



CURRICULUM GUIDE: OFFICIAL COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code	INST 120	Course Title	Contemporary Japan			
Credit Value	3	Department	Humanities			
No. of weeks	14	Hrs. per week	<i>Lecture</i>	<i>Tutorial</i>	<i>Laboratory</i>	<i>Total</i>
			3	0	0	3
Course Description	<p>Japan's place in the world is explored with reference to the government, the Imperial family, society and the individual. A survey of domestic policy and international relations. Students will draw upon a variety of sources: text readings, scholarly journals, popular literature, film/video assignments, and internet (www) sources in this interdisciplinary study of Japanese society.</p> <p><i>Prior to Fall 2024 term, this course was listed as ASIA 101</i></p>					
Prerequisite(s)	ENGL 098					
Initial Articulation Targets	<i>UBC</i>	<i>SFU</i>	<i>UVic</i>	<i>UNBC</i>	<i>TRU</i>	
	ASIA 1st (3)	ASC 201 (3) B-Hum.	HSTR 2XX (1.5)	INTS 203 (3)	SSEL 1XXX (3)	
	For updated information on the transferability of this course, please consult the BC Transfer Guide, www.bctransferguide.ca					
Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine and critically evaluate selected source materials dealing with Japan. Identify key individuals associated with Japan's modern and contemporary development. Demonstrate detailed knowledge of selected historical and cultural concepts and events which have shaped the contemporary landscape, society and daily lives of people in Japan. Prepare and present the findings of an approved topic in an informative seminar format as described in the course outline. Prepare and write a term paper/essay which meets university transfer standards in terms of grammar, structure, format, content and documentation of sources. 					
Content	<p>Core topics – all of the following will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction: sources & resources; vocabulary and frames of reference (Japanese and foreign); Geographical foundations. Historical foundations: from the Meiji and Taisho to Showa eras Origin Myths and the Imperial System: Continuity and Change. Political, Military and Legal systems and leadership; from the American Occupation to the Liberal Democratic Party and beyond; National and local politics. The Triangular system: LDP - Bureaucracy – Business. Demographic and populations issues; Minority peoples and foreigners in Japan. 					



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family relations; Women in society. • Economic development; from the Economic Miracle to the Lost Decade. • Environmental challenges. • Socialization and Civil society; Political participation. • Foreign policy and International relations; Case Studies: the United States; Russia / Soviet Union • Case Studies: the United Nations, Canada, China, Korea, Asia and the Third World. • Popular culture; Literature and art, Manga and media technology. • Japan in the global community; Future Focus: summary and review <p>Additional topics may also be covered, at the discretion of the instructor.</p>		
Methods of Instruction	Lectures, discussions audio-visual and internet/www analysis		
Required Textbook(s)	<p>The following textbook(s) is/are required, or approved equivalent(s).</p> <p>Kingston, Jeff. Japan in Transformation. 2nd Ed. London: Routledge, 2010.</p>		
Required Equipment and Technology	<p>Students are required to have a computer with internet access.</p> <p>The following resources are provided by the College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office 365 • Student email 		
Homework Hours	At minimum, students can expect one hour of homework for every hour of instructional time.		
Evaluation	<i>Component</i>	<i>% Value</i>	
	In-class writing/short quizzes	10-20%	
	Midterm examination	20-25%	
	Term paper/essay	20-25%	
	Seminar presentation and participation	10-15%	
Final examination	20-25%		
Completion Requirements	The minimum grade to pass this course is D (50%). Unless otherwise stated, a minimum grade of C- (55%) is required for this course to fulfil a prerequisite.		
Course Designer(s)	Brian Pendleton, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus (Asian Studies), Langara College	Consultant(s), if applicable	
Dean's Approval	Barbara Moon, Ph.D., Dean of Arts and Sciences, Alexander College	Dean's Approval Date	May 25, 2011
Curriculum Committee Approval Date	May 25, 2011	First Term Offered	Spring 2012
Last Review Date	January 24, 2020	Next Review Date	January 24, 2025



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Revision History	<p>April 29, 2015 – Library resources added by Librarians, AC.</p> <p>January 24, 2020 – Minor revisions (grade ranges, resources) made by Sebastian Huebel, Brian Pendleton, Asia faculty, and Library staff.</p> <p>October 2024 – Course recoded from ASIA 101 to INST 120.</p>
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