

# **Japan in World Affairs**

PLSC 379/678

Spring 2015

Tuesday 1:30-3:20

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## *Course Description:*

This course examines Japan's place in the world in historical, analytical, and comparative perspectives. We will explore the workings of Japanese politics and foreign policy making to understand how Japan resembles and differs from other representative democracies. We consider the implications of structural changes in Japan's domestic politics, society, and economy for Japan's regional and global roles. Finally, we explore how Japan is coping with changing international realities including the rise of China as a world power. What considerations should Japan take into account as it formulates its foreign policy in the next century? How about the U.S.?

## *Course Requirements:*

Students will be graded as follows:

1. Regular attendance and participation (10%).
2. A short paper (3 pages, 25% of grade) tackling a historical topic from the first few weeks is due in Week 5. The questions guiding each week's readings provide some suggested topics for this paper.
3. A 2-page policy memo (20% of grade) is due in Week 10. Address this memo to the Japanese or U.S. government with concrete recommendations for policy change or continuity, giving reasons.
4. A final research paper (10-12 pages, 45%) is due at the end of exam week.

*Course readings:*

All readings for this class are available on ClassesV2.

*Class Schedule and Readings:*

### **Week 1: Introduction**

### **Week 2: Politics and Imperialism in Prewar Japan**

Questions: Who were the actors in Japan favoring military expansion into Asia? Who was opposed? How did the military government defeat the forces of incipient democracy in prewar Japan?

- Peter Duus. 1970. "The Era of Party Rule: Japan, 1905-1932," in James Crowley, ed., *Modern East Asia: Essays in Interpretation*. Yale University Press.
- Jack Snyder. 1991. *Myths of Empire*. Cornell. pp. 112-152.
- Arthur Tiedemann. 1971. "Big Business and Politics in Prewar Japan," in James Morley, ed., *Dilemmas of Growth in Prewar Japan*. Princeton. Pp. 267-316.
- Noguchi, Yukio. 1998. "The 1940 System: Japan under the Wartime Economy," *American Economic Review*. 88, 2: 404-407.
- Ienaga Saburo. 2001. *Japan's Past, Japan's Future*. Rowman and Littlefield. Pp. 39-47.

### **Week 3: The American Occupation of Japan**

Questions: What was America's posture to Japan just after World War II? How did the Cold War reconfigure the U.S. Occupation of Japan? What were the consequences of the Occupation for Japan's postwar relations in Asia? Why are Japan's relationships in Asia worse than Germany's in Europe?

- Rinjiro Sodei. 2001. *Dear General MacArthur: Letters from the Japanese During the American Occupation*. Rowman and Littlefield. Pp. 175-199.
- Tanaka, Hideo. 1987. "The Conflict between Two Legal Traditions in Making the Constitution of Japan," in Ward and Sakamoto, eds., *Democratizing Japan*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
- John Dower. 1999. *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, The New Press. Pp. 65-84, 346-404.
- Jennifer Lindt. *Sorry States*.

### **Week 4: The 1955 System**

Questions: Why was Japanese politics "clientelistic" for much of the postwar period? What is the connection between the "personal vote" and corruption? What is the connection between political institutions and political culture?

- Thomas Rochon. 1981. "Electoral Systems and the Basis of the Vote: The Case of Japan," in John Campbell, ed. Pp. 1-28.
- Steven Reed. 1991. "Structure and Behavior: Extending Duverger's Law to the Japanese Case," *British Journal of Political Science*, 29: 335-356.
- Cox, Gary W., and Michael F. Thies. 1998. "The Cost of Intraparty Competition: The Single Nontransferable Vote and Money Politics in Japan." *Comparative Political Studies* 31 (3):267-291.
- Mark Ramseyer and Eric Rasmusen. 2001. "Why Are Japanese Judges so Conservative in Politically Charged Cases?" *American Political Science Review* 95 (2):331-44.
- Tim Weiner. 2007. *Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA*. Chapter 12.

### **Week 5: Japan's Government Business Relations**

Questions: Why were government-business relations so close in postwar Japan? What were the consequences for the Japanese economy? For Japan's trade relationships? For Japanese growth and prosperity?

