Japan Studies 13 (Joint Seminar: Japanese Culture in Globalization)

Syllabus 2019-2020

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The purpose of Japan Studies XIII is to discuss Japanese culture in globalization in order to develop Japanese cultural literacy, cross-cultural literacy and global literacy for human solidarity. Oxpeace 2013, the International Conference for Peace at Oxford University (in which I have been involved as a guest speaker) will be discussed in class. The key words of this course are Japanese implicit culture and cultural identity in globalization, cultural relativism, transnational/transcultural identities, and human solidarity and security.

First, we will discuss the kernel of Japanese culture in globalization as the core of this joint seminar, as the participants of the class are both International students and Konan students who are interested in Japanese culture and literature in global world. We will explore the depth of Japanese 'habits of the heart' thorough Soseki's inner conflicts between traditional Japanese values and the influences of modernization and westernization. Soseki's Kokoro has been Japan's best seller and has been translated into many foreign languages. We will read the depth of Soseki's ***Kokoro*** as cross-cultural studies, too. Along with Soseki's ***Kokoro*** we will also discuss the pendulum between fantasy and reality in the works ***Norwegian Wood*** by Haruki Murakami, which has also been influenced by Soseki's ***Kokoro***. We will also look into today's significance of one of Hayao Miyazaki's animated films (***The Whisper of the Hearts***) which express clear messages to contemporary people and implication of 和魂洋才 **"**Wa Ko Yo Sai" (Japanese spirit combined with Western wisdom.)

We also study the exploration of what true love is and the possibility and impossibility of love through the instructor's historical romance between Japanese and British, *Dreams of Serendipity* (2018). We will discuss cross-cultural and transgenerational human love among Joseph's descendants between Japan and the UK based on the real story of Joseph who was born in Scotland and died in Kobe.

Next, we will do a brief overview of Japanese modern history from the perspective of peace studies. As history is a dialogue between the past and the present which predicts the future, it is worth examining the issue of Japan's modernization as influenced by Western powers. The Asia-Pacific War (1931-1945), the historical events in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as Japan's recovery from the ashes of its unconditional surrender in 1945 will be discussed. Has Japan learned enough from her history to be a true peace activist in the 21st century?

As I have been an invited lecturer at JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) for 26 years, we will study Japan's contribution to developing countries in terms of international

cooperation which we declared at the San Francisco Peace Conference in 1951. JICA shows us the scope and the significance of Japan's Official Development Aid program (ODA) and how Japanese young overseas volunteers are working in developing countries for the purpose of "education for all."

.**Texts:** ***Kokoro*** **by Natsume, Soseki.(2007). Translated by Meredith Mckinney, Peter Owen London.**

Dreams of Serendipity **(2018) by Koji Nakamura. Melrose Books, Cambridgeshire, UK.**

You can get the following three papers by Koji Nakamura in class

- Soseki's ***Kokoro*** as Cross-Cultural Significance for Exchange Students: The Journal of the Institute for Language and Culture, Konan University. Vol.16, (pp.1-56). 2012
- *The Representation of Miyazaki's Whisper of the Heart-Japanese Identities Combined with Western Individualism: *The Journal of the Institute for Language and Culture,* Konan University. Vol.18, (pp.13-24). 2014
- Fostering Awareness of Hiroshima and Nagasaki among Exchange Students from North America and Europe: *The Journal of the Institute for Language and Culture,* Konan University. Vol.17, (pp.15-59). 2013

Related Papers

The following papers are available from Koji Nakamura's Online Desk
http://www.kilc.konan-u.ac.jp/~koji/

International Education for Peace for Student Teachers in Japan: Promoting Cultures of Peace. by Koji Nakamura, ***Transforming Education for Peace***, ed. By Edward Brantmeier & Jing Lin: Information Age Publishing, New York. pp.113-128、2008.

The compatibility of British Identities with European Citizenship: Qualitative and Quantitative Research by Koji Nakamura (2008): I***dentity, Education and Citizenship-Multiple Interrelations***. (Ed) by Jonas Sprogoe & Thyge Winther-Jensen, Frankfurt: Peter Lang, pp. 65-90. 2006.

