

GEOGRAPHY OF JAPAN NIPPON NO CHIRIGAKU

日本の地理学



Dr. John Waldron • UWF Emerald Coast • 850-833-3228 • jwaldron@uwf.edu

Course Overview:

This course serves as an introduction to national similarities and regional variations in the land, people and culture of Japan. This course highlights Japan's physical, political, economic, cultural, and historical geography. In this course we will explore unique Japanese landscapes, environmental challenges facing the nation, problems of the countryside and cities, economic development and high technology industries, and demographic issues. The objectives of this course are to give you:

1. The ability to name geographic features of Japan on a map.
2. Aptitude in understanding regional differences in culture, economics, and politics.
3. The capability to identify the historical progression of Japan as a nation.
4. The capacity to interpret Japanese understandings regarding their own geography.
5. An understanding of the environmental issues facing Japan in a geographic context.

Required Texts:

1. Japan in the 21st Century: Environment, Economy, and Society, by PP Karan. UKY Press.
2. Bashō's Journey: The literary prose of Matsuo Bashō. David Landhill and Basho Matsuo
3. Japan Atlas: A Bilingual Guide. Kodansha International

Evaluation:Undergraduate:

Grades will be based on your performance on 5 map quizzes (50 points), two mid-term exams (50 points each), one final exam (50 points). You will be required to know material both from the text and the lectures.

Graduate:

Grades will be based on your performance on 1 individual 10 page paper (50 points), 1 paper presentation (25 points), 5 map quizzes (50 points), two mid-term exams (50 points each), one final exam (50 points). You will be required to know material both from the text and the lectures.

Attendance:

Time has proven that students who do not attend classes regularly tend to do much more poorly than those who do attend. This is particularly important since the information from the lectures cannot always be gleaned from the text. Do not come to class late or leave early, this is incredibly disruptive to other students and will not be tolerated except under special circumstances.

Missed Assignments & Tests:

Only those students who contact me in a timely fashion with a University defined legitimate conflict or emergency may make up individual graded assignments.

Late Work:

In order to be fair to others who hand in assignment on time, 1 grade letter per day will be deducted for assignments turned in late. However, feel free to contact me if you are having trouble or if there is a conflict.

Final Grade:

A(4.0) =>93%	C+(2.3) =77-79
A-(3.7) = 90-93	C(2.0) = 74-76
B+(3.3) = 87-89	C-(1.7) = 70-73
B(3.0) = 84-86	D+(1.3) = 67-69
B-(2.7) = 80-83	D(1.0) = 60-66

Extra Credit Work:

Extra credit work may be assigned to the class as the instructor sees fit. There will be no extra credit work assigned to specific individuals.

Final Exam:

The final exam for this course is scheduled for **Wednesday April 30th**

Academic Honesty:

Please consult the University Student Rules for information concerning academic honesty policies. As you will be writing a paper, pay particular attention to the rules and regulations on plagiarism:

<http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/division/publications/ClassDisrup.pdf>

<http://uwf.edu/StudentAffairs/division/publications/PlagBroch.pdf>

ADA Statement:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discriminatory statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Student Disability Resource Center :

<http://uwf.edu/sdrc/>

Course Schedule: M/W 5:30-6:45 Spring 2008

Week	Date	Topic	What's Due	Reading Assignments to be completed before class
1	Wed. 1/9	Syllabus & Introductions Physical Landscape: 1		Karan: 9-18
2	Wed. 1/16	Physical Landscape: 2		Karan: 18-49
3	Wed. 1/23	MOVIE: <i>Gardeners of Japan</i>	<i>Map Quiz 1</i>	
4	Wed.1/30	Japanese Landscapes		Karan: 77-108
5	Wed. 2/6	EXAM 1		Basho's Journey
6	Wed. 2/13	Cultural Heritage MOVIE: <i>Buddha in the Land of the Kami</i>		Karan: 50-53
7	Wed. 2/20	Cultural Heritage	<i>Map Quiz 2</i>	Karan: 53-76
8	Wed. 2/27	Demographics & Social Challenges		Karan: 164-203
9	Wed. 3/5	Political & Economic Challenges MOVIE: <i>Postwar Japan 40 yrs of Change</i>	<i>Map Quiz 3</i>	Karan: 284-322
10	Wed. 3/12	EXAM 2		
11	3/17 – 3/21	SPRING BREAK		
12	Wed. 3/26	Rural Landscape & Agriculture Urban Settlements	<i>Map Quiz 4</i>	Karan: 204-235 Karan: 236-283
13	Wed. 4/2	Hokkaido, Tohoku, & Kanto Chubu, Kinki, and Cogoku		Karan: 109-125 Karan: 126-150
14	Wed. 4/9	Shikoku, Kyushu, & Nansei/Ryuku	<i>Map Quiz 5</i>	Karan: 151-163
15	Wed. 4/16	MOVIE: <i>Japan an Overview</i>		
	4/21 – 4/25	DEAD WEEK		
	4/30	FINAL EXAM		

** The course schedule is meant as a guide, the instructor reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary.

Map Quizzes:

1. Islands and physical features
2. Regions
3. Prefectures
4. Cities and towns
5. Potpourri