
JAPANESE COMPANY INTRODUCTION AND FACTORY VISITS 2 credits (Spring)

日本企業の紹介と工場見学 2単位(春学期)

Real live introductory field study to Japanese Industry

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Course Description:

This course is specifically aimed toward catering for short term international exchange students to introduce in a practical way both Japanese industrial and corporate systems.

Classes will introduce background Japanese industry and corporate knowledge. Then actual field visits will be conducted to various organizations to gain a real life insights.

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:

Carter, W., 2010, Japanese Industry, ASK ISBN 4872170857

Sato, K., Hoshino, Y., (Eds) 2011, The anatomy of Japanese business, Routledge

Reference Books:

Aoki, M., Dore, R., (Eds) 2008, The Japanese firm : the sources of competitive strength, Oxford University Press

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.

Other readings and materials will be provided in class.

Course Plan:

- 1 Introduction to the course process and assignments
Overview of the Japanese economy and government
- 2 The Japanese Corporate Inc
Briefing on Government, Primary industry and Steel production
- 3 Primary industry visit (eg., JFE Steel, National Diet, etc)
- 4 Primary industry visit
- 5 Debrief of Primary Industry
Briefing on Secondary industry and manufacturing
- 6 Secondary Industry visit (Mitsubishi-Fuso, Nissan, Nissin, Toshiba etc)
- 7 Secondary Industry visit
- 8 Debrief Secondary Visits
Briefing on Tertiary and services sector
- 9 Visits Tertiary and services sector (Securities Commission, JSX Arrow, JAL etc)
- 10 Visits Tertiary Industry and Services Services
- 11 Debrief Tertiary Industry Services
Briefing on Government sector and its Society role
- 12 Government Visit (eg., MIETI, National Diet, Police Agency etc)
- 13 Debrief on Government Services
Class Presentations
- 14 Class presentations on industrial sectors

Other The scheduled will be amended as required. A Facebook page will be created for class sharing of updates. E&OE

Lecturer's Comments to Students:

It is EXPECTED that all members attend and participate in the every week of class!! First week will be most important. Attendance of 80% of classes is required to be eligible to complete (Special or academic leave excluded).

TAKE NOTICE From the second week class field visits will begin. On many occasions there will a meeting point may be off campus at a railway station. These will likely be at a distance from campus and take time to commute to each location. On some occasions, visits will require the use

of a microbus which will be at a shared cost to members. The likely cost of this will be around 2,000 yen per member per time.

Each member must take their own responsibility to adhere to time schedules and be attentive to assembly times. Most visits will be compulsory. Some supplementary may also be offered.

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.org/publications/amj/styleguide/> or close to Chicago or 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.

*Please note that members who register for this Spring 2nd quarter only course are expected to keep 2nd period free of Mondays due to factory visit movement schedules, etc. (ie., we will use all of Monday mornings for our classes.)

Report format:

Members are expected to reflect on each visit and comment on the following five points adding your opinion and some relevance to any academic references where possible.

- 1) What two things, or more, did you learn during your visit about Japanese management and or industry?
- 2) What did you smell, feel, see or touch that you have never done before and what does it add to your Japan industry experience?
- 3) How did you most benefit from this visit?
- 4) What do you think that can make this visit more useful to you?
- 5) What management or industry related question about the visit do you still have?

All reports should be done on word.doc A4 paper size with name top right 1st page. Please add any references for any cites used. Title on file should reflect your name as on Keio.ID and submitted to the Keio campus terminal page for this report.

Method of Evaluation:

The course evaluation is broken into the following components and a requirement.

1) Reports - Any eight visit reports following the guideline. 60%

2) Final report and presentation 40%

- There is a course attendance requirement of 80% attendance to class periods to be eligible for grading (excluding academic or student leave).

After at least eight of the field visits, members will be expected to submit a summary report concerning observations and learning which will make up 60% of the total marks (About eight).

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.

TAKE NOTICE:

1) Any assignment deadlines missed will be penalized 10% immediately and 1% per day thereafter.

2) Weekly means each week is assessed independently and not in a summary review. Peer review includes ratings by other class members of your team contribution and impacts upon your individual assessment for that section of work.

3) The above is subject to change and to be confirmed in the 1st week of classes.

4) Members must be successful in each section of the above assessment to be successful.

E&OE.

Questions/Comments:

Any queries or comments may be addressed to the course facilitator, Damon Drummond by email damondrummond@mac.com or by other means.