

## Keio University Syllabus and Timetable

**GENDER, CULTURE AND MODERNITY IN INTERWAR JAPAN**

Subtitle	Gender, Culture, and Modernity in Interwar Japan
Lecturer(s)	NOTTER, DAVID M.
Credit(s)	2
Academic Year/Semester	2024 Spring
Day/Period	Tue.5
Campus	Mita
Classroom	453
Class Format	Face-to-face classes (conducted mainly in-person)
Registration Number	13373
Faculty/Graduate School	INTERNATIONAL CENTER
Year Level	2, 3, 4
Grade Type	S, A, B, C, D
K-Number	CIN-CO-00153-212-03

[▼ Detail](#)
**Course Contents/Objectives/Teaching Method/Intended Learning Outcome**

While the history of Japan as a modern nation begins in the Meiji period, much of what we recognize as typical of 'modern life' in Japan as we know it begins in the Taisho period, or more generally in the 'interwar' period which extends into the early years of the Show era. In this class we will examine in detail several aspects of this new 'modern life' with particular attention given to the new social roles, new gender roles, new lifestyles, and new forms of culture that emerged among the new middle class. This course will be conducted as a lecture course. Students will be given regular open-notebook quizzes on the content of the lectures. In addition, there will be two writing assignments: a summary writing assignment, and an essay.

**Active Learning Methods** [Description](#)

Not applicable

**Preparatory Study**

A textbook will not be assigned. Nevertheless, the summary writing assignment as well as the final essay will require a significant amount of reading and preparation.

**Course Plan****Lesson 1**

Introduction to the course

**Lesson 2**

The emergence of the modern family among the new middle class

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### **Lesson 3**

The emergence of the 'love marriage' ideal and new forms of courtship

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### **Lesson 4**

New ideals of womanhood as voiced by influential female intellectuals such as Yosano Akiko

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### **Lesson 5**

New social roles for women, new occupations for women

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### **Lesson 6**

The 'modern girl' as 'moga' and new categories of female deviance

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### **Lesson 7**

The emergence of the 'salary-man'

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### **Lesson 8**

The emergence of the ideology of 'careerism' or 'risshin shusse'

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### **Lesson 9**

The emergence of the new media for women such as the influential 'Housewife's Friend'

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### **Lesson 10**

Debates among female intellectuals in the periodical 'Seito'

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### **Lesson 11**

The emergence of the modern housewife

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### **Lesson 12**

New notions of motherhood and child-rearing

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### **Lesson 13**

The Taisho-era transformation in school culture at the elite higher schools for boys

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### **Lesson 14**

The expansion of education for women and the culture of cultivation at the new higher schools for women

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### **Other**

Other: writing assignment

## **Method of Evaluation**

Evaluation will be based on regular quizzes on the content of the lectures, a summary writing assignment, and an essay

