History 192
Spring 2015
Han (GTFs: Hua and Weaver)
1000-1120 MW
101 LLCS

Japan, Past & Present

Reading: James L. Huffman, Japan in World History
Nakano Makiko, Makiko’s Diary
Ibuse Masuji, Black Rain
Hector Garcia, A Geek in Japan

Requirements: Two five-page essays (20% each), midterm exam (20%), final exam (20%), and discussion section (20%: see section syllabus).

Learning Objectives:

- To appreciate the sweep of Japanese history
- To explore cultural difference
- To think, read, and write critically
- To interrogate primary and secondary historical sources

Office Hours: 1-3 Tuesdays, and by appointment, in 327 McKenzie Hall.
Phone: 346-4837; Email address: hanes@uoregon.edu

Week One. Introduction.

March 30. Who Are the Japanese Anyway?
April 1. Prehistorical Origins of Historical Japan.

Reading: Huffman, xi-18.

Week Two. Emperors, Aristocrats, and Warriors.

April 6. Imperial/Courtier Rule.
April 8. Samurai and Shogun.

Reading: Huffman, 19-54.

Week Three. War and Peace.

April 13. Toward the Tokugawa Peace.
April 15. Early Modern to Modern.

Reading: Huffman, 55-79. Nakano, Makiko’s Diary.

Week Four. A New World.

April 20. MIDTERM EXAMINATION.
April 22. The Meiji Restoration as Revolution.

Reading: Huffman, 79-90. Begin Reading Ibuse, Black Rain.
Week Five. The Road to War.

April 27. From Internationalism to Nationalism.

Reading: Huffman, 91-108.

Week Six. Imperial Nippon.

May 4. The Pacific War.
May 6. American Occupation. Film: “Our Job in Japan”

Reading: Huffman, 108-114. Finish reading Ibuse, Black Rain.

Week Seven. The Postwar Era.

May 11. The Postwar Economic Miracle. Film: “The Colonel Comes to Japan”

IBUSE ESSAY DUE IN CLASS.
May 13. The Americanization of Japan!?

Reading: Huffman, 114-128.

Week Eight. Cultures and Subcultures.

May 18. Life in Megalopolis. Film Clip: “Family Game”
May 20. Multiethnic Japan!? Film: “Found in Translation”

Reading: Begin reading Garcia, A Geek in Japan.

Week Nine. New Japan.

May 25. MEMORIAL DAY (NO CLASS)

Reading: Finish reading Garcia, A Geek in Japan.

Week Ten. Now Japan.

June 1. Apocalypse Now: Anatomies of Disaster. GARCIA ESSAY DUE IN CLASS.
June 3. A Day in the Life.

Final Examination: 10:15-12:15 Thursday, June 11 in 101 LLCS