



JAPANESE SOCIETY AND GENDER ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE NAME:

Japanese Society and Gender

CREDITS:

The course meets for a minimum of 45 hours per two week period. Students receive 4 Oberlin University credits and a Certificate of Completion for passing with a minimum grade of a D.

MEETING TIMES:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday (days may vary based on activity schedule)

Periods: 1 – 4 (periods and times may vary based on activity schedule)

DESCRIPTION:

The focus of this course is to give an expansive outline of gender, sexuality and society with a specific spotlight on contemporary Japanese society. Class content exposes material from sociologists, historians, journalists, and literary scholars to analyse how gender and sexuality have been socially developed and experienced in post war Japan.

COURSE LEVELS:

Classes are taught and conducted in English. No Japanese language level is required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ OUTCOMES:

By the end of the session, students should be able to:

- 1) Understand how gender and society interact in Japan.
- 2) Understand and analyze the main theories of gender and sexuality in Japan.
- 3) Think beyond gender stereotypes that may be found in contemporary Japan.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, participatory (dialogical, reciprocal learning), inquiry (research & inquiry, cooperative group, engage by generating questions), critical thinking and constructive thinking (analyzing and examining media, multiple alternative culture), creative future thinking (action agenda, root cause, exchange ideas).

TEXTBOOK(S) AND/OR CLASS MATERIALS:

The instructor will provide class materials.

GRADING, CERTIFICATE, GRADING PLAN & EVALUATION:

All students will get a grade for this academic course. You will also get a Certificate of Completion at the end of the course. Students who do not pass with a letter grade of D or above will not be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

Grading Scale:

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 79-70 = C 60-69 = D 50 and below = F

Breakdown:

- Class Participation: 25%
- Attendance: 25%
- Assignments: 20%
- Final Project: 30%

COURSE POLICIES:

It is required for students to attend all classes and come to class on time. Students should refrain from using cell phones while in class and eating during class times.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

Students are expected to conduct themselves well in the class. Disciplinary action may be taken for but not limited to dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism.



Course Schedule (General – Subject to Change)

Class Day	Topic	Class Day	Topic
1	COURSE ORIENTATION / INTRODUCTION GENDERS, SEXUALITIES, AND BODIES IN MODERN JAPANESE SOCIETY	6	ENGENDERING SOCIAL CHANGE IN JAPAN Activity and discussion
2	Class Activity and Recap Conceptualising Gender Relations in Contemporary Japan FEMINIST THEORIES AND WOMEN'S STUDIES Class Activity	7	BEYOND THE HETERONORMATIVE: LGBTQ IN JAPAN Shinjuku Boys 1995 by Kim Longinotto and Jano Williams, 1995 We Are Transgender by Lulu Ogawa, 1998
3	STRUCTURES OF GENDER IN THE POSTWAR ERA Film viewing: Sansho the Bailiff Activity & Discussion	8	Field trip photowalk GENDERED 'Otaku' WORLDS
4	HEGEMONIC AND ALTERNATIVE IDEALS OF MASCULINITY Sarariimen: Hegemonic Masculinity and the Dynamics of Gender Norm Compliance Activity and discussion	9	ROBO-SEXISM AND JAPAN'S MODERNITY Activity and discussion Culminating Activity- Student Presentation
5	GENDER AND PERFORMANCE (1) GENDER AND PERFORMANCE (Idols and Celebrity Culture in Japan) Film viewing: Dream Girls. Directed by Kim Longinotto and Jano Williams. Color, 50 mins. 1994.		