

Course number		U-LAS06 20022 LE42					
Course title (and course title in English)		Japan ' s Political Economy-E2 Japan ' s Political Economy-E2		Instructor's name, job title, and department of affiliation		Graduate School of Law Professor,HIJINO KEN	
Group	Humanities and Social Sciences		Field(Classification)		Jurisprudence, Politics and Economics(Issues)		
Language of instruction	English		Old group	Group A		Number of credits	2
Number of weekly time blocks	1	Class style	Lecture (Face-to-face course)		Year/semesters	2025 • Second semester	
Days and periods	Tue.2		Target year	Mainly 1st & 2nd year students		Eligible students	For all majors
[Overview and purpose of the course]							
This class presents an overview of Japan's post-war modern history and investigates select issues in its political economy. The class is organized into three parts: 1) an overview of Japan's post-war history; 2) an analysis of the politics, economics, society and foreign policy of the country's "lost decades"; and 3) an exploration of Japan's post-war cleavages, ideologies, and place in the world.							
[Course objectives]							
The goal of this course is for students to begin to contemplate the interactions between politics, economics, society, and foreign policy of a nation over time, i.e. historically. Another goal is for students to improve their English reading and writing skills through studying in English a subject that they may be familiar with in the Japanese language.							
[Course schedule and contents)]							
1. Introduction: What is modern history? What is political economy? Why study Japan?							
Part one: Japan's post-war history 1945 to 1989							
2. Occupation-era Japan: democratization and demilitarization (1945-47)							
3. Occupation-era Japan: the "reverse course" and the Yoshida doctrine (1947-51)							
4. Post-war economic miracle: economic and social transformations (1952-73)							
5. Political struggles and accommodation in the High-growth era (1952-73)							
6. End of the High-growth era: Nixon shocks and Oil shocks (1971-1980)							
7. Japan in the 1980s: conservative heyday and Bubble economy (1980-1990)							
Part two: Japan's lost decades 1990 to 2013							
8. The economics of Japan's lost decades: de-regulation and globalization							
9. The politics of Japan's lost decades: institutional reform and transition							
10. Social transformations during Japan's lost decades: fluidity and insecurity							
11. The foreign policy of Japan's lost decades: towards a more "normal" country							
Part three: Themes in Japan's post-war political economy (1945-2013)							
12. Relations between the centre and periphery in the post-war period							

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- 13. Social classes and inequality in the post-war period
- 14. Political ideologies and cleavages in the post-war period

[Course requirements]

This course does not require any prior knowledge on Japan's post-war history or political economy. Students will be expected to read about 20-30 pages of rigorous and academic, though not technical, English. Students will also be expected to write their assignments in English (although this may change according to the class level).

[Evaluation methods and policy]

Students will be evaluated on short quizzes = 30 % and a final exam = 70 % for their grade.

[Textbooks]

Andrew Gordon 『A Modern History of Japan: from Tokugawa Times to the Present (Third Edition)』 (Oxford University Press) ISBN:978-0199930159 (other readings will be assigned accordingly)

[Study outside of class (preparation and review)]

Students will be expected to spend at least 2-3 hours reading and preparing for each class.

[Other information (office hours, etc.)]

I will not have fixed office hours, but students may contact me by email for appointments or questions about the course.

[Essential courses]