



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY, POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INTP 301: Special Topic: The Politics and Foreign Policy of Japan 20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 2 March to 1 July 2015

Teaching dates: 2 March to 5 June 2015

Easter/Mid-trimester break: 3–19 April 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Class times and locations

Lectures: **Mondays 10:00-11:50**

Venue: **HM LT 103**

Tutorials: **Thursdays 11:00-11:50**

Venue: **MY LT 101**

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator: Dr Alexander Bukh

Room No: Murphy 509

Phone: 04 463 9450

Email: alexander.bukh@vuw.ac.nz

Office hours: Thursdays 13:00-14:30 or by appointment

Communication of additional information

This course uses Blackboard and presumes that all enrolled students have valid myvuw.ac.nz addresses. Please check that this account is active and you have organised email forwarding.

Additional information and any changes to the timetable or lecture and seminar programme will be advised by email, announced in lectures, and posted on the course Blackboard site.

Prescription

This course aims to provide a theoretically grounded review of Japan's post-WWII domestic politics and foreign policy. After examining Japan's political system we will focus on Japan's relations with the main actors in Northeast Asia (USA, China, Russia and the two Koreas) and explore the domestic/international connections in these relations.

Course content

A detailed schedule will be provided during the first class.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge of the basic structure and developments in post-war Japan's political system
2. demonstrate a critical understanding of Japan-US relations and its impact on Japan's foreign policy
3. demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of Japan's relations with its neighbours in the post-WWII era
4. critically analyse the key issues in Japan's relations with the main powers in Northeast Asia
5. apply the main theories of Foreign Policy Analysis to Japan's foreign policy.

Teaching format

The course is taught via weekly two hour lectures and one hour tutorials over one trimester. Students are expected to do all the set readings for each of the classes and to participate in group discussions. There is an in-class test that will occur during the last week of Trimester 1.

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

- submit all written work, and
- sit the test.

Workload

In accordance with University Guidelines, this course has been constructed on the assumption that students will devote 200 hours to the course throughout the trimester.

An approximate indication of the hours to be spent on each component of the course is as follows:

Preparation and attendance at classes:	25 hours
Research paper:	50 hours
Preparation for and attendance of in-class test:	25 hours

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLO(s)	Due date
1	Reading report (2000 words)	30%	1, 2, 3, 4	2 April
2	Research essay (3000 words)	40%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	11 May
3	In-class test (2 hours)	25%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	4 June

Submission and return of work

Reading reports are to be handed to the course coordinator during the class on the 21st of August. Essays are to be submitted via Blackboard. After grading they will be emailed to students with comments from the course coordinator. In-class tests will be collected by the course coordinator after the test. Essays and tests will be returned at times to be advised.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions (mainly for medical reasons) of not more than two weeks may be given by the course coordinator.

Penalties

Students will be penalised for late submission of assignments – **a deduction of 5% for the first day late, and 2% per day thereafter, up to a maximum of 8 days.** Work that is more than 10 weekdays late can be accepted for mandatory course requirements but may not be marked. Penalties may be waived if there are valid grounds (for example, illness [presentation of a medical certificate will be necessary] or similar other contingencies). In all such cases, prior information will be necessary.

Set texts

The course content will follow the assigned weekly readings lists. Most of the readings are available online. Book chapters which are not available online will be posted on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

Andrew Gordon ed. (1993), *Postwar Japan as History*, Berkley: University of California Press
Haruko Cook and Theodore Cook (1993), *Japan at War: An Oral History*, New York: The New Press

John W Dower (2000), *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*, New York: W. W Norton & Company

Glenn D Hook et al (2001), *Japan's International Relations: Politics, Economics and Security*, London: Routledge

Kazuhiko Togo (2005), *Japan's Foreign Policy 1945-2003*, Leiden: Brill

Japan's Foreign Policy Related Websites

Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs www.mofa.go.jp

The Japan Institute of International Affairs <https://www2.jiia.or.jp/en>

Japan's Ministry of Defence www.mod.go.jp/e

National Institute of Defence Studies www.nids.go.jp/english

Agency for Cultural Affairs www.bunka.go.jp/english

Japan External Trade Organization www.jetro.go.jp

"The World and Japan" database project www.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~worldjpn/front-ENG.shtml

The Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus www.japanfocus.org (strongly left leaning but an excellent collection of themed articles-see the "course readers section")

The Japan Times www.japantimes.co.jp

Asahi Shimbun www.asahi.com/english (left leaning)

Yomiuri Shimbun <http://the-japan-news.com> (right leaning)

Mainichi Shimbun <http://mainichi.jp/english> (centre)

Asia Times <http://mainichi.jp/english>

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

Enhancements made to this course, based on the feedback of previous students, will be covered during the course.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy

- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/resources/subjectcontacts.html>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz