

Keio University Syllabus and Timetable

INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE ART HISTORY

Subtitle	Introduction to Japanese Art History
Lecturer(s)	SHIRAHARA, YUKIKO
Credit(s)	2
Academic Year/Semester	2025 Spring (2nd Half)
Day/Period	Thu.3,4
Campus	Mita
Classroom	523-A
Class Format	Face-to-face classes (conducted mainly in-person)
Registration Number	01780
Faculty/Graduate School	INTERNATIONAL CENTER
Year Level	2, 3, 4
Grade Type	S, A, B, C, D
K-Number	CIN-CO-00123-212-01

▼ Detail

Course Contents/Objectives/Teaching Method/Intended Learning Outcome

This course (seven days by two lectures) deals with masterpieces of Japanese visual art (architecture, sculpture, painting and decorative art) from the ancient times to the contemporary. Meaning, expression, material and technique of artwork selected from various categories will be explained, aiming for guiding the students to obtain basic knowledge and skill to appreciate/write essay on Japanese art.

Several times of group discussions and one short-time oral presentation (by each student) will be set thought the course.

Report should be submitted (to K-LMS) as the last work of the course.

Details of this course are to be explained in the first lecture.

Active Learning Methods [Description](#)

Presentations  
Discussions, Debates  
Group work  
Problem-based learning

Preparatory Study

PowerPoint shown in the lectures will be uploaded to CANVAS (in PDF format) after each class for your review and further study, for preparing own oral presentation and writing the report.

Course Plan

Lesson 1

Introduction of the course/Formats and materials of traditional painting

**Lesson 2**

Material and technique of Japanese sculpture

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**Lesson 3**

Japanese Buddhist art: iconography and expression

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**Lesson 4**

Representation of the combination of Shinto and Buddhism

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**Lesson 5**

Aesthetics in the aristocratic society

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**Lesson 6**

Yamato-e: Picture Handscroll of the Tale of Genji

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**Lesson 7**

Yamato-e and Kara-e style painting

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**Lesson 8**

What is Rinpa?

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**Lesson 9**

Stories of Japanese ceramics and lacquer ware

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**Lesson 10**

Art of tea culture

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**Lesson 11**

Ukiyo-e painting and print

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**Lesson 12**

Japonisme: art at the dawning of the modern age

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**Lesson 13**

Student presentations and discussion

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**Lesson 14**

Student presentations and discussion/Characteristics of Japanese art

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**Other**

Submission of the final report

## Method of Evaluation

Attendance 40%: attend more than 2/3 of lecture time with submission of answer or comment, responding to Lecturer's request at each class.

Oral presentation with PowerPoint: 20%

Final report: 40%

## Textbooks

Nothing.

## Reference Books

Announced in lectures. Materials (publications) are occasionally passed round in the class.

## Lecturer's Comments to Students

- As details of the course are to be explained in the first lecture time, attendance at the first lecture would be strongly recommended.
- Students are requested to bring own PAPER (not electric devises) and some WRITING TOOL at the lecture time. Also, requested to write answer or comment on a sheet of paper (depending on lecturer's request) distributed in each class, submit it at the end the lecture.
- INTERNET is NOT allowed to use during the lecture time.
- Only in the case of ABSENCE owing to some UNAVOIDABLE OBSTACLES, such student should contact the lecturer as soon as possible, either in the classroom or by e-mail (no later than the following lecture). Only if Lecturer accepts the reason, the student will be able to submit Make-up short report.

## Question/Comments

Before or after lecture in the classroom.

Emergency contact: e-mail (sirahara@ga3.so-net.ne.jp).