Course Description:
This is a newly offered course specifically aimed at short term international exchange students to introduce them to the Japanese industrial and corporate system in a hands on manner.

This will be facilitated by actually visiting various organizations to gain a real life insight into how they function with classes introducing background Japanese industry and corporate knowledge.

The objectives of this course are to:
1 Enable students to understand how major Japanese contemporary industries operate and key functions or contributions to the Japanese economy.
2 Develop the students knowledge and awareness of the real nature of the Japanese industrial system by its history, theory and live real observation.

Textbooks:

Reference Books:
Abbeglen, J.C., 2006, 21st-century Japanese management: new systems, lasting values, Pelgrave

Various other papers to be distributed in class and from field visits.

Course Plan:
1 Introduction to the course process and assignments
   Overview of the Japanese economy
2 The Japanese Corporate Inc
   Briefing on Primary industry and Steel production
3 Company Visit - 1 Steel production
4 Company Visit - 2
5 Debrief of Steel Industry
   Class Presentations
6 Briefing on Secondary Industry and Car manufacture
7 Company Visit - 3 Car manufacturing
8 Company Visit - 4
9 Debrief Car manufacturing
   Class Presentations
10 Briefing on Tertiary Industry and Financial Services
11 Company Visit - 5 Financial Service
12 Company Visit - 6
13 Debrief Financial Services
   Class Presentations
   Briefing for Beverages Industry
14 Company Visit - 7 Beverages

Lecturer’s Comments to Students:
It is EXPECTED that all members attend and participate in the 1st week of class!!

TAKE NOTICE From the second week class field visits will begin. There will a rendezvous point off campus. To enable each field visit a light microbus will be likely used. The cost of this will be around 1,500 yen per member for each visit which will be a direct cost. Payment by each member at first class of 6,000 yen will be required to cover expected costs. Receipts will be issued and any balance of funds to be settled at the course proceeds.

Company visits will mostly be at a distance from campus and take time to commute to each location. On most occasion the meeting point will be away from campus. Each member must take their own responsibility to adhere to time schedules and be attentive to assembly times. All visits are compulsory.

Participation and personal performance on in-class exercises and discussions will be viewed as marks for assessment performance. The quality of participation is as important as the quantity of participation. Keep in mind that it is impossible to participate if you do not ATTEND.

In this subject you are expected to spend in-class time plus double that for out of class time a week completing out of class reading, class preparation and assignments.

Every member must at least successfully complete each part of the assessment to be overall successful in the course.

Written submissions style:
The style guide for all written submissions should be based upon a modified version of that set out in the Academy of Management style guide, refer: http://aom.pace.edu/amjnew/style_guide.html or close to Harvard style.

Teaching Methodology:
There is limited time for the standard lecturing approach. Rather class time will be devoted to action interactive learning discussing materials provided.

In order for this approach to work, it will be necessary for the students to complete assigned readings BEFORE class. This work is individual and ongoing.

The course will focus primarily upon the application of knowledge acquired in the various industry specialty topics plus an expansion of this knowledge.

Therefore, the course will be comprised of four student centered elements:
1) Readings to give a broad knowledge to contemporary Japanese industry issues.
2) Field visits to live leading organizations.
3) Analysis of what companies are doing and their future next steps. And, 4) Discussion and action learning about the above.

This course is a unique opportunity to experience and learn live about the Japanese industrial system. Be enthusiastic, alert, engaged and you will learn and experience something about Japan.

Method of Evaluation:
After each visit members will required to produce bi-weekly summary reports concerning observations and learning which will make up 60% of the total marks (About four).

At the end of the course, a team report and presentation indicating major observations about Japanese corporations and what are there special characteristics supported by what was experienced from the visits or classes will be required. 40% of the total mark.

Questions/Comments:
Any queries or comments may be addressed to the lecturer Damon Drummond by email damondrummond@mac.com or by other means.