

**POSC 30303**  
**Michael Strausz**

**The International Relations of Japan**  
**Spring 2009**

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**course time:** Monday and Wednesday, 11:00 am – 11:50 am  
**classroom:** Dan Rogers Hall, 271  
**e-mail:** michael.strausz@tcu.edu  
**office hours:** Tuesday 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Wednesday 1:00-2:00  
**office:** Sadler 205e

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**Course Description and Objectives:** Japan's relationship with the rest of the world has changed dramatically over and over again in the last two centuries. Japan has gone from being an isolationist semi-feudal state to a constitutional monarchy officially committed to westernization to an expansionist militarist state aiming to create an Asian empire to an advanced industrialized democracy that is constitutionally forbidden from having a military.

In this class, we examine the causes of some of these great transformations, as well as their results. The course will be divided into four units. First, we will look at Japan's relationship with the rest of the world during World War Two. While we will spend some time discussing military issues, we will spend a great deal more time examining the ways that Japan thought about its relationship with the rest of the world during the war. Second, we will focus on the issue of postwar Japan's armed forces. We will examine the consensus that developed about the appropriate role of the military in Japanese society, as well as challenges to that consensus. Third, we will look at Japan's trade policy, focusing on the question of how the Japanese state has supported the interests of Japanese companies in international trade forums. Fourth, we will look at the way that international norms have influenced domestic politics in postwar Japan.

This course has three objectives. First, this course aims to advance students' understanding of Japan's relationship with the rest of the world. It is relatively easy for those residing in the United States to get a sense of America's relationship with the rest of the world, but more difficult to get a sense of another country's foreign relations. I hope that after taking this class, students have a more clear sense of Japan's foreign relations. Second, this course aims to improve students' understanding of international relations. Theories of international relations, in general, tend to advance very broad claims about the way that the world works. It is my hope that focusing relatively narrowly, on the international relations of one country, can give us a variety of kinds of data that we can use to evaluate the claims of international relations theories. Third, this class aims to advance students' skills in reading difficult texts, thinking about important ideas critically, and communicating those thoughts verbally and in writing.

**Expectations:**

1. Prepare for each class by carefully reading the assigned materials.
2. Regularly (at least once before each class – so three times per week) read an online newspaper that focuses on Japan (there will be several useful links on ecollege). If the newspaper that you are reading does not have much coverage of Japan's foreign affairs on a particular day, than supplement your reading by looking at one or more of the

Japanese politics blogs that are linked from the course's ecollege site (from the course's site on tcuglobal.edu, click the tab that says "webliography").

3. Attendance Policy: Come to class on time, and stay for the duration. I take attendance, and I will notice if you miss class. If you miss a class where an in-class activity or pop quiz was administered, you will receive a grade of zero unless you produce documentation from campus life indicating that the absence was excused. If you leave early on a day when you submitted work (without prior approval) you will receive a grade of zero on that work.
4. Statement on Disability Services at TCU: Texas Christian University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 regarding students with disabilities. Eligible students seeking accommodations should contact the Coordinator for Students with Disabilities in the Center for Academic Services located in Sadler Hall, 11. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the Coordinator as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. Further information can be obtained from the Center for Academic Services, TCU Box 297710, Fort Worth, TX 76129, or at (817) 257-7486.
5. Academic Misconduct (See Section 3.4 from the Student Handbook) – I expect that the work that you turn in will be your own. Any act that violates the academic integrity of the institution is considered academic misconduct, and I will not hesitate to bring suspected academic misconduct to the proper authorities.

**Grading:** Grades in this course will be determined as follows:

Reading Quizzes (at least 8) and other in-class exercises: 25%  
First Paper (Due **March 6** at the beginning of class): 30%  
Second Paper (Due **April 29** at the beginning of class): 30%  
Paper about in-class debate: 15%

Grades are determined on a 100-point scale as follows:

A: 93.5 and above	B: 82.5-86.4	C: 72.5-76.4	D: 62.5-66.4
A-: 89.5-93.4	B-: 79.5-82.4	C-: 69.5-72.4	D-: 59.5-62.4
B+: 86.5-89.4	C+: 76.5-79.4	D+: 66.5-69.4	F: 59.4 and below

I will use the +/- system for all students, and the TCU registrar will automatically convert the grades of students not under the +/- system to the old system.

