

Class: Fridays 10:30am-1:20pm Office: Thomson

Office Hrs: Fridays 2:20-3:30pm ; Or by appointment. Email: ekrauss8@uw.edu

Grader: Douglas Miller; dqs@uw.edu Office Hrs: By Appointment Only

SCOPE AND PURPOSE: The focus of this course is the basic analysis of postwar politics in Japan, including on the development of the party system, political parties, and electoral system and elections. It also includes including some brief historical and conceptual background; the prime minister and policymaking, and a particular focus on the pre- and post- the 1990s electoral and administrative reforms. Japan since the early 1990s has experienced perhaps the greatest political changes since the American Occupation (1945-1952). This course will analyze the “nuts and bolts” of Japanese politics using as a theme the questions of how and why these changes have occurred and their implications.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADE:

It is expected that you will have done the reading for the week, before the week's discussions begin [i.e., before Monday's class]. Everyone is also expected to participate in each class session.

- 1) **Short answer ID exam:** April 14 on weeks 1 and 2--identifying who or what, approximately when, and significance in a paragraph. [15%]
- 2) **Essay Exam 1:** In-class written exam on April 28 In -class exam on topics for weeks 1-5 [35%]
- 3) **Essay Exam 2:** a take-home essay [4 pp.] on May 26 concerning topics for weeks 5-9 [40%].
- 4) **Class Participation [10%]:** quality and frequency throughout the course.

IMPORTANT: PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING ARE NOT TOLERATED IN THIS CLASS!!!!

Whether in-class or take-home exams, exams are written by YOU ALONE. It is NOT a cooperative exercise. Once a question is given out you may not consult with any other student in the class, nor use the words of anyone else in writing unless you cite outside sources (direct quotations should be used sparingly—perhaps a maximum of two per exam) for everything except common knowledge. Other than the 2 short quotations EVERYTHING IN THE EXAM MUST BE IN YOUR OWN WORDS, NO ONE ELSE'S!!!! Penalties for violating these rules will be severe (At a minimum, a zero on the exam and a good chance of failing the course). BE AWARE OF WHAT PLAGIARISM IS AND HOW TO AVOID IT. BE AWARE THAT COOPERATION ON AN INDIVIDUAL EXAMINATION IS CHEATING, AND AVOID IT.

FOR ANY LATE OR EXCUSED WORK: I require documentation. Even if you show up to class with your leg in a cast, bring in written documentation from your doctor or the Health Service. I require this of EVERY excuse to avoid being placed in the uncomfortable position of trying to assess the veracity as well as legitimacy of excuses. You can write me an email saying you are sick and asking to have your assignment postponed. However, provide documentation along with your written request in order to gain better consideration for an excuse.

GRADING AND GRADE APPEALS: We are fortunate to have a grader for this course. Douglas Miller has office hours by appointment only. Please contact him first not me, on anything to do with the grade on your exam. If you disagree with the score you received on an exam, submit a written statement explaining your dispute and hand a copy to both of us along with a copy of your exam. Discuss with your grader first before coming to me. He reserves the right to lower as well as raise your grade after your discussion with him. This written submission must be done within one week after the exam is returned. I will read the appeal after you have discussed it with the grader if he has rejected your appeal for a higher grade.

EMAIL COMMUNICATION WITH US: Please email us only from a uw.edu account. Email communication with a professor and a grader is a FORMAL communication, not an informal one like you text or email your friends. Kindly remember that when writing. Thanks.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: Graduate Students taking the class do not have to do the first, identification, exam; instead of the 2nd in class exam yours will be take-home; and instead of the third exam, the second essay, you must write a research paper on a topic I approve. Please send me your suggestions for paper topic via email with a description of 1)what you want to research 2) why it is significant in Japan's postwar politics 3)and the methods you will do to conduct the research. Page limit on paper=10 pp. Grad students will be graded by me, not the grader.

READINGS: The following book is required but available online. It is indicated in the course outline with author's last name in **CAPITAL LETTERS:**

**GEORGE MULGAN, Aurelia. Power and Pork: The Political Life of a Japanese Politician (Canberra, Australia: ANU E Press and Asia Pacific Press, Australia National University 2006). Free download online at: http://press.anu.edu.au/titles/power_pork_citation/pdf-download/
All other readings are available in .pdf format and/or through online link if provided in this syllabus below.**

COURSE OUTLINE AND REQUIRED READINGS

[Outline below is given as target only; actual dates may vary a bit]

Class 1 Mar 31 : INTRODUCTION

Introducing ourselves and the course; **BACKGROUND:**

WHY STUDY JAPANESE POLITICS AND HOW?

