

Political Science 332
Michael Strausz

Politics of Japan
Spring 2005

office: Casey 404

office hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 am-11:00 am

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course web page: <http://students.washington.edu/strauszm/plsc332>

Course Description and Objectives: This course is designed to give students a general understanding of the main features of contemporary Japanese politics and a more specialized understanding of a topic of their choosing. We will focus our studies on issues including civil society, political economy, and foreign policy. We will also consider Japan in comparison with other advanced industrialized countries.

Expectations:

1. Prepare for each class by carefully reading the assigned materials. If it appears that substantial numbers of students are not doing the readings, I reserve the right to give pop quizzes that will be considered as a part of the participation grade.
2. Come to class on time.
3. Participate actively in class, both by making verbal contributions to discussions and by listening to your classmates. If you do not attend class regularly, you will not be able to participate in discussions.
4. Students are asked to post a question or comment related to the readings once per week on the course web page. Half of the class will be required to post a question or comment on the readings by noon on Monday, and the other half will be required to post a question by noon on Wednesday. I will use these questions and comments in preparing lesson plans. This assignment will begin on week two.
5. Be respectful of others. I expect each student to pay careful attention to the views of your classmates.
6. Papers should be made up entirely of your original work. Copying or paraphrasing a source without acknowledging that source is plagiarism and will not be tolerated. Allowing another student to copy your work is also cheating and likewise will not be tolerated. Students determined to have committed plagiarism will be subjected to penalties outlined in the Seattle University student handbook including, but not limited to, receiving a grade of "zero" on the plagiarized assignment.

Course Materials: The following books are required, and are available at the Seattle University Bookstore. Feel free to buy copies at other bookstores or online.

Frank K. Upham, *Law and Social Change in Postwar Japan*

Frank J. Schwartz and Susan J. Pharr, *The State of Civil Society in Japan*

Andrew Gordon, *The Modern History of Japan*

There is also a course reader which is required. It is available at Copy Mart beginning at 3:00 pm Tuesday March 29.

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

Mid-semester Thought Paper (due **May 5** at the beginning of class): 25%

Final Research Paper (due **June 9** by 9:50 am): 35%

Oral presentation of research findings: 10%

Participation: 30%

You are required to turn in hard copies of assignments at the beginning of class.

In order to receive any credit for your final research paper, you are required to turn in a draft of your research question (due **April 19**) and a draft of your thesis statement, outline, and bibliography (due **May 12**). You are also required to submit a rough draft of your paper to members of your research group by noon on **June 1**. You are required to keep all of these components and turn them in again with the final research paper. Each of those components will account for a portion of your final research paper grade.

Regarding your participation grade, one-third of that grade (10% of the total grade for the course) will be determined by the weekly questions and comments. If you do the readings and post questions or comments that demonstrate that you're doing the reading every week, you will get a 4.0 for this portion of your grade.

Late assignments will be penalized one half grade per date late (A→A-→B+→B, etc.).

If you feel that you have been graded unfairly on any course assignments, please wait 24 hours after the assignment is returned and then contact me with a written statement about why you believe you were graded unfairly. The statute of limitations for grading complaints is five working days after the return of the assignment.

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 broadly related to the course, politics, or Japan in general. Also, if you have any comments about or problems with the course itself I encourage you to share them in my office 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. I check my e-mail very frequently.

Schedule:

3/29 *Introduction*

3/31 *Studying Japanese Politics*

Samuels, Richard J. "The Myth of the Independent Intellectual," in R.J. Samuels and M. Weiner, eds. The Political Culture of Foreign Area Studies. Washington, DC: Brassey's, 1992, pp. 17-43 (READER)

Johnson, Chalmers. "Omote (Explicit) and Ura (Implicit): Translating Japanese Political Terms," Chapter 8 in C. Johnson, Japan: Who Governs?: The Rise of the Developmental State. New York: Norton, 1995, pp. 157-182 (READER).