Paper deadline extensions will not be allowed except in the cases of university-excused absences or illnesses, and proper documentation is required.

If you feel that you have been graded unfairly on any course assignment, please wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned and then contact me with a typed statement about why you believe you were graded unfairly. This statement must provide substantive reasons why you believe that you were graded unfairly. The appeal process must be started one week after the exam/homework was returned.

Assignments are due at the *beginning of class*. I am strict about enforcing this rule. Late assignments will be penalized 10 points (out of 100) per date late. Once grades have been officially submitted for the course, late assignments will no longer be accepted.

**Quizzes:** We will have at least eight quizzes in this class. The quizzes will mostly cover assigned readings, but might also touch on current events in Japan's foreign affairs. If you do the readings and follow current events, your quiz grade should end up being quite high. Quizzes will take place at the beginning of class, and no extra time will be granted to students arriving late.

**Papers:** There will be three papers assigned in this class. One of these papers will be a reflection paper about an in-class debate. Each student will be required to participate in an in-class debate (topics and dates will be assigned later in the semester). One week after your in-class debate, you will be required to turn in a reflection paper about your experiences preparing for and participating in the debate. If you miss the debate, you will not be permitted to turn in a reflection paper (unless your absence is excused by campus life). The assignment will be distributed at the same time that debate topics are distributed.

For the other two papers, you will be required to analyze issues that we have discussed in class. I will expect you to give these issues some thought on your own, rather than simply reproducing what we have covered in class. More specific assignments will be distributed later in the semester.

If you would prefer, you have the option to write a research paper instead of writing these two analysis papers. You are also permitted to revise and lengthen a research paper that you have written for another class. For example, if you wrote a research paper for another class about British environmental policy, you can add a section about Japanese environmental policy, and a section that compares Britain's policy with Japan's. If you are interested in writing or revising and expanding a research paper, you are required to see me during the first two weeks of class to discuss possible topics. If I don't hear from you by **January 23**, you will be required to write the two analysis papers (i.e. you are not permitted to decide that you are writing a research paper only after you have failed to get your first analysis paper in on time).

**Office Hours:** I encourage students to take advantage of my office hours in order to ask questions about course materials or to chat about issues related to the course or political science more generally. Also, if you have any comments about or problems with the course itself I encourage you to share them in my office hours or coffee hours.

If you would like to get in touch with me to ask a question or schedule an appointment, I encourage you to e-mail me.

**Course Materials:** The following book is required. It is available at the TCU bookstore, but feel free to buy copies at other bookstores or online. Readings that aren't in this book will be available online, through the course's ecollege site (log in to tcuglobal.edu, go to the "Doc Sharing" section, and then view "Assigned Readings").

John W Dower, *War Without Mercy: Race and Power in the Pacific War*

Richard J. Samuels, *Securing Japan: Tokyo's Grand Strategy and the Future of East Asia*  
Saadia M. Pekkanen, *Japan's Aggressive Legalism: Law and Foreign Trade Politics Beyond the WTO*  
David Leheny, *Think Global, Fear Local: Sex, Violence, and Anxiety in Contemporary Japan*

**Schedule:**

- 1/12      *Introduction*
- 1/14      *Cool Japan*  
McGray, Douglas (2002). "Japan's Gross National Cool." Foreign Policy: 44-54.  
Also, look over the course's ecollege site (you can access it from tcuglobal.edu),  
and start to get in the habit of reading/listening to news about current  
events in Japan.
- 1/16      *The History of Japan's International Relations: An Overview*  
Pyle, Kenneth B. (2006). "Profound Forces in the Making of Modern Japan."  
Journal of Japanese Studies 32(2): 393-418.
- 1/19      CLASS CANCELLED FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