Recommended Books

Boulding Elise (2000). ***Culture of Peac****e;* The Hidden Side of History. Syracuse University Press, New York.

Benedict Ruth (1946).***The Chrysanthemum and the Sward: Patterns of Japanese Culture.*** Houghton Mifflin Company, 1946. Vermont: Tuttle, 1972

Said Edward (1978). ***Orientalism-Western Conceptions of the Orient*** (1978). Penguin

Class Schedule – Japan Studies XIII (Japanese Culture in Globalization)

Autumn 2019-2020

Week		
① **September 13 (*Friday) 14:40** ② **September 20 (* Friday) 14:40**	① (Friday) **The Heart of Japanese Culture,** The beauty of Japanese Poetry (Haiku and Tanka) ***Bushido; The Soul of Japan*** by Inazo Nitobe: The Harmony of Shintoism, Zen Buddhism and Confucianism	② (Friday) Soseki's ***Kokoro***: The exploration of the depth of Japanese human heart **Confession, Love Triangle and Dramatic Irony** (Novel, Movies and Discussion) **Presentations of each Haiku**
③ **September 27 (*Friday) 14:40** ④ **September 30 (Monday) 13:00**	③(Friday) Soseki's ***Kokoro***: Confession, Love Triangle and Dramatic Irony as universal human agony **Movies and Discussion** **Presentations of each Haiku**	④Soseki's ***Kokoro***: (Today's significance of Soseki's works; The issue of human loneliness in modernization **Movies and Discussion (Monday)**
⑤ **October 4 (* Friday) 14:40** ⑥ **October 7 (Monday) 13:00**	⑤ Soseki's ***Kokoro***: Today's significance of Soseki's works; The issue of human loneliness and the **hidden** secrets in the novel. **Movies and Discussion (Friday)**	⑥**Soseki's *Kokoro* Comparative Literature Comparison and contrast with Shakespearean Othello and Murakami's *Norwegian Wood* (Monday)**
⑦ **October 18 (*Friday) 14:40** ⑧ **October 21 (Monday) 13:00**	⑦The World of **Haruki Murakami**:the harmony between fantasy and reality ***Norwegian Wood and*** Murakami's works have been loved by people of the world. Why? (DVD) (Friday)	⑧ Today's Significance of **Hayao Miyazaki: *Whisper of the Heart (DVD)*** Japanese Identities combined with Western Individualism& independence The message from Hayao (Monday)

⑨ **October 28 (Monday) 13:00** ⑩ **November 11 (Monday) 13:00**	⑨ ⑧ Today's Significance of **Hayao Miyazaki: *Whisper of the Heart (DVD)*** ***Princess Mononoke*** The message from Hayao Modernization and Preservation of environment and ecology, biodiversity Miyazaki (Monday)	⑩ ***Dreams of Serendipity*** **By Koji Nakamura** **What is the theme of the novel?** **Your analysis of protagonists** **Yumi, Luna, Luke** **What did you find out through this novel?** **(Monday)**
⑪ **November 18 (Monday) 13:00** ⑫ **November 25 (Monday) 13:00**	⑪ ***Dreams of Serendipity*** **By Koji Nakamura** ***Discussion:*** **Writer's intention and subjectivity** **What are the three factors of novels?** (Monday)	⑫ The Voices from Asia among JICA participants from Asia developing countries **Globalization and global disparity and poverty**. **Partnership of Global NGOs/Empowerment** **MSF and Oxfam (Mon.)**
⑬ **December 2 (Monday) 13:00** ⑭ **December 9 (Monday) 13:00**	⑬ **Asian Pacific War** **Causes and Effects** **The Entity of the War** **DVD: Japan's War** **Diplomat Sugihara** **Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Okinawa** **Oral Presentations based on your final research paper (Monday)**	⑭ **Today's Significance of Hiroshima and Nagasaki,** **The living witness of Atomic Bombing and Poetries** written by the victims **Oral Presentations based on your final research paper (Mon)**
⑮ **December 16** **(Monday 13:00)**	***The Chrysanthemum and the Sward: Patterns of Japanese Culture.*** **Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution** **Oral Presentations based on your final Papers (Monday)**	Due to national holidays on Mondays, we will have 5 classes on Friday from 14:40 Sep.13, 20, 27, Oct. 4, 18

