Miyazaki International College

Course Syllabus

2020 Spring Semester

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| Course Title ( Credits ) | |  | | --- | | JAC202-1 Japanese Thought and Arts (4 credits) | |
| Course Designation for TC | N/A |
| Content Teacher | |
| Instructor | Jong-chul Choi |
| E-mail address | |  | | --- | | jchoi@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp | |
| Office/Ext | |  | | --- | | MIC1-208 / 3717 | |
| Office hours | Monday and Wednesday 13:00 – 14:30 |
| Language Teacher | |
| Instructor | |  | | --- | | Jason Adachi | |
| E-mail address | |  | | --- | | jadachi@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp | |
| Office/Ext | |  | | --- | | MIC 2-205 / 3782 | |
| Office hours | Tuesday and Thursday 3:45 - 5:15 |

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| Course Description: | | | |
| <JAC202-1 Japanese Thought and Arts> is a survey course for students who are interested in Japanese art and its philosophical, religious and historical backgrounds. Throughout the course, students will discuss Japan’s most significant artistic productions and relevant ideologies from the prehistoric era to the present. This discussion will be deepened by various visual resources, onsite-surveys (field trips), and linguistic supports provided by both the content and language instructors. | | | |
| Course Goals/Objectives: | | | |
| |  | | --- | | Upon the completion of this course, students will be able to:  1. Identify the media, techniques, and historical backgrounds of the most significant artistic productions in Japan’s history of visual culture.  2. Understand and use the English vocabulary and terminology necessary to discuss topics in Japanese though and art with people from different cultural backgrounds. | | | | |
| Course Schedule | | | |
| Day | Topic | | Content/Activities |
| 1 | |  | | --- | | **Introduction** | | | Course Introduction |
| 2 | Preliminary discussion:   1. Survey: what do you know about Japanese art? 2. Japanese culture: a geographic aspect  |  | | --- | |  | |
| 3 | **Prehistoric Japan (Jomon, Yayoi, and Kofun Era)**   |  | | --- | |  | | Jomon and Yayoi pottery  <Reading 1> | |  | | --- | | *Jōmon* and *Yayoi* pottery |   (drawing activity) |
| 4 | |  | | --- | | Field survey -*Kiyotake* History Museum | |
| 5 | Kofun and Haniwa  <Reading 2> | Tomb of Emperor *Nintoku* and *Haniwa* figures from *Kofun* Period |
| 6 | Continued |
| 7 | Field survey –*Ikime* Kofun Cluster and museum |
| 8 | **Shinto and Ancient Japan**  **<Reading 3>** | | Pre-Buddhist belief in Japan: Shinto and *Amaterasu*’s Ancient Shrine (*Ise* shrine) |
| 9 | Continued |
| 10 | Group field survey –visit Shinto shrines in the Miyazaki area and give a presentation in group about the shrines |
| 11 | Student presentation–Field survey report |
| 12 |
| 13 | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Buddhism and Classical Japan (Asuka, Nara, and Heian period)** |  | |  |  | |  |  | | The rise of Buddhism in Japan  <Reading 4> | Buddhism and Buddhist Iconography |
| 14 | Continued |
| 15 | Architecture  <Reading 5> | Buddhist Architecture in the Asuka Period: *Horyu-ji* temple |
| 16 | Continued |
| 17 | Painting and Sculpture  <Reading 6> | Buddhist Sculpture and Painting: Mandorla-Framed Statues (*Tori Busshi*), *Horyuji* mural, etc. |
| 18 | Group field survey –visit Buddhist temples in the Miyazaki area and give a presentation in group |
| 19 | Student presentation –Field survey report |
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| 21 | |  | | --- | | **Zen and Feudal Japan (Kamakura, Muromachi, and Momoyama period)**  **<Reading 7>** | | | the Pure land Buddhism as a ruling doctrine in the era of Shogun |
| 22 | Zen and *Bushido*: Basic ideas of Zen, and its relation to Shogun and Samurai |
| 23 | Film screening –an excerpt from *The Last Samurai* (2003, Edward Zwick) and discussion |
| 24 | Zen Aesthetics and Zen-inspired Art: Zen Garden and Tea Ceremony (*wabi/ sabi* aesthetics) |
| 25 | Zen Paintings and other forms of art |
| 26 | **Modern Japan (Edo and After)**  **<Reading 8>**   |  | | --- | |  | | | Edo and the rise of the merchant class |
| 27 | *Ukioe* (Sharaku and Hokusai): |
| 28 | Continued |
| 29 | Japonisme in the West: European Artists influenced by Japanese arts |
| 30 | Continued |
|  | **Final exam** | |  |
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| Required Materials: | | | |
| |  | | --- | | Short articles will provide in class by the instructors. Students are expected to complete readings assigned as homework before the following class, and be prepared to be discuss and/or ask relevant questions about them.  \*There is no required textbook for this course. But some references will help you understand the course themes:  Hugo Munsterberg, *The Arts of Japan: An Illustrated History*, Charles E. Tuttle Company, 1988  Hidemichi Tanaka, *A History of Japanese Art-Style in Japanese art: a comparative perspective,*Akita International University Press, 2008  Siegfried Wichmann, *Japonisme: The Japanese influence on Western Art Since 1858*, Themes & Hudson, 1999 | | | | |
| Course Policies (Attendance, etc.) | | | |
| |  | | --- | | 1. Prompt attendance is required at all classes. Please check your schedule well in advance to see if you have any commitments (for example, religious holidays or extracurricular activities) that conflict with classes and due dates. If you have any conflicts, see your instructor to clear your absence, schedule an extension, or discuss the possibility of a make-up exam. Last minute extensions, make-up tests, and incomplete grades will be granted only for extreme, unforeseeable circumstances such as hospitalization. 2. Four (4) unexcused absences will lead to our recommendation for your withdrawal from the course. 3. Use of cell phones, laptops, cameras, or recording devices that are not relevant to the course will not be allowed. Eating (except for coffee, water and such) is not allowed during the class. 4. Students are expected to follow the Academic Honesty Guidelines of the Institution. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated in any circumstances. | |  | | | | |
| Class Preparation and Review | | | |
| Students are expected to spend at least one hour preparing for every hour of lesson, and one hour reviewing and doing Homework. | | | |
| Grades and Grading | | | |
| |  | | --- | | Final Exam ----------------------------30%  Group Presentation -----------------30%  Other assignment and quiz -------30%  Participation --------------------------10% | | | | |
| Diploma Policy Objectives | | | |
| Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):   1. Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought) 2. The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations. 3. The ability to identify and solve problems 4. Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English 5. Proficiency in the use of information technology | | | |
| Notes: | | | |
| The order and timing of course topics is subject to change at the instructors’ discretion. | | | |