**UNIT 1: World War II and Japan's International Relations**

- 1/21      *The Structure of the Meiji Government*  
Dower, pp. 3-14
- 1/23      *World War II: An Overview*  
Dower, pp. 15-32
- 1/26      *Race, Power, and War*  
Dower, pp. 33-73
- 1/28      *Kamikaze*  
Dower, pp. 181-200
- 1/30      *The Self and War*  
Dower, pp. 203-233
- 2/2      *The Other and War*  
Dower, pp. 234-261
- 2/4      *Japan's Fascism and Japan's Role in the World*  
Dower, pp. 262-290
- 2/6      *Dower: Bringing it All Together*  
Dower, pp. 292-317

## **UNIT 2: War Potential, Self Defense Forces, and Security in Postwar Japan**

- 2/9 *Megumi-San and Contemporary Japan's Security*  
No Assigned Reading
- 2/11 *The Structure of Postwar Japan's Government*  
Samuels, pp. 1-9
- 2/13 *The Yoshida Doctrine and Grand Strategies*  
Samuels, pp. 13-37
- 2/16 *Japan and Peacekeeping*  
Samuels, pp. 38-59
- 2/18 *A Koizumi Doctrine?*  
Samuels, pp. 63-85
- 2/20 *Japan's Territorial Disputes*  
Samuels, pp. 86-108
- 2/23 *Jumping on the SOFA: The US/Japan Security Alliance*  
Samuels, pp. 109-132
- 2/25 *The Debate about the Japanese Constitution Today*  
Samuels, pp. 135-157
- 2/27 *Nationalism and Japanese Security*  
Samuels, pp. 158-183  
***First analysis paper assignment distributed in class.***
- 3/2 *Samuels: Bringing it All Together*  
Samuels, pp. 185-209
- 3/4 **FIRST IN-CLASS DEBATE**  
No assigned reading
- 3/6 *Japan's About Face*  
No assigned reading  
***First analysis paper due at the beginning of class.***

## **UNIT 3: The International Political Economy and Postwar Japan**

- 3/9 *GATT, the WTO and Japan*  
Pekkanen, pp. 1-42
- 3/11 *Why does Japan Sometimes Adopt Protectionist Policies?*  
Pekkanen, pp. 52-85

- 3/13 *Why does Japan Liberalize Trade Other Times?*  
Pekkanen, pp. 85-110
- 3/16-3/20 **SPRING BREAK!**
- 3/23 *Japan, the US, and Trade*  
Pekkanen, pp. 116-155
- 3/25 *Japan, China, and Trade*  
Pekkanen, 166-196
- 3/27 **Dr. Strausz is at a conference and class is cancelled.**
- 3/30 **SECOND IN-CLASS DEBATE**  
*No assigned reading*
- 4/1 *Japan and the PTA?*  
Pekkanen, pp. 196-224
- 4/3 *Aggressive Legalism*  
Pekkanen, pp. 225-271
- 4/6 *Pekkanen Question Exercise*  
Pekkanen, pp. 273-296

#### **UNIT 4: Postwar Japan in International Society**

- 4/8 *Why are we reading a book about prostitution and counterterrorism?*  
Leheny, pp. 1-25
- 4/10 *Japan and International Human Rights Norms*  
Leheny, pp. 27-47
- 4/13 *Japan and International Environmental Norms*  
Leheny, pp. 50-82
- 4/15 *Sex Tourism and Enjo Kōsai*  
Leheny, pp. 85-113
- 4/17 *Counterterrorism*  
Leheny, pp. 115-144
- 4/20 *Japan, its Neighbors, and Historical Memories*  
Leheny, pp. 147-180
- 4/22 *Leheny: Bringing it All Together*  
Leheny, pp. 183-192

*Second analysis paper assignment distributed in class.*

4/24

**THIRD IN-CLASS DEBATE**

No assigned reading

4/27

*Japan, IR Theory, and Profound Forces*

Reread the Pyle article from week 1

4/29

*Conclusion*

No assigned reading

*Second analysis paper due at the beginning of class.*