

**Draft Syllabus**  
Still under construction—dates reflect last offering in spring 2021

History 0560/EALC 0750  
Spring 2021  
MW 10-11 a.m.

Prof. F. Dickinson  
Office hrs: MW, 311E College Hall  
e-mail: [frdickin@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:frdickin@sas.upenn.edu)

TAs: Genevieve Tan ([gentansh@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:gentansh@sas.upenn.edu)): hours: Wed., 9:30-11 p.m. ET  
Arshdeep Brar ([arshsb@sas.upenn.edu](mailto:arshsb@sas.upenn.edu)); hours: Fri., 12-1 p.m. ET

### **Modern Japanese History**

This course will survey the dramatic story of transformation from feudal to modern Japan. It fulfills the College Requirement in History and Tradition and the College Foundational Requirement in Cross Cultural Analysis. In addition to providing a general narrative of events from 1600 to the present, it will expose students to fundamental principals of historical and cross-cultural analysis. Following the History and Tradition requirement, students will learn to interpret primary sources, to understand how knowledge is constructed, and to recognize how interpretive frameworks change over time. Following the Cross-Cultural Analysis requirement, students will learn how to interpret developments outside the historical and cultural framework of the United States.

### **Texts**

Please purchase at Penn Book Store, 3601 Walnut St. (215) 898-7595

<https://upenn.bncollege.com/shop/upenn/home>

- \*Kokichi Katsu, *Musui's Story* (1843)
- \*Ōgai Mori, *The Wild Geese* (1911-3)
- \*Junichirō Tanizaki, *Naomi* (1924)
- \*Kazuko Kuramoto, *Manchurian Legacy* (1999)
- \*Sayaka Murata, *Convenience Store Woman* (2018)

Many of our readings are in article form, accessible on our Canvas course site. Those marked with an asterisk (\*) are first-hand accounts, written at the time or later by a participant in the event. These are primary sources that offer a glimpse of how contemporaries viewed their world.

Our principal text is a draft copy of my own unpublished text: *A Global History of Modern Japan*, available only in pdf form on our Canvas site. The material is ***not for citation or distribution***.

### **Course Aims**

By the end of this course, you should:

- 1) History: Understand key people, places, events in modern Japanese history
- 2) Historiography: Understand the discipline of history and its methodologies
- 3) Reading: Be able to judge a variety of primary and secondary sources

### **Class Format (Weekly schedule)**

Each week, you MUST complete FOUR asynchronous activities BEFORE your in-person class; then attend ONE in-person class with Prof. Dickinson, followed by ONE recitation with your TA. Your weekly schedule will look like this:

- 1) BEFORE class: FOUR asynchronous activities by 11 p.m. on the day before your assigned live class
  - a) THREE types of readings: 1) Main text (Holcombe), 2) Supplemental text, 3) Primary sources
  - b) TWO pre-recorded mini-lectures
  - c) ONE question/answer about lectures and/or readings submitted to weekly discussion folder
  - d) ONE quiz about lectures
- 2) ONE class session (Benn 419) corresponding to your assigned team (Team Jade OR Team Cypress)
  - a) Team Fuji: Mon., noon – 1 p.m.
  - b) Team Sakura: Wed., noon – 1 p.m.
- 3) ONE recitation with your TA  
Timing and location depend on your class registration

Requirements	Total pts	% grade
1) Lectures (5 X 12 pts):	60	25%
a) <b>Two</b> weekly pre-recorded lectures (1 pt each [no pts for less than 60% viewed])		
b) <b>One</b> weekly quiz (3 pts each week)		
2) Participation (5 X 12 = 60 pts):	60	25%
a) <b>One</b> weekly question OR answer submitted to appropriate discussion folder (1 pt)		
b) <b>One</b> weekly live Team discussion (2 pts)		
c) <b>One</b> weekly recitation with TA (2 pts)		
3) Writing:	60	25%
a) <b>One</b> book analysis ( <b>ONE</b> of 4 papers, 40 pts <b>NO EXTENSIONS</b> )		
b) <b>One</b> wiki <b>OR</b> news submission (10 pts)		
c) <b>One</b> 1-page analysis of East Asia-related Penn public talk (10 pts)		
4) Final:	60	25%
a) <b>One</b> powerpoint exercise (10 pts)		
b) <b>One</b> take-home final (50 pts)		

### Course Content

Your use of lectures, Powerpoints and other course material is limited to this class. You should not share these materials with anyone outside of class or otherwise reproduce their content. This will ensure the confidentiality of our classroom discussion and facilitate a free exchange of ideas. It also honors the creativity and labor I have invested in creating course content.