- Dennis Patterson. 1994. "Electoral Influence and Economic Policy: Political Origins of Financial Aid to Small Business in Japan," *Comparative Political Studies* 27,3: 425-47.
- David Weinstein and Yishay Yafeh. 1998. "On the Costs of a Bank Centered Financial System: Evidence from the Changing Main Bank Relations in Japan," *Journal of Finance*.
- Kazutoshi Koshiro. 1994. "The Employment System and Human Resource Management," in Imai and Komiya, p-p. 225-59.
- Jun Saito, LDP and the Construction Industry
- Estévez-Abe, Margarita. 2008. *Welfare and Capitalism in Postwar Japan*. Cambridge: New York: Cambridge University Press, introduction.

### **Week 6: The Early Postwar U.S.-Japan Relationship: Security and Economic Dimensions**

Questions: What arrangements did the U.S. and Japan work out for "burden-sharing" in defense matters? Why were there big student protests in 1960 and 1970? How did U.S.-Japan relations change in the 1960s and 1970s? Why was the yen set to 306 to the dollar? Who opposed revaluation and who favored it? Why did Nixon end the Bretton Woods System in 1971? What were the consequences for Japan?

- Susan Pharr. "Japan's Defensive Foreign Policy and the Politics of Burden Sharing," in Curtis, ed., *Japan's Foreign Policy After the Cold War*, M.E. Sharpe. Pp. 235-261.
- T.J. Pempel, "The Thrust for Economic Success," in Curtis, eds., *Japan's Foreign Policy After the Cold War*, M.E. Sharpe. Pp. 105-136.

- Kent E. Calder. 2004. "Securing Security Through Prosperity: The San Francisco System in Comparative Perspective," *The Pacific Review*, 17, 1: 135–157
- Edward Lincoln. *Japan's Unequal Trade*. Brookings. Pp. 12-38

### **Week 7: Economic Calamity and Political Response**

Questions: Why did Japan's economy boom and bust in the 1980s-90s? What effects did the bursting of the bubble have on Japanese politics?

- Ellis Krauss and Robert Pekkanen. 2011. *The rise and fall of Japan's LDP : political party organizations as historical institutions*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press. Introduction.
- Yusaku Horiuchi and Jun Saito, 2003. "Reapportionment and Redistribution: Consequences of Electoral Reform in Japan," *American Journal of Political Science*, 47, 4: 669-682.
- Gregory Noble. 2010. "The Decline of Particularism in Japanese Politics," *Journal of East Asian Studies* 10: 239-273.
- Richard Katz. 2003. "The Phoenix Economy," and "Globalization: A Progress Report," in *Japanese Phoenix: The Long Road to Economic Revival*. M.E. Sharpe. Pp. 2-22; 311-313. 147-189.

### **Week 8. The Politics of Japan's New Foreign Policy**

Questions: How engaged was the Japanese public in foreign policy during the postwar period? How has that changed? What is the nature of Japanese nationalism?

- Amy Catalinac. 2014. *Pork to Policy: Electoral Reform and National Security in Japan*. Cambridge University Press.
- Ozawa, Ichirō, Louisa Rubinfen, and Eric Gower. 1994. *Blueprint for a new Japan: The rethinking of a nation*. 1st ed. Tokyo ; New York: Kodansha International. (46-75)
- Gerald Curtis. 2013. "Japan's Cautious Hawks: Why Tokyo is Unlikely to Pursue an Aggressive Foreign Policy," *Foreign Affairs*. March/April.
- Chijiwa Yasuaki. 2005. "Insights into Japan-U.S. Relations on the Eve of the Iraq War: Dilemmas over "Showing the Flag" *Asian Survey*. 45, 6: 843-864.

### **Week 9: Women and Minorities in Japan**

Questions: Why is fertility low in Japan if female labor market participation is also low by OECDE standards? What accounts for Japan's lack of enthusiasm towards immigration?