Unit 1: History and Structure of Postwar Japanese Politics

- 4/5 *The Meiji Restoration and the Meiji Constitution*
Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, pp. 61-137.
- 4/7 *World War Two and the Birth of the Postwar System*
Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, pp. 182-243.
- 4/12 *Japan: Who Governs?*
Ramseyer, J. Mark, and Frances McCall Rosenbluth. 1993. *Japan's Political Marketplace*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard, pp. 99-120 (READER).
Johnson, Chalmers. 1975. Japan: Who Governs? An Essay on Official Bureaucracy. *Journal of Japanese Studies* 2 (1):1-28. (ON-LINE).
Watanabe Osamu, "The Weakness of the Contemporary Japanese State," in Banno Junji, ed., *The Political Economy of Japanese Society, Volume 1: The State of the Market?* (Oxford, 1997), pp. 109-136 (READER).

Unit 2: State and Society Relations in Japan

- 4/14 *Civil Society in Japan*
Frank Schwartz, "Introduction, Recognizing Civil Society in Japan," in Schwartz and Pharr, pp. 1-19.
Sheldon Garon, "From Meiji to Heisei: The State of Civil Society in Japan," in Schwartz and Pharr, pp. 42-62.
- 4/19 *Civil Society in Japan, Part 2*
Tsujinaka Yutaka, "From Developmentalism to Maturity: Japan's Civil Society Organizations in Comparative Perspective," in Schwartz and Pharr, pp. 83-115.
Robert Pekkanen, "Molding Japanese Civil Society: State-Structured Incentives and the Patterning of Civil Society," in Schwartz and Pharr, pp. 116-134.
Turn in Paper Topic—The "Puzzle" You Want to Answer—and List 3 sources.
- 4/21 *Japanese Protest and the Judiciary*
Frank Upham, *Law and Social Change in Postwar Japan*, pp. 1-77.
- 4/26 *Minority Politics*
Frank Upham, *Law and Social Change in Postwar Japan*, pp. 78-123.
5-6 page thought paper assignment distributed in class
- 4/28 *The Japanese Women's Movement*
Shin, Ki-young. 2004. *Fufubessei* Movement in Japan: Thinking about Women's Resistance and Subjectivity. *F-GENS Jyaanaru* 1 (2): 107-114 (READER).
Frank Upham, *Law and Social Change in Postwar Japan*, pp. 124-165.
Guest Lecturer: Ki-young Shin, University of Washington

5/3 **University Mission Day. No Class.**

5/5 *Labor Politics in Japan*

Kume, Ikuo. 1998. *Disparaged Success: Labor Politics in Postwar Japan*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, pp. 20-48 (READER).

5-6 page thought paper due at the beginning of class

Unit 3: Japan's Political Economy

5/10 *Industrial Policy and the Japanese Economic Miracle*

Anchordoguy, Marie. 1988. "Mastering the Market: Japanese Government Targeting of the Computer Industry," *International Organization* 42 (3):509-543 (ON-LINE).

Frank Upham, *Law and Social Change in Postwar Japan*, pp. 166-204.

5/12 *The Lost Decade of the 1990s*

Andrew Gordon, *A Modern History of Japan*, p. 310-328.

Steven Vogel, "Can Japan Disengage? Winners and Losers in Japan's Political Economy, and the Ties that Bind Them," *Social Science Japan Journal* 2:1 (April 1999): 3-21 (READER).

Thesis statement, outline, and bibliography due at the beginning of class.

Unit 4: Japan and the World

5/17 *International Trade*

Pekkanen, Saadia M. 2001. International Law, the WTO, and the Japanese State: Assessment and Implications of the New Legalized Trade Politics. *Journal of Japanese Studies* 27 (1): 41-79 (READER).

5/19 *International Security*

Pekkanen, Robert, and Ellis S. Krauss. 2005. Japan's New Domestic 'Coalition of the Willing': Party Politics and Changing Security Policies. Paper presented at the Foreign Policy Research Institute, January 27, in Philadelphia, PA (ON-LINE).

Guest Lecturer: Professor Robert Pekkanen, University of Washington

5/24 *International Norms and Domestic Politics*

Gurowitz, Amy. 1999. Mobilizing International Norms: Domestic Actors, Immigrants, and the Japanese State. *World Politics* 51 (3): 413-445 (ON-LINE)

Kim Reimann, "Building Global Civil Society from the Outside In? Japanese International Development NGOs, the State, and International Norms," in Schwartz and Pharr, pp. 298-315.

5/26 *Presentations*

5/31 *Presentations*

6/2 *Wrap Up*

***Rough Draft Due to Research Group Members June 1 at 12:00—
Peer Reviews in Class***

Final Paper Due: June 9 by 9:50 a.m.