

Year/Semester	2025年度 1 期
Day/Period	Tue.3Period
Classroom	
Course Title	Japan Studies 201 (Culture)
Course Subtitle	Contemporary Issues in Japan: Pop Culture
Instructor	Glasspool Lucy(グラスプールシー)

Course Description	<p>This course will enable students to explore contemporary social and culture issues in Japan using the English language. It aims to encourage critical thinking through analysis of Japanese pop culture media and practices, including TV programmes, manga and anime, magazines, sport, fashion, and so on. Students will have the opportunity to study the media and pop culture texts of most interest to them.</p> <p>For Japanese students, it also aims to improve their English skills through engagement with English written texts and international students.</p> <p>Students will prepare for each week by doing short readings or viewings in English, as well as their own independent research on upcoming topics. In the class session they will join in discussion activities before listening to a short lecture. They will then expand their critical inquiry into the topic by further independent study activities, including their own research. This will be shared in short writing/video assignments and form posts in which students can formalize their ideas*.</p> <p>*Final class date will be different for 4-year degree students, who have a 15-week semester. International 1-year programme students will be leaving earlier after Week 14.</p> <p>Classes will be held face to face in principle. However, Week 14 will be held online (Zoom).</p> <p>Class preparation time will be 180 minutes per week.</p> <p>This course is entirely taught in English (外国語のみによる授業).</p>
Syllabus	<p>Week 1: Orientation Introduction to the course and issues / Needs assessment and guidance for online learning</p> <p>Week 2: Why study pop culture? What media and pop practices can tell us about a culture</p> <p>Week 3: Unit 1: Gender 1 Gender and manga</p> <p>Week 4: Unit 1: Gender 2 Gender and television</p> <p>Week 5: Unit 1: Gender 3 Gender and sport / fashion</p> <p>Week 6: Unit 2: Sexuality 1 Sexuality and manga</p> <p>Week 7: Unit 2: Sexuality 2 Sexuality and television</p> <p>Week 8: Midterm activity Short individual presentation/discussion on pop culture and gender/sexuality</p> <p>Week 9: Unit 3: Nationality 1 Ethnicity/nationality in Japanese media</p> <p>Week 10: Unit 3: Nationality 2 Representations of Japaneseness in foreign media / foreignness in Japanese media</p> <p>Week 11: Unit 3: Nationality 3 Cool Japan and the Olympics</p> <p>Week 12: Pop culture and tourism Contents tourism and fandom</p> <p>Week 13: Final activity 1 - Research poster presentation (international students present first)</p> <p>Week 14 Final activity 2 - Research poster presentation (4-year degree NUFS students)</p>
Evaluation Criteria	<p>Active participation (attendance, participation in class): 20%</p> <p>Continuous assessment (homework assignments): 30%</p> <p>Midterm activity (introduction to topic of interest, discussion): 20%</p> <p>Final activity (presentation on topic of choice): 30%</p>
Textbooks	Instructor's own material