- Mary Brinton. 2001. *Women's Working Lives in East Asia*. Stanford. Pp. 1-37.
- Margarita Estevez-Abe. 2008. "Gendering Varieties of Capitalism,"

- Leonard Schoppa. 2006. *Race for the Exits: The Unraveling of Japan's System of Social Protection*. Cornell University Press. Pp. 150-182.

### **Week 10. Japan's Regional Politics**

Questions: How has Japan coped with the rise of China as a regional and global power? What characterizes Japan-Korea relations? Is East Asia a status quo region or an unstable one?

- Kent Calder. 2006. "China and Japan's Simmering Rivalry," *Foreign Affairs*.
- Richard Samuels. 2007. "New Fighting Power!: Japan's Growing Maritime Capabilities and East Asian Security," *International Security* 32, 3: 84-112.
- Daniel Lim and James Vreeland, 2013. "Regional Organizations and International Politics: Japanese Influence over the Asian Development Bank and the UN Security Council," *World Politics*, 65, 1: 34-72.
- Alessio Patalano and James Manicom, 2014. "Rising Tides: Seapower and Regional Security in Northeast Asia," *The Journal of Strategic Studies* 37, 3: 335-344.

### **Week 11. Japan's International Economic Policy**

Questions: Does international economic integration countervail possible military conflict and tension for Japan? Does Japan consciously use economic levers to create a peaceful environment for itself? Is Japan's trade policy active or reactive to domestic politics?

- Christina Davis and Sophie Meunier. 2011. "Business as Usual? Economic Responses to Political Tensions." *American Journal of Political Science*, 55, 3: 628-646.
- Phillip Y. Lipsky. 2008. "Japan's Shifting Role in International Organizations," in Masaru Kohno and Frances Rosenbluth, eds. *Japan and the World: Japan's Contemporary Geopolitical Challenges*. New Haven: Yale Council on East Asian Studies.
- Arata Kuno and Megumi Naoi, 2013, "Framing Business Interests: How Campaigns Affect Firms Positions on Preferential Trade Agreements," UCSD working paper.
- Christina Davis and Yuki Shirato, 2007. "Firms, Governments and WTO Adjudication: Japan's Selection of WTO Disputes," *World Politics*. January: 274-313.
- Phillip Y. Lipsky and Hirofumi Takinami. 2013. "First-Mover Disadvantage: The Politics of Financial Crisis Response in Japan and the United States," *Japanese Journal of Political Science*.
- Megumi Naoi and Ikuo Kume. 2011. "Explaining Mass Support for Agricultural Protectionism: Evidence from a Survey Experiment During the Global Recession," pp.771-795, *International Organization*, Vol.65, No.4.

## **Week 12. Environment and Energy**

Questions: How has Japan managed to be a great economic power with few raw materials? How has Japan's political economy of growth affected its policies towards the environment? What is Japan's current role in the fight against climate change? How has the Fukushima disaster shaped its energy policy?

- Daniel Aldrich. 2008. *Site Fights: Divisive Facilities and Civil Society in Japan and the West*, Cornell.
- Jacques E.C. Hymans. 2011. "Veto Players, Nuclear Energy, and Nonproliferation: Domestic Institutional Barriers to a Japanese Bomb." *International Security* 36 (2): 154-189.
- Phillip Lipsky. 2012. "Casualty of Political Transformation?: The Politics of Energy Efficiency in the Japanese Transportation Sector." *Journal of East Asian Studies* Vol. 12, No.1, pp. 89-118.
- Kushida, Kenji E. "Japan's Fukushima Nuclear Disaster: Narrative, Analysis, and Recommendations." In, Shorenstein APARC Working Paper Series no. June (2012).

## **Week 13. Where is Japan Going?**

Questions: What kind of country will Japan be in the rest of the 21<sup>st</sup> century? How will Japan deal with its large government budget deficit against the backdrop of a sluggish economy and ageing population? How will Japan configure its domestic economy? Is conflict with China inevitable?

- Gen Goto, 2014.
- Daniel Smith and Hidenori Tsutumi, "Candidate Selection Methods and Policy Cohesion in Parties," *Party Politics*.