


View Syllabus Information

Even after classes have commenced, course descriptions and online syllabus information may be subject to change according to the size of each class and the students' comprehension level.

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Course Information

Year	2020	School	School of Social Sciences
Course Title	Women in Modern Japan : Contemporary Japanese Women		
Instructor	HORTON, William Bradley		
Term/Day/Period	spring semester Sat.4		
Category	Foundations in Social Sciences	Eligible Year	1st year and above
Classroom		Campus	waseda
Course Key	18G0000035	Course Class Code	01
Main Language	English		
Course Code	CMFC231L		
First Academic disciplines	Composite Fields Studies		
Second Academic disciplines	Culture		
Third Academic disciplines	Cultural Studies		
Level	Intermediate, developmental and applicative	Types of lesson	Lecture

Syllabus Information

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Course Outline
【CJSP/TAISI Course】

During the postwar era, social and economic changes have led to drastically changed contexts for Japanese women. These changes could be characterized as a second wave of Japanese in which GHQ policy certainly played a role encouraging positive changes enjoyed by Japanese women. Prewar images like “good wife, wise mothers” and “modern girls” gave way to other images, including “education

mothers” and the office lady (OL). Today both elderly and young women play important social and economic roles, despite occasional trivialization of their functions. We will examine images and issues related to women as well as relationships between men and women in Japan through academic works and newspaper articles. Students will also examine popular media for images of women.

Objectives

Students will obtain a good knowledge of some common “roles” which women are seen as filling, as well as a broader understanding of contemporary Japan. Students will be able to use this knowledge to explore popular media.

before/after course of study

Students are expected to read assigned readings before class, and bring paper copies of the readings to class. Use of smart phones, tablets and computers is NOT allowed except in special circumstances.

Other assignments should also be prepared before the class, as announced by the instructor. Students should also take notes in class, and review them after class and before exams.

Course Schedule

- 1: 第1回 Introduction
Class 1: General introduction to the course. I will discuss the course requirements, readings, and goals.
- 2: 第2回 Prewar Images I: Good Woman, Wise Mother
Class 2: We will briefly discuss earlier the highly important prewar image of "Good Woman, Wise Mother"
- 3: 第3回 Prewar Images II: Modern Girl
Class 3: Discussion of the Taisho Era and the image of the "Moga" or Modern Girl
- 4: 第4回 Prewar Images: Discussion
Class 4: A general class discussion of prewar images of women
- 5: 第5回 Wartime Images and Postwar Policies on Women
Class 5: Discussion of wartime images of women and postwar policies on women in Japan
- 6: 第6回 Education & the Breaking of Gender and Class Hierarchy I
Class 6: Discussion of education and its role in the breaking of Japanese gender and class hierarchy
- 7: 第7回 Education & the Breaking of Gender and Class Hierarchy II
Class 7: Discussion of education and its role in the breaking of Japanese gender and class hierarchy (continuing discussion)
- 8: 第8回 Mimicry of the West: The Failure of Japanese Feminism
Class 8: This week we will consider whether Japanese feminism has done anything more than merely mimicking the West
- 9: 第9回 From OL to Career Woman: Government Initiatives and International Influence I
Class 9: Discussion of the images of "Office Lady" (OL) and "Career Woman" in the context of both government initiatives and international influence
- 10: 第10回 From OL to Career Woman: Government Initiatives and International Influence II
Class 10: Discussion of the images of "Office Lady" (OL) and "Career Woman" in the context of both government initiatives and international influence
- 11: 第11回 Yellow Cab Syndrome: Self-misrepresentations
Class 11: Discussion of Japanese women's self-representations, including the Yellow Cab Syndrome
- 12: 第12回 Enjo Kosai
Class 12: Discussion of enjo kosai (compensated dating) and the media discourse about it
- 13: 第13回 Kawaii culture: Young Women and the Japanese Economy
Class 13: We will consider Kawaii culture, including the relationship of young women to the Japanese economy
- 14: 第14回 Exploring Shoshika: Is This Women's Problem?
Class 14: Is the declining birth rate a woman's problem? We will discuss the debates over Shoshika

15: 第15回 Final exam and wrap-up

Class 15: Final exam and wrap-up

Note: The order and contents of the lectures are subject to change.

Textbooks Readings to be announced in class.

Reference Anne E. Imamura, ed., "Re-imaging Japanese Women" (UC Press, 1996). ISBN 0520202635
Sharon Sievers, "Flowers in Salt: The Beginnings of Feminist Consciousness in Modern Japan"
(Stanford U.P., 1983). ISBN 0804713820

Evaluation	Rate	Evaluation Criteria
	Exam: 30% Quizzes and final exam Papers: 35% Media research report Class Participation: 30% Active participation in group and individual activities is required. Others: 5% Students must attend at least 2/3 of the classes.	

Note / URL 本科目は未済試験制度および再試験制度適用除外科目です。

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