

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 • First 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 two parts: 1) an analysis of the politics, economics, and society in Japan's post-war history (1945-2020) and 2) an exploration of Japan's industrial relations, gender equality, demographic changes and inter-generational conflicts, centre-local relations, environmental issues et al. as analyzed through the interactions of political forces/institutions and market forces/economic institutions							
[Course objectives]							
The goal of this course is for students to begin to contemplate the interactions between politics, economics, society, and global contexts 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 1990 to 2020							
2. Occupation-era Japan: democratization and demilitarization, the "reverse course" and the Yoshida doctrine (1947-51)							
3. Post-war economic miracle: economic and social transformations (1952-73)							
4. Political struggles and accommodation in the High-growth era (1952-73)							
5. End of the High-growth era: Nixon shocks and Oil shocks (1971-1980)							
6. Japan in the 1980s: conservative heyday and Bubble economy (1980-1990)							
7. Japan's lost decades: economic stagnation and social insecurity (1990-2020)							
8. Japan's lost decades: institutional reform and political transition (1990-2020)							
Part two: Special topics in Japan's post-war political economy (1945-2020)							
9. Industrial relations, employment structures, inequalities, and precarity							
10. Gender equality issues							
11. Inter-generational conflict and "silver democracy"							
12. Centre-local relations and rural depopulation							
13. Sustainability and environmental issues							

Continue to Japan ' s Political Economy-E2(2)							

Japan ' s Political Economy-E2(2)

14. Exam preparation

Total:14 classes and 1 feedback

[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 OR term paper (depending on student numbers) = 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]