**Assessment Criteria**

Critical thinking

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| Advanced | Student is able to apply the concepts taught in class to their own artistic experiences, question his or her previous ideas about art, look at arts from more than one perspective, contribute insightfully to class discussions and group projects. |
| Proficient | Student is able to understand the concepts taught in class and sometimes apply them to their cultural experiences. Student contributes to class discussion. |
| Developing | Student is able to understand the concepts taught in class. |
| Emerging | Student does not understand the concepts taught in class. |

Content

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| Exemplary | Student is able to apply the concepts learned in class to make better understanding of artistic experiences they have in life. Student demonstrates sufficient knowledge to appreciate the artistic culture of Japan. Actively engaged in all class activities and demonstrate exemplary problem solving techniques and presentation skills |
| Good | Student is able to apply the concepts learned in class to understand arts. Student understands the class contents and demonstrate good communication skills. Student participates in class discussion voluntarily and make good presentations. |
| Acceptable | Student demonstrates understanding of the content and is adequately prepared for the lesson. |
| Unacceptable | Student does not understand the content OR lesson is very short OR lesson seems inadequately prepared. |

English

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| Exemplary | Student’s oral and written English shows signs of risk-taking and is relatively free of careless errors. |
| Good | Student’s oral and written English is relatively free of careless errors. |
| Acceptable | Student makes many errors in writing OR minimal contributions to class discussion. |
| Unacceptable | Student makes many errors in writing AND minimal contributions to class discussion. |