

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 Fall(1st Half)
Day/Period	Thu.3,4
Campus	Mita
Classroom	443
Class Format	Face-to-face classes (conducted mainly in-person)
Registration Number	19901
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.

Short report should be submitted (to K-LMS) as the final work of the course.

As details of this course are to be explained in the first lecture, please don't miss it (October 2) !

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 personal review and further study, for preparing own oral presentation and writing the short report.

Course Plan

**Lesson 1**  
Introduction of the course/Formats and materials of traditional painting

**Lesson 2**

### **Lesson 3**

Japanese Buddhist art: iconography and expression

---

### **Lesson 4**

Representation of the combination of Shinto and Buddhism

---

### **Lesson 5**

Aesthetics in the aristocratic society

Yamato-e: Picture Handscroll of the Tale of Genji

---

### **Lesson 6**

Art of Zen

Ink painting

---

### **Lesson 7**

What is Rinpa?

---

### **Lesson 8**

Stories of Japanese ceramics and lacquer ware

---

### **Lesson 9**

Art of tea culture

---

### **Lesson 10**

Ukiyo-e painting and print

---

### **Lesson 11**

Japonisme: art at the dawning of the modern age

---

### **Lesson 12**

Modern architecture and installation

---

### **Lesson 13**

Student presentations and discussion

---

### **Lesson 14**

Student presentations and discussion/Characteristics of Japanese art

---

### **Other**

Short 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 (survey or quiz) in each class.

Oral presentation with PowerPoint: 20%

Short 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 each lecture time. Also, requested to write answer or comment on a sheet of paper (depending on lecturer's request) distributed at the beginning of the 1st lecture, submit it at the end of the 2nd lecture.
- INTERNET is NOT allowed to use during the lecture time.
- Don't take a picture (ex. screen shot) during the lecture, please.
- 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

Contact: e-mail ([sirahara@ga3.so-net.ne.jp](mailto:sirahara@ga3.so-net.ne.jp))