

## Keio University Syllabus and Timetable

# MODERN HISTORY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE WORLD

<b>Subtitle</b>	Modern History of Diplomatic and Cultural Relations between Japan and the World
<b>Lecturer(s)</b>	OHTA, AKIKO
<b>Credit(s)</b>	2
<b>Academic Year/Semester</b>	2024 Spring
<b>Day/Period</b>	Mon.4
<b>Campus</b>	Mita
<b>Classroom</b>	447
<b>Class Format</b>	Face-to-face classes (conducted mainly in-person)
<b>Registration Number</b>	53482
<b>Faculty/Graduate School</b>	INTERNATIONAL CENTER
<b>Year Level</b>	2, 3, 4
<b>Grade Type</b>	S, A, B, C, D
<b>K-Number</b>	CIN-CO-00153-212-03

[▼ Detail](#)

## Course Contents/Objectives/Teaching Method/Intended Learning Outcome

The course aims to provide an introductory and comprehensive view of the history of diplomatic and cultural relations between Japan and the World in the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century. A basic knowledge of Japanese history is desirable, but no previous knowledge of this particular subject will be assumed. A small amount of reading will be expected each week.

The first two classes in April will be Online (On-demand). Classes from April 22nd onwards will be face-to-face. In face-to-face classes, students are expected to attend the class, to participate in discussions, to submit short assignments from time to time. They are also expected to submit a a semester-end paper (on a research topic of their own choosing) by the end of the semester. The paper should be about 2,500 (~ 3,000) words, and the number of words excludes notes and bibliography. The paper should be written in a formal style, with reference notes and a list of bibliography.

Although optional, students are also encouraged to make a brief presentation during the semester. (Further details will be announced in class.)

The course plan below is a guideline, and the details are subject to change depending on the circumstances. The number of On-Demand classes and Zoom classes are also subject to change, depending on the circumstances. The students are expected to check the announcements, and follow the instructions.

## Active Learning Methods [Description](#)

Presentations  
 Discussions, Debates  
 Group work  
 Problem-based learning

## Preparatory Study

- Pre-lecture: students are expected to read through the materials and references distributed in class in advance.
- Post-lecture: students are expected to read related literature to deepen their knowledge of the lecture contents.
- Revision: review the lecture notes, check the areas of insufficient understanding and do further reading.

## Course Plan

### Lesson 1

Introduction [On-demand]

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### Lesson 2

Japan and the World before the Opening of Japan  
Please check the Online announcement. [On-demand]

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### Lesson 3

The Opening of Japan and the international society in the mid-nineteenth century [face-to-face]

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### Lesson 4

The First Treaty with the West: Lecture [face-to-face]

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### Lesson 5

The Analysis of the First Treaty with the West (the US-Japan Treaty of Peace and Amity): Presentation and Discussion [face-to-face]

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### Lesson 6

Subsequent treaties with the West: Lecture

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### Lesson 7

Japanese visits abroad and their influence on Japan in the 1860s / The changing attitudes (domestic & diplomatic) of Japan in the Bakumatsu and early Meiji Era

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### Lesson 8

The Iwakura Mission (1): Lecture

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### Lesson 9

The Iwakura Mission (2): Presentation & Discussion

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### Lesson 10

Japan and the World <1870s ~ 1900> (1): Lecture

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### Lesson 11

Japan and the World <1870s ~ 1900> (2): Analysis of Fukuzawa Yukichi "On De-Asianization (Datsua-Ron)".  
Presentation & Discussion

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### Lesson 12

Japan and the World <1870s ~ 1900> (3): Presentation & Discussion

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## Lesson 13

Round-up, including Japan and the World <1900 ~ 1930s>: Lecture, Presentation & Discussion

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## Lesson 14

Submission of the Semester-end paper.

In-class essay. Course Summary and Review.

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## Other

Review and summing up / Make-up class /Additional Instruction.

The course plan is a guideline, and the details are subject to change depending on the circumstances.

## Method of Evaluation

1. Short assignments during the course. (Details to be announced during class.)
2. Attendance & Class Participation: Attendance and participation in discussion are both essential. Making a mini-presentation is strongly desirable.
3. Semester-end paper on a research topic chosen by the students: to be submitted by the end of the semester. The paper should be about 2,500 (~ 3,000) words, and the number of words excludes notes and bibliography. The paper should be written in a formal style, with reference notes and a list of bibliography. (Further details to be announced during class.)
4. In-class essay on July 15th.

## Textbooks

Printed materials will be distributed.

## Reference Books

A book list will be provided in class online.

## Lecturer's Comments to Students

1. Please note that the first two classes in April will be Online (On-demand). There will be no live streaming, and all the necessary information will be provided Online. Classes from April 22nd onwards will be face-to-face.
2. The maximum number of students in this course is expected to be 35.
3. The contents will be a combination of lecture, individual assignments (short essays or quizzes during the semester and a final paper), and discussion. Students are expected to take an active part in the discussion. Making a mini-presentation is strongly desirable. Do not come to class unprepared.

## Question/Comments

After class, and also via Canvas mails.