### Code of Academic Integrity

You are expected to adhere to all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity (cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, etc.). The work you submit in this class must be your own. If your submissions are copied without attribution from any published or unpublished source (including the Internet) or have been prepared by someone other than you, or you identify somebody else's work as your own (e.g., translation without proper attribution), you will be referred to Penn's Office of Student Conduct and face possible disciplinary action, including expulsion. For more info:

- Penn Code of Academic Integrity: <https://catalog.upenn.edu/pennbook/code-of-academic-integrity/>
- Office of Student Conduct: <http://www.upenn.edu/osc>

### Academic Support Services

For help with reading, writing, study strategies, time management: <https://www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc/lr/>

### Student Disabilities Services

Penn welcomes students with disabilities and is committed to providing exceptional opportunities to all. To begin the accommodation process, visit: <https://www.vpul.upenn.edu/lrc/sds/index.php>

### Wellness

Penn offers a wide range of resources for wellness: <https://www.wellnessatpenn.com/resources/>

### Assignments

#### Week I      Introduction

No Readings

1/20      Team Fuji, Team Sakura together

Week II Japan under the samurai (Tokugawa, 1600-1868)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Preface, Intro, Chps. 1-2 (pp. 4-54)
  - 2) \**Musui's Story*, Prologue-Chp. 5 (Adult Years), (pp. 1-98)
  - 3) Primary: \*Ihara Saikaku, "Eternal Shops of Edo" (17<sup>th</sup> cent), pp. 115-117
- 1/25 Team Fuji  
1/27 Team Sakura

Week III Challenges to the samurai (Tokugawa, 1600-1868)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chps. 3, 4 (pp. 55-81)
  - 2) \**Musui's Story*, Chp. 5 (Adult Years) – end (pp. 98-174)
  - 3) Primary: \*Yoshida Shōin, various (1850's) pp. 109-15  
\*Fukuzawa Yukichi, "Autobiography" (1890), pp. 145-50
- 2/1 Team Fuji  
2/3 Team Sakura

Week IV Revolution (1860-70)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chps. 4, 5 (pp. 81-98)
  - 2) \**The Wild Geese*, Chps. 1-11 (pp. 5-57)
  - 3) Primary: \*Shibusawa Eiichi, "Autobiography," pp. 127-41  
\*Katō Hiroyuki, "Abuses of Equal Rights for Men & Women" (Mar. 1875), pp. 376-7
- 2/8 Team Fuji  
2/10 Team Sakura  
**2/12 11 p.m. Paper #1 Due**

Week V Development and Discontent (1870-1890)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 7 (pp. 126-36), Chp. 5 (pp. 98-104), Chp. 6 (pp. 113-5)
  - 2) \**The Wild Geese*, Chps. 12-19 (pp. 57-92)
  - 3) Primary: \*Itagaki Taisuke, "Prospectus of the Liberal Party" (1882), pp. 225-35  
\*Ōkubo Toshimichi, "Proposal for Increasing Production" (1874), pp. 13-17
- 2/15 Team Fuji  
2/17 Team Sakura

Week VI Sino- and Russo-Japanese Wars (1890-1910)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 6 (pp. 105-13, 115-25), Chp. 7 (pp. 136-47)
  - 2) \**The Wild Geese*, Chps. 20-24 (pp. 92-119)
  - 3) Primary: \*Itō Hirobumi, "On the constitution of 1889" (1889), pp. 666-71  
\*Okakura Kakuzō, *The Awakening of Japan* (1905), pp. 3-6
- 2/22 Team Fuji  
2/24 Team Sakura

Week VII Taishō and World War I (1910-20)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 8 (pp. 148-68)
- 2) \**Naomi*, Chps. 1-11 (pp. 1-103)
- 3) Primary: \*Kōtoku Shūsui, “Against the Wartime Tax” (1904), pp. 371-3  
\*M. Togo, “Japan and Ships” (Mch. 1918)

3/1 Team Fuji

3/3 Team Sakura

3/5 11 p.m.

