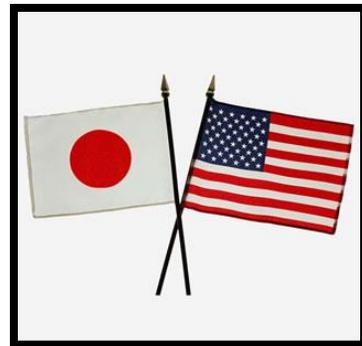




PS 460: U.S.-Japan Foreign Policy
Instructor: Dr. Lauren McKee
KIIS Japan, Summer 2022



Course Description and Learning Outcomes:

This course will serve as an introduction to the process and content of foreign relations between the United States and Japan. Reaching back to the beginnings of this relationship in the mid-1850s, students will learn the historical context of this relationship spanning from contact with Commodore Matthew Perry in the 1850s, through Japan's Meiji Restoration, WWI and WWII, to the post-war treaties and contemporary relationship between the U.S. and its greatest ally in East Asia. Students should gain a better understanding of the historical context of this relationship, how foreign policy is made, and how domestic politics and international relations intersect.

Overall KIIS Program Student Learning Outcomes:

KIIS Study Abroad Mission Statement:

KIIS provides high-quality education abroad programs for students from all diverse backgrounds that promote deep international learning, are integrated into the curriculum, and encourage critical and creative thinking. Our goal is to help students understand the wider world and develop personal and professional skills for lifelong enrichment. We strive to go beyond generalizations and cultural stereotypes to help foster a nuanced appreciation of the world in which we live.

Students participating on KIIS study abroad programs aim to:

- 1) Understand contemporary issues of their host country/countries (i.e. KIIS program location).
- 2) Develop skills to interact comfortably in a global setting.
- 3) Understand other cultures.

Prior to your KIIS study abroad program, and again at the conclusion of your program, KIIS will ask each student to a) answer a few multiple-choice questions, and b) write a short reflective essay (two paragraphs in length) related to the elements detailed above. There is no right or wrong answer, and your responses will not affect your grade in any way. The purpose of the exercise is to help KIIS measure the effectiveness of its study abroad programs.

Recommended Texts:

You Gotta Have Wa, Robert Whiting

Assignments:

Attendance and class participation in discussion: 20%

Class meeting time in Nara: 9-10:30

Class meeting time in Kyoto: 9-10:30



Reflections (4): 40%

Each week you will be reflecting on a different theme set at the beginning of the week. At the end of the week, you will both turn a written 500 word written reflection and share your reflections with other students in class.

Final Project Presentation: 40%

Each student will choose one final project from the provided list to complete and present on the last days of class.

Project Options:

- A) Compile a portfolio of photos taken while in Japan--with accompanying photo descriptions and artist statement-- that capture the U.S.-Japan relationship as you've come to understand it.
- B) Interview a variety of people while in Japan regarding their thoughts on the U.S.-Japan relationship. Compile those interviews and reflect on what they can reveal.
- C) Research a key figure (historical or contemporary) in the history of U.S.-Japan relations. Deliver a monologue from the perspective of this figure regarding the nature of the current U.S.-Japan relationship. (For example, if Perry were to remark on US-Japan relations today, what would he say?)
- D) Other creative project – I am open to things not on this list, though projects will be approved only in consultation with the instructor.

Schedule:

This syllabus is subject to change

Week 1: June 4-June 10: Nara

M June 4: Explore Nara!

T June 5: Introduction to the Course; Japan before Perry

W June 6: Japan and Perry

TH June 7- S June 9: Meiji Restoration Japan

Reading: Chapter 2: A History

Chapter 3: A Philosophy

Reflection 1 due

S June 10: Uji: Byodoin/Meet host family

Week 2: June 11-17: Nara Home-Stay

M June 11: Tenri Elementary and Tenri University



T June 12- W June 13: Japan, WWI, and the League of Nations
Reading: Chapter 4: You Gotta Have Wa

TH June 14- F June 15: War and Occupation

Readings: Chapter 5: Oendan

Chapter 6: The Sandwich Man

Speech by Emperor Hirohito Accepting the Terms of Surrender

Reflection 2 due

S June 16-S June 17: Activities with Host family

Week 3: June 18-24: Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Himeji

M June 18: Travel day to Tokyo (Kabuki)

