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In this course, students will work on the social history of technology in modern Japan from the end of World War II to 2000. Particular attention will be paid to the nexus of technology, labor, gender, and the environment, and to how and within the context of capitalist modernity the diffusion of technology led to social change and the framing of technology for social interests.

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To provide students with fundamental knowledge of key phenomena and recent research perspectives in the social history of technology in Japan from 1945 to the millennium.

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1. Introduction
2 Approach
3-4 Pax Americana and Technology in Japan (1945-1960)
5-7 Made in Japan: High Growth and Technology (1960-1976)
8-10 Information Machines: Creating Post-Industrial Japan (1976-1990)
11-13 Post-growth and technological challenges (1990-2000s)
14 Conclusion

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Evaluation will be based on two quizzes, a midterm and a final written exam (50%+50%). Students absent from more than four classes cannot pass the course.

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Students prepare by weekly readings of research papers and historical sources.

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