

<p>Course: Intersections of Art and Culture: Japan/ ART</p> <p>2711Landmark College/ Summer 2019/ Instructor: Christie Herbert</p>
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<p>Course Description</p>

The primary goal of this course is to help students understand and experience the link between the culture and art of Japan. Students will receive a grounding in basic background knowledge on Japanese culture and history, and key theories on the inextricability of art and culture, while immersing themselves in Japanese culture and art. They will quickly build their understanding of the art and culture of Japan via direct experience, observations, and reflection, as well as via seminars, lectures, and readings. As their time in Japan progresses, students will move steadily toward a deeper understanding of how fundamental cultural precepts are manifested in the art of the country and finally to examples of ways in which art has shaped or will shape the culture of the country. Students will be expected to link course content, seminar lectures and discussions, and readings to their direct experiences in Japan.

<p>Key Course Modules</p>

- Japanese Geography
- Core Japanese Cultural Values
- Japanese Food
- Shintoism
- Buddhism
- Confucianism
- Japanese Language
- Japanese History
- Key Art Forms of Japan
- Cultural Elements of Japanese Design & Art
- Japanese Aesthetic Principles

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of this course, students will be able to

1. Articulate their understanding of the key aspects of Japanese culture emphasized in the course, including its geography, food, language, values, customs, religion and history
2. Provide clear examples from their experiences in Japan to underscore their understanding of Japanese culture
3. Explain and provide clear examples of how Japanese culture is manifested in its art and design
4. Explain and provide clear examples of fundamental aesthetic & design principles and themes in Japanese art and design
5. Identify how particular art forms they study are expressions of the culture of Japan
6. Explain how they approached the study of a particular Japanese art form, and what they learned from the engagement in that art.
7. Synthesize learning about the inextricability of art and culture in final presentation.

General Education and BA in Studio Arts Goals, Outcomes, and Assessments

BA in Studio Arts Goal	Learning Outcome	Link to Course Learning Outcomes (listed above)	Course Assessments
1. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of art and design by using related problem-solving skills to organize, analyze and interpret visual information.	Identify design elements in art	3,4,5,6	Class Discussions Readings Photographic Blog Entries Projects 1,2, 3
3. Interpret and articulate the significance of major periods and works in the history of art (Western and non-Western).	3a. Demonstrates through critique and classroom discussions a knowledge of the historical trajectories pertinent to a particular work of art.	3,4,5,6	Project 2
8. Argue effectively in oral and in written forms about art to a variety of audiences.	8a. Demonstrates the ability to articulate complex ideas to a specialized audience as well as in accessible terms readily understandable to a variety of audiences.	3-7	Projects 1,2, 3

General Education Goal	General Education Learning Outcome	Link to Course Learning Outcomes (listed above)	Course Assessments
2. Think critically, reason soundly, and develop and apply problem solving strategies across the academic disciplines. (Critical Thinking)	a) Identify the components used in the process of thinking in specific disciplines.	3,4,5,7	Class Discussions Readings Photographic Blog Entries Projects 1,2, 3
4. Understand the complexities of multiple communities, including educational, cultural and geographic, and respect different perspectives and diversity. (Diversity)	a) Describe the variation inherent within multiple communities. b) Demonstrate the ability to discuss cultural perspectives that diverge from one's own.	1,3 7	Class Discussions Readings Photographic Blog Entries Projects 1,2, 3
5. Communicate with clarity, coherence and persuasiveness through written, oral and other modes of expression. (Communication)	a) Uses a variety of rhetorical approaches to convey information to a specific audience. b) Engages in discussion of pertinent ideas and information. c) Uses language appropriate to the context of the communication.	1,3,4,6	Class Discussions Readings Photographic Blog Entries Projects 1,2, 3

Major Methods of Assessment

- **Reading Assignments (20%):** Students will be required to do readings from the course pack, and pull out the main information and key passages from each assigned reading to share in seminar discussions
- **Projects/Tests (35%):** Students will be required to complete three major projects during the trip on 1) Japanese Culture 2) Japanese Art & Culture, 3) Final Project/Synthesis of Learning. Students may opt to take an essay test instead of doing projects 1 and 2. Each project will be an in-depth examination of the assigned topic and include writing, documentation/examples, and an exploration of personal experiences in Japan that elucidate the topic.

- **Culture & Art Blog (25%):** This assignment will require that students submit 3 blog entries in which they document their direct experiences via their photographs and captions linking the photo to their experience and the curriculum
- **Active Engagement, Participation & Field Work (20 %):** Students will participate responsibly in all aspects of the course including class discussion, individual/group activities, and field trips.

Text and Materials

Course pack Readings

- A. Readings from Davies, Roger J., Japanese Culture: The Religious and Philosophical Foundations: Tuttle Pub., 2016. Print.**
- Shinto, pages 39-53
 - Buddhism, pages 61-77
 - Zen, pages 89-97
 - Confucianism, pages 101-107
- B. Readings from Garcia, Héctor. A Geek in Japan: Tokyo: Tuttle Pub., 2010. Print.**
- Why is Japan Different? Page 6
 - Visiting a Temple or Shrine, Pages 20-23
 - The Delights of Japanese Cuisine, pages 78-79
 - An Extremely Brief History of Japan, pages 10-11
 - The Ancient Bushido Code: The Way of the Warrior, page 15
 - The Intricacies of Japanese Language, pages 12-14
- C. Readings from Davies, Roger J. , and Osamu Ikeno. The Japanese Mind: Understanding Contemporary Japanese Culture. Boston: Tuttle Pub., 2002. Print**
- Wabi-Sabi: Simplicity and Elegance as Japanese Ideals of Beauty, pps. 223-229
- D. Readings from Graham, Patricia Jane. Japanese Design: Art, Aesthetics & Culture. Rutland, VT: Tuttle, 2014. Print.**
- Religious Values and Japanese Design, pages 70-79
 - Design in Japanese Culture: Ten Key Characteristics, pages 80-111
- E. Readings from Sosnoski, Daniel. Introduction to Japanese Culture. Rutland, VT: Tuttle, 1996. Print.:**
- Jinja: Shrines, page 64-65; Zen: Zen Buddhism, pages 62-62; Nihon Ryori: Japanese Cuisine, page 52; Yakimono: Pottery and Ceramics, page 22; Nihonga: Japanese Paintings, page 23; Shodo: Calligraphy, page 24-25;
- F. Reading from Hume, Nancy G. , editor. Japanese Aesthetics and Culture: A Reader. Suny Series in Asian Studies Development. 1995. Print.**
- Japanese Aesthetics, by Donald Keene, pages 27-41