**Paper #2 Due**

Week VIII Engagement Week (no class)

3/8 No class

3/10 Engagement Day

Week IX “New Japan” (1920s)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 9 (pp. 169-89)
- 2) \**Naomi*, Chps. 12-28 (pp. 104-237)
- 3) Primary: \*Yoshino Sakuzō, “On the Meaning of Const. Govt...” (1916), pp. 217-24  
\*Nitobe Inazō, “Opening Address at Kyōto” (1929), pp. 685-88

3/15 Team Fuji

3/17 Team Sakura

Week X Assaulting the Foundations of the “New Japan” (1930s)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chps. 10, 11 (pp. 190-228)
- 2) \**Manchurian Legacy*, Author’s Note-Chp. 2 (pp. ix-29)
- 3) Primary: \*Asahi Heigo, “Call for a new ‘restoration’” (1921), pp. 767-9  
\*Minobe Tatsukichi, “Defense of the ‘Organ’ Theory” (1935), pp. 239-46

3/22 Team Fuji

3/24 Team Sakura

3/26 11 p.m.

**Paper #3 Due**

Week XI War with China and the US (1937-41)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chps. 11, 12 (pp. 228-43)
- 2) \**Manchurian Legacy*, Chps. 3-5 (pp. 31-74)
- 3) Primary: \* “Fundamentals of our national polity” (1937), pp. 278-8  
\* “Draft of Basic Plan for GEA Co-Prosp Sphere” (1942), pp. 294-8

3/29 Team Fuji

3/31 Team Sakura

Week XII Greater East Asia War (1941-45)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 12 (pp. 243-60)
- 2) \**Manchurian Legacy*, Chps. 6-8 (pp. 75-110)
- 3) Primary: \*Roger Pineau, “Last letters home” (1944-5), pp. 196-208  
\*Tokutomi Ichirō, “Commentary on the Imp Dec of War” (1941), pp. 291-4

4/5 Team Fuji

4/7 Team Sakura

Week XIII Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-55)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 13 (pp. 261-86)
- 2) \**Manchurian Legacy*, Chps. 9-Epilogue (pp. 111-76)
- 3) Primary: \*Sasaki Naokata, "The Face of the Enemy," pp. 468-9  
\*Fuji Shizue, "They didn't tell me," pp. 427-31

4/12 Team Fuji

4/14 Team Sakura

Week XIV Japan and the "American Century" (1955-90)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chps. 14, 15 (pp. 287-332)
- 2) \**Convenience Store Woman*, pp. 1-81 (to "tried so hard to fix me")
- 3) Primary: \*Edwin O. Reischauer, "Inevitable Partners" (1964), pp. 27-28  
\* "Socialist Chairwoman Creates Popularity Boom" (Jan. 5, 1987), pp. 1-2

4/19 Engagement Day

4/21 Team Fuji, Team Sakura together

**4/23 11 p.m.**

**Paper #4 Due**

Week XV Meaning of Modern Japan (1990-present)

Readings:

- 1) Dickinson, Chp. 16 (pp. 333-53)
- 2) \**Convenience Store Woman*, pp. 81-163 (to end)
- 3) Primary: \* "Japan Emperor, Empress Voice Hopes for 2021" (Jan. 1, 2021)

4/26 Team Fuji

4/28 Team Sakura

**4/29 11 p.m.**

**Paper #5 Due**

Week XVI

**Final Due**

Date of final will be announced when posted by the Registrar. You may submit to our Canvas course site any time up to the exam date, but NO EXTENSIONS (except for medical emergency).