up for the absences).

- **One grade lower for more than 4 inexcusable absences.**
- **Two grades lower for more than 6 inexcusable absences.**
- **One letter grade lower for more than 8 inexcusable absences.**

## **II. CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE**

In our increasingly technological world, the classroom is becoming more versatile and inter-active. However, some technological advances pose a threat to the classroom environment and therefore special rules need to be applied to them. IF you have a laptop and plan to bring it to class for any reason, you MUST be using the computer for class room note taking or to further the discussion of Japanese Culture and Society during class. Cell phones are a major distraction and usually improperly used during classroom time. Please SILENT all phones prior to entering the classroom and refrain from using them FOR ANY REASON. This would include text messaging, receiving phone calls, browsing internet, and gaming.

IF the instructor sees that above rules are broken even by one student, ALL privileges will be revoked for the ENTIRE class and everyone's class participation grade will suffer. Let us not allow a few bad apples to spoil the entire bundle. Take this as a WARNING!

## **III. PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is defined as "literally theft," and will **NOT** be tolerated. Plagiarism, in forms some students may not be aware of may include:

- (1) A written work that is **ENTIRELY** stolen from another source
- (2) Using quotations from source without proper citation
- (3) Paraphrasing from a source without proper citation

Students are expected to UNDERSTAND the definition of plagiarism. To view the University Code of Academic Integrity please visit

[http://academic.fiu.edu/AcademicBudget/misconductweb/Code\\_of\\_Academic\\_Integrity.pdf](http://academic.fiu.edu/AcademicBudget/misconductweb/Code_of_Academic_Integrity.pdf)

When all else fails; ASK the instructor for help. If you are found guilty you could receive a failing grade for the course which in some cases leads to dismissal from the course and in severe cases from the university.

**\*\*IF A STUDENT IS CAUGHT PLAGIARIZING PUBLISHED OR UNPUBLISHED MATERIALS (INCLUDING THE WORK OF CLASSMATES OR FRIENDS) YOU**

**WILL RECEIVE A (0) FOR THE ASSIGNMENT.**

**IV. LATE PAPERS**

Late papers will be downgraded at the discretion of the instructor and is therefore, highly discouraged. I will accept as far as 3 weeks late submissions; however I will deduct 3 points on each delayed paper.

**CLASS SCHEDULE**

<p><b>Week 1</b></p>	<p><b>6/22-6/26</b></p>	<p><b>Getting to know one another</b>  <b>Getting to know Japanese Geography and facts about Japan, and Japanese language</b>  <b>6/22: Introduction</b>  <b>6/24: <u>Modern Japanese Culture, Chapter 3</u>, "language."</b>  <b>6/26: <u>Modern Japanese Culture, Chapter 8</u>, "Religious Culture."</b>  <b>Chapter 2. "Introduction of Buddhism." (PowerPoint)</b>  <b>Honor: Samurai Philosophy of Life</b>  <b>Group Research</b></p>
<p><b>Week 2</b></p>	<p><b>6/29-7/03</b></p>	<p><b>6/29: #1 Journal is due</b>  <b>6/29: <u>Edo Culture/ Chapter 1/ The Warriors City</u></b>  <b>7/01: <u>47 Ronin</u></b>  <b>7/03: Group Collaboration Research Discussion</b></p>
<p><b>Week 3</b></p>	<p><b>7/06-7/10</b></p>	<p><b>7/06: First Exam</b>  <b>Presentation of Group Collaboration Research</b>  <b>7/08: The flowering Spirit—No and Chano-yu</b>  <b>Selected Article</b>  <b>7/10: <u>Edo Culture/ Chapter 4, Chapter 11</u></b>  <b>Kabuki, Ukiyo-e, Writers and books</b></p>
<p><b>Week 4</b></p>	<p><b>7/13-7/17</b></p>	<p><b>7/13: #2 Journal is due</b>  <b><u>Edo Culture/ Chapter 2, 3, &amp; 5 / Edokko and Iki</u></b>  <b>7/15: <u>The Sea was Watching</u></b>  <b>7/17: <u>Edo Culture/ Chapter 6/ Provincial Culture</u></b></p>
<p><b>Week 5</b></p>	<p><b>7/20-7/24</b></p>	<p><b>7/20: #3 Journal is due</b>  <b>7/20: Second Exam</b>  <b>7/22: <u>Edo Culture/ Chapter 8 &amp; selected article</u></b>  <b>Cuisine and recycling</b>  <b>7/24: Final PowerPoint Presentation</b></p>

<b>Week 6</b>	<b>7/27-7/31</b>	<b>7/27: Final PowerPoint Presentation</b> <b>7/29: Final PowerPoint Presentation</b> <b>7/31: Submit Final Paper</b>
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