

Purdue University, Department of History
HISTORY 343
TRADITIONAL JAPAN

PLACE AND TIME

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1200-1315
WALC 2127

COURSE GOALS

1. To convey information about the politics and society of ancient and mediaeval Japan, to instil an appreciation of other cultures, and to create an understanding of historical methods.
2. To improve students' academic writing ability.

Previous study of Japanese history, culture or language is not required for this course.

Please notify me if you have a learning disability or have physical limitations that require accommodation. We will work together to develop a plan that suits your needs.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Friday, Karl. *Japan Emerging: Premodern History to 1850* (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2012)

You do not need to buy any other texts for this class. Readings will be provided in PDF form and will be accessible to all students via an online platform. Please bring a print and bring a copy of each required reading with you to class.

CONTACT

I can be reached at swijeyer@purdue.edu. Please note that if I receive messages after 1800 I may not be able to reply until after 0900 the next day. Notification of absence or requests for extensions should be communicated as soon as possible; messaging immediately before the deadline is generally unacceptable except under extenuating circumstances.

Please take advantage of my office hours; I want to get to know you and I'm there to help. You may also email if you have questions or concerns, but I may not be able to respond to all emails. If it is important, please speak with me in person.

Emails exchanged between us will be professional communications and should therefore be composed politely and properly. This includes addressing them to me by my title and surname. Please do not message me as if composing a text to a friend. Explanations should be clear and concise. You will be expected to be polite and respectful of others in class.

CLASSWORK

Grading for this class will be as follows:

- Secret Syllabus Task: 3%
- Response paper I [300 words]: 14%
- Response paper II [300 words]: 14%
- Response paper III [300 words]: 14%
- Final presentation [5 minutes]: 25%
- Participation: 30%
 - *Attendance: 10%*
 - *Participation in discussions: 20%*

Basic requirements for all written work:

- How to structure and organise a piece will be covered in class. You will be expected to remember and implement the recommended structure.
- In terms of content, in addition to a proper understanding of the concepts, you will be evaluated on your understanding of the timelines involved. For major events you will be expected to know the year (but not necessarily the day or month). For broader trends, you will be expected to know the decade.
- All submissions should be formatted correctly and display proper grammar. For formatting, please see [Purdue's OWL Guidance](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_a_general_format.html) on formatting (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_a_general_format.html).
- All submissions must have the following at the top, left-hand side of your submission:
 - The date
 - Your name
 - The course for which you are submitting the piece
 - My name
- Students unable to complete an assignment by the due date should consult their instructor as early as possible to discuss an extension.
- Extensions are not normally granted for reasons of work due in other courses or extra-curricular activities, but may be granted for reasons of illness or a death in the family. Any extension granted must be confirmed by email from the instructor. In no case will an extension of more than one week be granted. Students submitting written assignments late without an extension are penalised at the rate of one grade per day of lateness.
- **All required work must be submitted in order to receive a final grade for the course.**

Requirements for essays [if applicable]:

- All essays must be structured according to the guidance provided [here](#)

Requirements for presentations [if applicable]

- **Final presentations** should be at least **five** minutes long. Again, details will be covered in class, and handouts provided. Please ensure you are not absent for your presentation.

PARTICIPATION AND IN-CLASS BEHAVIOUR

I will try my level best not to make this class boring, but in return I expect you to pay attention and engage with the subject matter.

- Students who sleep, are consistently tardy, do not read the materials, and/or are otherwise not paying attention in class will see their behaviour impacting this mark.
- Please familiarise yourself with the university's policies on:
 - [Academic honesty](http://www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academic-integrity/index.html) (www.purdue.edu/odos/osrr/academic-integrity/index.html)
 - [Use of copyrighted materials](http://www.purdue.edu/policies/academic-research-affairs/ia3.html) (www.purdue.edu/policies/academic-research-affairs/ia3.html)
 - [Attendance and other regulations](http://www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/regulations_procedures/classes.html) (www.purdue.edu/studentregulations/regulations_procedures/classes.html)
- Please turn off all cell phones and pagers. E-mailing or web-surfing via your laptop is also not appropriate. Such distractions will affect your participation grade.
- Depending on the location, you may be allowed to eat or drink in the classroom, but please do not distract other students; if you do, your participation will be affected.
- All work, including readings and web postings, missed due to absence must be made up before the next scheduled class meeting.
- **Attendance is not optional**, but with prior notice you may miss one class without incurring any penalty. Except in the case of genuine and documented emergencies, such absences must be confirmed with me via email before class begins. **Students with more than 5 unexcused absences will suffer a -5% penalty to their score.**

Lectures and classroom discussions may not be recorded in any medium other than notes.

COURSE GUIDE

*Items in **red** designate items that must be prepared before you come to class; failure to do so will affect your participation score.*

*Items in **bold red** are graded items that must be finished by the date indicated in order to receive points.*

Week 1: Basic Historical Theory

- Tuesday [Lecture]
- Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:
 - Essay Writing Guidance 1 [Please refer to [guidelines](#) and [sample essay](#)]
 - [If time] [Week 1 source](#) discussion:
 - What are the key differences between the historical visions of Karl Marx and Max Weber?
 - What are the key differences between Friedrich Hegel's viewpoint and that of Michel Foucault?
 - If you had to choose just two of these concepts to teach someone else, what would they be, and why?

