**Japan Studies 8 (2019-20 Fall Semester)**

## Contemporary Japanese Economy and Business in Macro and Micro Perspective

Lecturer: Manoj Shrestha, Ph.D.
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Konan University

Credit Hours: 3 hours

Date: Monday & Thursday

Office Hours: Monday and Thursday
at Shrestha's office.....from. 12:10-1:00 pm

Course Description and aim of this class:
Japan as the third largest economy in the world after the USA and China has been transforming in a fast pace. This course aims to put light on the basic structure, style and strategy of Japanese economy and business so that all the participants would be able to comprehend the strength and weakness of this rapidly changing nation.

Class Schedule:

1. Introduction and Goal of This Course

2. Features of Japanese economy and Resource Mobilization

3-4. The Role of so called Big Firms business Vs. Small and Medium Sized Companies

5-6. Demystifying the Conventional Knowledge of Japanese Business Practice
Myth of lifetime employment

7. Field Trip to Japanese Company

8-9. Intra-Firm Relationship in Japan
Why there are so many automobile manufacturers in Japan?

10-11. Reviewing the Transaction Cost in Japanese Business Focusing Kigyuo Shudan, Keiretsu and Shitauke practices

12-13. Science and Technology Policy in Japan Focusing on the Role of Government and Private Sectors

14-15. Why Japanese Government has relatively small role unlike in the US, China, India, Germany and France? Myth of METI

16-17. Intellectual Property Rights and Japan. Why and how Japan holds second largest number of patents after the USA. Why Japan is still a top Patent applicant at USPTO? Problems prospects and issues.

18. Intellectual Property Management
Theory and Practice of Employee's Invention

19. Historical Review of the US Japan
Patent conflict. What we can learn from this? Some case studies.
New Firms and Innovation in Japan. Who are creating the new companies? Why, How and Where?

20. Academia and industries collaboration in Japan.
Implication of Bayh-Dole Act and Stevenson Wydler Act of the USA

21. Japanese Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and Technology Transfer

22. Growing Japanese Investment in Africa and Role of TICAD

23. Field Trip to Japanese Company

24. Global Strategic Alliance and Japanese Business

25. Reviewing what the participants have learned

Reading materials:

Reading materials will be provided to students. Reading of all is mandatory in order to carry the productive discussion in the class

Lecture style and methodology:

Lecture plus discussion based on reading materials based on first hand information published by government and business report by corporations and consulting companies.

Prerequisites:

None. But passion and strong will to learn and open minded attitude

Attendance Policy:

Students are naturally expected to attend all the classes. In case of absence, prior information to office is must with legitimate reason.

Grading:

Grading will be based on participation, presentation, homework, final examination and report