

Course Title	Japanese Language, Culture, and Society			Course Number		Credit	
Instructor	Daisuke ITO	1st Semester	Mon	2nd	Minami Osawa		
Key words	Japan, Japanese culture, sociology, socialization, globalization						
Course Description / Theme	This course examines Japanese culture and society by paying special attention to Japanese words and phrases. Using a sociological perspective, this course 1) develops better understanding of Japanese culture and society, 2) assists to grasp the relationships between Japanese words and phrases and their cultural/social implications, 3) develops cultural sensitivity through cross-cultural/national comparisons and 4) improves critical thinking skills.						
Knowledge & Abilities students can acquire through the class Course objectives	<p>Once you successfully complete this course, you should be able to demonstrate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a better understanding of Japanese culture and society, • how Japanese culture and society are reflected in Japanese words and phrases • your sensitivity to cultural differences, and • critical thinking skills through writing. 						
Course Schedule, Contents	<p>1 Introduction: What is Sociology? What is Culture?</p> <p>2 In-group and Out-group 1: Collectivism and Individualism</p> <p>3 In-group and Out-group 2: Thinking Differently</p> <p>4 In-group and Out-group 3: Uchi, Soto, and Yoso</p> <p>5 Gift-giving and Giri</p> <p>6 How to Write a Research Paper</p> <p>7 Socialization</p> <p>8 Learning to be Japanese (Pre-k/Kindergarten)</p> <p>9 Learning to be Adolescent</p> <p>10 Seniority (Club Activities)</p> <p>11 Perfectly Japanese (Family)</p> <p>12 Fathers and Mothers</p> <p>13 Work</p> <p>14 Final Paper Presentation 1</p> <p>15 Final Paper Presentation 2</p>						
Instruction Methods	Each class will consist of students' presentations, lectures by the instructor, and discussions.						
Learning Activities outside the Classroom	Students are expected to read assigned articles prior to class. Each article will be 10-30 pages in length. How long it takes to complete the assigned readings will depend on each student's reading speed, but it would take approximately 60 minutes. Students should spend approximately 90 minutes to review the materials after class.						
Textbooks and/or References	<p>The Japanese Mind: Understanding Contemporary Japanese Culture (ISBN: 0804832951)</p> <p>Other readings will be distributed in class.</p>						
Grading Evaluation Policy	<p>In-class Activities & Attendance (including a presentation) 40%</p> <p>Outline of Final Paper 5%</p> <p>Final paper 40%</p> <p>Final paper Presentation 15%</p>						
How to contact the instructor for questions	Office Hours: Mondays 12:00-12:30 and by appointment						
Notice for Students	All instructions are conducted in English.						