Week 2: Geography, Legend, and Paleoarchaeology

- Tuesday [Lecture]
- Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:
 - Essay Writing Guidance 2 [Please refer to [guidelines](#) and [sample essay](#)]
 - [If time] Week 2 source discussion
 - Barnes, Gina L. 'Japan's Natural Setting,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 3-16
 - Piggott, Joan R., 'Defining "Ancient" and "Classical"', in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 21-32

Week 3: The Jomon, 15,000BC - 300BC

- Tuesday [Lecture]
- Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:
 - Week 3 source discussion
 - Aikens, C. Melvin, 'Origins of the Japanese People,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 55-65
 - [Week 3 sources](#)
 - **Response Paper 1 (Thesis and Plan)**

Week 4: The Yayoi, 300BC - 300AD

- Tuesday [Lecture]
- Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:
 - Week 4 source discussion
 - Buyuuden Japanese History, [Japanese History: The Yayoi Period \(Japanese History: The Textbook Ep. 2\)](#).
 - [Week 4 sources](#)
 - **Response Paper 1 (Peer editing 1st draft)**

Week 5: Kofun, 250-538

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 5 source discussion:
 - Teeuwen, Mark. 'What Used to Be Called Shinto: The Question of Japan's Indigenous Religion,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 66-76
 - Barnes, Gina L. 'The Emergence of Political Rulership and the State in Early Japan,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 77-88.
 - [Week 5 sources](#)
 - **Response Paper 1 (Final Draft)**

Week 6: Asuka, 538-710

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 6 source discussion
 - Batten, Bruce L. 'Early Japan and the Continent,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 76-88
 - Fuqua, Douglas. 'Centralization and State Formation in Sixth- and Seventh- Century Japan,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 98-108
 - [Week 6 sources](#)
 - **Response Paper 2 (Thesis and Plan)**

Week 7: Nara, 710-794

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 7 source discussion
 - Bender, Ross. 'Emperor, Aristocracy, and the Ritsuryō State: Court Politics in Nara,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 111-121
 - Adolphson, Mikael S. 'Oligarchy, Shared Rulership, and Power Blocs,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 122-134
 - Adolphson, Mikael S. 'Aristocratic Buddhism,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 135-145
 - [Week 7 sources](#)
 - **Response Paper 2 (Peer editing 1st draft)**

Week 8: Heian I, 794-1070

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 8 source discussion
 - Borgen, Robert, and Joseph T. Sorenson, 'The Canons of Courtly Taste,' in *Japan Emerging*, 146-156
 - von Verschuer, Charlotte. 'The Provinces and the Public Economy, 700–1100,' in *Japan Emerging*, 157-166
 - [Week 8 sources](#)

○ **Response Paper 2 (Final Draft)**

Week 9: Heian II, 1070-1185

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 9 source discussion
 - Segal, Ethan, 'The Shōen System,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 167-177.
 - Friday, Karl F, 'The Dawn of the Samurai,' in *Japan Emerging*, 178-188
 - [Week 9 sources](#)
- **Response Paper 3 (Thesis and Plan)**

Week 10: Kamakura, 1185-1333

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 10 source discussion
 - Goble, Andrew Edmund, 'The Kamakura Shogunate and the Beginnings of Warrior Power,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp.189-202
 - Segal, Ethan, 'Kamakura and the Challenges of Governance,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 203-212
 - [Week 10 sources](#)
- **Response Paper 3 (Peer editing 1st draft)**

Week 11: Ashikaga, 1333-1467

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 11 source discussion:
 - Goble, Andrew Edmund. 'Go-Daigō, Takauji, and the Muromachi Shogunate,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 213-222
 - Eason, David, 'Warriors, Warlords, and Domains,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 233-243
 - Conlan, Thomas D. 'Medieval Warfare,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 244-253
 - [Week 11 sources](#)
- **Response Paper 3 (Final Draft)**

Week 12: Sengoku, 1467-1568

- **Tuesday [Lecture]**
- **Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:**
 - Week 12 source discussion:
 - Bodiford, William M. 'Medieval Religion,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 224-233
 - Tomomura, Hitomi, 'Gender Relations in the Age of Violence,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 267-277
 - [Week 12 sources](#)

Week 13: Reunification I

- Tuesday [Lecture]
- Thursday [Sourcework & Writing]:
 - Week 13 source discussion:
 - Butler, Lee. 'The Sixteenth-Century Reunification,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 311-320
 - Brown, Phillip. 'The Political Order,' pp. 321-332
 - [Week 13 sources](#)

Week 14: Reunification II

- Tuesday [Lecture]
 - Week 14 source discussion
 - Gainty, Denis. 'The New Warriors: Samurai in Early Modern Japan,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 344-355
 - Howel, David. 'Urbanisation, Trade, and Merchants,' in *Japan Emerging*, pp. 356-365
- Thursday [Final Presentations]

Week 15: Presentations

- Tuesday [Final Presentations]
- Thursday [Final Presentations]

