

## History 278: JAPAN SINCE THE MEIJI RESTORATION

Andrew C. Hsieh  
Spring 2008  
TTH: 2:15-4:05  
ARH 314

201 Mears, x3093  
Office Hours:  
W: 10:00 a.m.-Noon

This is a survey course on Japanese history. It has no pre-requisites and assumes no prior knowledge of Japanese history. It will meet two times a week and will generally follow this pattern:  
Tuesday: Lecture; Thursday: Discussion of the week's assigned readings.

Requirements include:

- Writing a one-paragraph comment on the weekly principal reading for discussion. Do so for weeks 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, and 12. These one paragraph comments are due in class on Thursdays;
- Preparing DI sheets, which are due in class on Thursdays. Do so for weeks 3, 5, 6, 10, and 12.

Each DI (which stands for Discussion initiation) sheet is to be TYPEWRITTEN on one 8 1/2" x 11" piece of paper and should contain the following:

- the student's name;
- the date;
- the student's title for the week's discussion;
- the student's choice of one quotation from the week's assigned reading;
- the student's formulation of ONE question for the week's discussion.

Each DI sheet is due in class on Thursday of the week for which the readings are assigned. Late DI sheets will not be accepted.

- Completing two special writing assignments. DUE DATES: March 15 and April 28. Detailed instructions to be announced.
- Participating in discussions in class on Thursdays;

Each student's grade will be based on the performance of three kinds of assignments with roughly equal weight given to each:

- 35% on comments and the DI sheets,
- 35% on the two special writing assignments, and
- 30% on attendance

I. Jan 22 T Organizational meeting  
Some Enduring Structures

- Jan 24 TH Readings: Andrew Gordon, A Modern History of Japan from Tokugawa Times to the Present, (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003. Pp. xi-xiv; 1-19.  
Haru M. Reischauer, Samurai and Silk: A Japanese and American Heritage (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1988)  
“A Samurai Boyhood,” 21-41, 155-169  
“A Peasant Background”
- II. Jan 29 T The 1603 Reunification and the New Political Order  
Society and Culture in Tokugawa Japan
- Jan 31 TH Readings: Shusaku Endo, Silence (New York: Taplinger Publishing Co., 1980)
- III Feb 5 T Crises and the Western Challenge in Late Tokugawa  
Meiji Restoration
- Feb 7 TH Readings: Modern History of Japan, pp. 20-76  
Samurai and Silk, pp. 42-63; 170-189
- IV Feb 12 T Protest and Dissent  
The Constitution
- Feb 14 TH No class
- V Feb 19 T Industrialization and Growth  
Treaty Revision and Overseas Expansion
- Feb 21 TH Readings: Modern History of Japan, pp. 77-114  
Samurai and Silk, pp. 64-112  
Modern History of Japan, pp. 115-160  
Mikiso Hane, Peasants, Rebels, and Outcasts: The Underside of Modern Japan  
(New York: Pantheon Books, 1982), pp. 2-27; 172-206
- V Feb 26 T THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR  
GUEST LECTURER: Mr. Kevin Crim
- Feb 28 TH Natsume Soseki, Kokoro (New York: Regency/Gateway, 1957)
- VII Mar 4 T The China Problem

Mar 6 TH Readings: Modern History of Japan, pp. 161-203

VIII Mar 11 T PEARL HARBOR  
GUEST LECTURER: Mr. Kevin Crim

Mar 13 TH NO CLASS  
FIRST SPECIAL WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE 4:30 PM  
SUBMIT A PAPER COPY TO THE SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
MEARS COTTAGE

SPRING RECESS (March 15 – March 30)

IX Apr 1 T FILM: PEARL HARBOR

Apr 3 TH Readings: Modern History of Japan, pp. 204-225  
Haruko Taya Cook and Theodore F. Cook, Japan at War, An Oral History (New  
York: New Press, 1993)

X Apr 8 T Shohei Ooka, Fires on the Plain (Tuttle, 1957)

Apr 10 TH FILM: FIRES ON THE PLAIN

XI Apr 15 T Legacy's of the War [1]  
Reading: Saburo Ienaga, The Pacific War: World War II and the Japanese, 1931-1945, (New York: Pantheon Books, 1978), pp. vii-xvii; 3-54; 241-256

Apr 17 TH Legacies of the War [II]  
How the Japanese Remember the Pacific War?  
Reading: Beth Gary, trans. Senso (Sharpe, 1995)

XII Apr 22 T Legacies of the War [III]  
"The Rape of Nanjing"  
FILM : NANKING

Apr 24 TH Japan Under Occupation  
John Dower, EMBRACING DEFEAT, Chapter 1-5.

MONDAY, APRIL 28      SECOND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT DUE  
SUBMIT A PAPER COPY BY 4: 30 PM,  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, MEARS COTTAGE

XIII April 29 T      EMBARCING DEFEAT, Chapters 6-8

May 1 TH      EMBRACING DEFEAT, Chapters 13-14

XIV May 6 T      EMBRACING DEFEAT, CHAPTERS 15-16

May 8 TH      Retrospect