THE AMERICAN OCCUPATION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Readings:

1. Herbert Passin, "The Occupation--Some Reflections," Daedalus, Vol. 119, no. 3 (Summer, 1990), pp. 107-129.

2. Robert A. Scalapino and Junnosuke Masumi, Parties and Politics in Contemporary Japan, ch. V ("The Crisis of May-June, 1960"), pp. 125-153.

Class 2 Apr 7

THE OLD ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Readings:

GEORGE MULGAN, CHS. 1, 2

3. J. Mark Ramseyer and Frances McCall Rosenbluth, Japan's Political Marketplace, ch. 2 ("Electoral Rules and Party Strategy"), pp. 16-37.

4. Chalmers Johnson, "Tanaka Kakuei, Structural Corruption, and the Advent of Machine Politics in Japan," from his Japan: Who Governs, pp. 183-211

THE OLD PARTY SYSTEM AND THE DIET

Readings:

5. Ethan Scheiner, "Pipelines of Pork: Japanese Politics and a Model of Local Opposition Party Failure," Comparative Political Studies, Vol. 38 No. 7, September 2005 799-823

APRIL 14 IN CLASS ID EXAM 1

Class 3 Apr 14 REFORM AND THE NEW ELECTORAL SYSTEM: CHANGE?

Readings:

6. Ellis S. Krauss and Robert Pekkanen Pekkanen, "Explaining Party Adaptation to Electoral Reform: The Discreet Charm of the LDP?" Journal of Japanese Studies, Vol. 30, No. 1 (January 2004), pp. 1-33.

GEORGE MULGAN, ch. 3, 7, 8

7. Steven R. Reed, Ethan Scheiner, and Michael F. Thies, "The End of LDP Dominance and the Rise of Party-Oriented Politics in Japan," The Journal of Japanese Studies, Volume 38, Number 2, Summer 2012, pp. 353-376

[Syllabus continues on next page]

Class 4 Apr 21 THE NEW PARTY SYSTEM—THE DPJ, THE KOMEITO, AND KOIZUMI**Readings:**

8. Mari Miura, Kap Yun Lee, and Robert, J. Weiner, “Who are the DPJ? Policy Positioning and Recruitment Strategy,” Asian Perspective, Vol. 29, No. 1, (2005), pp. 49-77.
9. Phillip Y. Lipsky and Ethan Scheiner, “Japan Under the DPJ: The Paradox of Political Change Without Policy Change,” Journal of East Asian Studies 12 (2012), 311–322
10. Margarita Estevez-Abe, “An Analysis of the 2005 Japanese General Election: Will Koizumi’s Political Reforms Endure?” Asian Survey, Vol XLVI, No. 4 (July/August 2006).

April 28: Class 5 2009-2012 HOR Elections and 2010-2016 HOC ELECTIONS**2. IN CLASS ESSAY EXAM****Readings:**

11. Ellis S. Krauss and Robert Pekkanen, ‘Asia Beyond the Headlines: The Rise and Fall of Japan’s Liberal Democratic Party’ Journal of Asian Studies, Vol. 69, No. 1 (February, 2010), pp. 5-15.
12. Satoshi Machidori, “Behind Japan’s Political Turmoil,” Nippon.com, November 29, 2011. Online at: <http://www.nippon.com/en/features/c00401/>
13. Steven R. Reed, Ethan Scheiner, Dan Smith, and Michael Thies, “The Japanese General Election of 2012: Sometimes, Lucky is Better than Popular,” The Monkey Cage, December 27, 2012. Available online at <http://themonkeycage.org/2012/12/27/the-japanese-general-election-of-2012-sometimes-lucky-is-better-than-popular/>

Class 6 May 5 PRIME MINISTER AND POLICYMAKING, PRE-AND POST-REFORM**Readings:**

GEORGE MULGAN, Pp. 73-75 and ch. 5 (pp. 121-143).

14. Ellis S. Krauss and Benjamin Nyblade, “Presidentialization’ in Japan? The Prime Minister, Media and Elections in Japan,” British Journal of Political Science 35 (2005), pp. 357-368
15. Machidori Satoshi, “The 1990s Reforms Have Transformed Japanese Politics,” Japan Echo (June 2005), pp. 38-43 [translation of “Koizumi chōki seiken o sasaeru seiji kaikaku no seika,” Chūō Kōron (April 2005), pp. 176-184].
16. Tanaka Hideaki, “Political Leadership and the Policymaking Process (1),” April 16, 2010; available from Tokyo Foundation web site: <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/en/articles/2010/political-leadership-and-the-policymaking-process-1>
17. Tanaka Hideaki, “Political Leadership and the Policymaking Process (2),” April 28, 2010; available from Tokyo Foundation web site: <http://www.tokyofoundation.org/en/articles/2010/political-leadership-and-the-policymaking-process-2>
- 18.. Takenaka Harukata, “Parliamentary Democracy in Japan: Japan in Pursuit of Westminster Democracy,” Nippon.com, September 25, 2013; available from Tokyo Foundation web site: <http://www.nippon.com/en/in-depth/a02301/>
19. Robert J. Pekkanen, Steven R. Reed, and Daniel W. Smith, “Japanese Politics Between the 2012 and 2014 Elections,” ch. 2 in Robert J. Pekkanen, Steven R. Reed and Ethan Scheiner, eds. Japan Decides 2014 (Palgrave, 2016), pp. 9-21.