T June 19: Visit Nikko

W June 20: Tokyo National Museum, Tsukiji, Embassy, Asakusa

TH June 21: Free Day

F June 22: Travel to Hiroshima/ Peace Park and Memorial

S June 23: Miyajima

S June 24: Himeji

Reflection 3 Due

Week 4: June 25-July 1: Kyoto

M June 25: Reversing Course and the Economic Miracle

Reading: Chapter 7: Blazer

Chapter 8: Giant Headache

T June 26: US and Japan “Special” Relationship

Reading: Chapter 9: The Gaijin who Spoke Japanese, Dirty Egawa, and the New-Breed Heroes

Chapter 10: The Emperor’s Team

W June 27: Current Relations

Reading: Chapter 11: The Schoolboys of Summer



Chapter 12: Foreign Devils

TH June 28-F June 29: Final Presentations

Reflection 4 due

S June 30-S July 1: Free days

July 2: Departure

Attendance Policy:

KIIS program participants are expected to be punctual to and in attendance at all classes, presentations, meetings and required excursions, and to remain with the program for the full academic period. Unexcused absences from classes and/or mandatory meetings will result in a lowering of the student's final grade, as will excessive tardiness. Multiple unexcused absences could result in expulsion from the program. Any absence from an academic class session must be excused for medical reasons.

Disability Accommodation:

KIIS will make every reasonable effort to provide accommodations for program participants with special needs or disabilities, but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Be aware that many foreign countries do not have comprehensive legislation comparable to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). As a result, businesses and other establishments operating in foreign countries may not be able to provide accommodations.

If you have a disability accommodation need, we recommend you contact your KIIS Campus Representative, <https://www.kiis.org/about-kiis/contact-us/campus-representatives/> early in your program selection process so that s/he has time to discuss any specific needs, including which KIIS programs may be best suited. You also are welcome to contact KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, maria.canning@wku.edu, to discuss your disability accommodation needs (e.g. housing, transportation, excursions, class schedule, etc.).

Immediately after acceptance, notify KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, haley.mctaggart@wku.edu, if you have a special need or disability that might require any form of accommodation abroad. Failure to notify KIIS may prevent you from participating on your KIIS program.

If you require any accommodations abroad, you must provide KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning, or KIIS Admissions and Enrollment Specialist, Haley McTaggart, an accommodation letter from your home campus' disability accommodation office that lists the accommodations you are eligible to receive. Please do not request accommodations directly from your KIIS Program Director or other KIIS Faculty; the KIIS Office will notify your KIIS Program Director and/or Faculty after we have received your above accommodation letter.



In some cases, you may need to make arrangements for a caregiver to join you on your KIIS program, should your physician, campus disability accommodation office, or KIIS make such a recommendation or require it.

Title IX / Discrimination & Harassment:

Recent attention to gender discrimination and sexual harassment at colleges and universities reminds us of the importance of adhering to standards of ethical and professional behavior. KIIS Study Abroad is committed to supporting and encouraging safe and equitable educational environments for our students, faculty, and program directors. Students, faculty, and program directors are required to be civil and treat each other with dignity and respect. As such, harassment and/or discrimination of any kind will not be permitted or tolerated.

Sexual misconduct (sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual/dating/domestic violence) and sex discrimination are violations of KIIS policies. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to a) KIIS Assistant Director, Maria Canning (+1-859-200-1000) or KIIS Executive Director, John Dizgun (+1-270-227-2288), b) WKU's Title IX Coordinator, Deborah Wilkins (270-745-5396 / deborah.wilkins@wku.edu) or WKU's Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe (270-745-5429 / michael.crowe@wku.edu) or Joshua Hayes (270-745-5121 / joshua.hayes@wku.edu). Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a KIIS program director and/or faculty member, KIIS program directors and faculty are considered "Responsible Employees" of Western Kentucky University and MUST report what you share to WKU's Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator.

If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU's Counseling and Testing Center, <https://www.wku.edu/heretohelp/> at 270-745-3159.

For more information on KIIS Title IX, see <https://www.kiis.org/students/health-safety/title-ix-clery/>; additional Title IX resources can be found here <https://www.wku.edu/eo/titleixbrochure2020.pdf>.

Everyone should be able to participate on a KIIS program, attend a KIIS event, or work in a KIIS environment (e.g. KIIS office) without fear of sexual harassment or discrimination of any kind. Be respectful of each other.