Course Description

The purpose of Japan Studies XIII is to discuss Japanese culture in globalization in order to develop Japanese cultural literacy, cross-cultural literacy and global literacy for human solidarity. Oxpeace 2013, the International Conference for Peace at Oxford University (in which I have been involved as a guest speaker) will be discussed in class. The key words of this course are Japanese cultural identity in globalization, cultural relativism, transnational/transcultural identities, and human solidarity and security.

First we will discuss the kernel of Japanese culture in globalization as the core of this joint seminar, as the participants of the class are both International students and Konan students who are interested in Japanese culture and literature in global world. We will explore the depth of Japanese 'habits of the heart' thorough Soseki's inner conflicts between traditional Japanese values and the influences of modernization and westernization. Along with Soseki's ***Kokoro*** we will also discuss the pendulum between fantasy and reality in the works ***Norwegian Wood*** by Haruki Murakami. We will also look into the significance for today of Hayao Miyazaki's animated films which express clear messages to contemporary people.

We also explore what true love is and the possibility and impossibility of love through the instructor's latest English novel, *Dreams of Serendipity* (2018). We also learn cross-cultural and transgenerational human love among Joseph's descendants between Japan and the UK based on the real story of Joseph who died in Kobe.

Next, we will do a brief overview of Japanese modern history from the perspective of peace studies. As history is a dialogue between the past and the present which predicts the future, it is worth examining the issue of Japan's modernization as influenced by Western powers, the Asia-Pacific War (1931-1945), the events in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as Japan's recovery from the ashes of its unconditional surrender in 1945. Has Japan learned enough from her history to be a true peace activist in the 21st century?

We will also examine the power of transnational NGOs in terms of **"partnership"** and **"empowerment**." in the midst of global poverty and economic disparity. In addition, we will analyze the issue of national identity and pride in globalization from a comparative perspective. The compatibility of EU citizenship with national identities will be discussed.

As I have been a guest lecturer at JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) for 20 years, we will study Japan's contribution to developing countries in terms of international cooperation which we declared at the San Francisco Peace Conference.

Teaching Styles

In this course we will explore the possibility of creating a communicative and interactive learning community for Japanese culture in globalization together with Exchange students and Japanese Students.

The class will be taught in a lecture/presentation/discussion/fieldwork format. Students will be expected to give oral presentations (based on their research papers) on some aspects of Japanese Culture/literature in globalization from comparative and interdisciplinary perspectives.

Course Evaluation and Course Credit

You will be expected to research some aspects of Japanese Culture in globalization. This should be developed further into a 5-page research paper with at least three sources other than purely web-site based research. The paper may be longer if you like, but I expect it to be clear and direct. It will be due (electronically or paper-based) by December 14, 2018. You will also be expected to make a final oral presentation based on your research in the last two classes in December. Class participation in the readings and discussion are of course expected.

Grading will be: Research Paper on Japanese culture in globalization 50%, Oral Presentation (including power-point presentation) 30%, and Class Participation including attendance 20%.

Attendance Policy

The Year-in-Japan program has adopted a uniform attendance policy for the afternoon Japan Studies courses. You are allowed only two unexcused absences during the semester without penalty. A third unexcused absence will reduce your grade in the course by 10 points A fourth unexcused absence will reduce your grade by another 10 points. More than four unexcused absences will result automatically in a failing grade for the course. Legitimate excuses for absence are normally limited to illnesses or accidents that require medical attention. Please consult with KIEC in advance if you believe that you have some other legitimate reason for absence. Students must document all legitimate excuses.

Koji's Pet theory:

"***Yesterday is history. Tomorrow is mystery. Let us make the most of today. Now or never!***" Koji Nakamura

"***The Future depends on man's being able to transcend the limits of individual cultures.***" Edward Hall