[CLASS 6 READINGS CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE].

20. Steven R. Reed, Ethan Scheiner, Dan Smith, and Michael Thies, "Abe romps, Japan yawns: 2014 Japanese parliamentary election report, The Monkey Cage (The Washington Post), December 30, 2014. Available online at :

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/12/30/abe-romps-japan-yawns-2014-japanese-parliamentary-election-report/>

Class 7: May 12 :ABE- ANOTHER THATCHER? HAS JAPAN BECOME A WESTMINSTER SYSTEM?

Readings:

21. Yukio Maeda, "The Abe Cabinet and public Opinion: How Abe Won Re-election by Narrowing Public Debate," ch. 8 in Robert J. Pekkanen, Steven R. Reed and Ethan Scheiner, eds. Japan Decides 2014 (Palgrave, 2016), pp. 89-102.

22. Reiji Yoshida, "Abe Moves to Boost Control of Bureaucrats, Japan Times (online), May 27, 2014. Online: <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/05/27/national/politics-diplomacy/abe-inaugurate-new-office-exert-control-bureaucrats/#.Vjpgq6LF8q4>

Class 8 May 19 WHAT'S WRONG WITH JAPAN? ABE'S CHALLENGES

3. 2nd ESSAY EXAM (TAKE-HOME) GIVEN OUT

Readings:

23. Jeffrey W. Hornung, "Japan Chair Platform: Abe's Challenges Ahead" CSIS July 10, 2013. Online: <http://csis.org/publication/japan-chair-platform-abes-challenges-ahead>

24. Hugh Cortazzi, "Japan's Population Problem," Japan Times, November 19, 2015.

Online: http://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2015/11/19/commentary/japan-commentary/japans-population-problem/#.WJJ_IhAftio

25. Aurelia George Mulgan, "Media Muzzling Under the Abe Administration, ch. 1 in Jeff Kingston, ed., Press Freedom in Contemporary Japan (New York, Routledge, 2017), pp. 17-29.

Class 9 May 26 POLITICS AND JAPAN'S FOREIGN POLICY DILEMMAS

3. TAKE-HOME ESSAY EXAM DUE

Readings:

26. Piyush Singh, "Japan's Resurgent Foreign Policy Architect: Shinzo Abe," The Bridge, March 15, 2016. Available online:

<http://www.thestrategybridge.com/the-bridge/2016/3/15/japans-resurgent-foreign-policy-architect-shinzo-abe>

27. Rupert Wingfield-Hayes, "Why Japan's Shinzo Abe went to Yasukuni shrine," BBC News-Asia, December 26, 2013. Found online at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-25518137>

28. Jennifer Lind, "The Perils of Apology: What Japan Shouldn't Learn from Germany," Foreign Affairs (May/June 2009), pp. 132-149.

[Class9 readings continues on next page]

29. Ankit Panda, "With Eye on China, North Korea, Japan's Abe Pursues Record Defense Budget," The Diplomat, September 01, 2016. Online at :
<http://thediplomat.com/2016/09/with-eye-on-china-north-korea-japans-abe-pursues-record-defense-budget/>
30. Yves Tiberghien, "The Puzzling 2010 Diaoyu Crisis: Centrifugal Domestic Politics, Shifting Balance of Power, and Weak Regional Institutionalization," Harvard Asia Quarterly, Vol. XII, 3&4 (W 2010).
31. Daniel Sneider, "Shinzo Abe and the Reality of Japanese Democracy," NBR Analysis, August 24, 2015. National Bureau of Asian Research publication.
32. Ayako Mie, "Security laws usher in new era for pacifist Japan," The Japan Times, March 29, 2016. Available online : <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/03/29/national/politics-diplomacy/japans-contentious-new-security-laws-take-effect-paving-way-collective-self-defense/#.WAp6W5MrJR0>
33. Yuki Tatsumi and Mengjia Wan, "Don't Expect Too Much of Japan's Defense Reforms," The Diplomat, October 09, 2015. Available online:
<http://thediplomat.com/2015/10/dont-expect-too-much-of-japans-defense-reforms/>
34. Hughes Abe Doctrine ch.6 Conclusion pp 91-96.pdf

Class 10 June 2

**CONCLUDING THOUGHTS AND DISCUSSION:
JAPAN'S POLITICAL FUTURE?**