

Mon Jan 19 2026 13:30:24 GMT+0900 (日本標準時)

## Keio University Syllabus and Timetable

# INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE ART HISTORY

<b>Subtitle</b>	Introduction to Japanese Art History
<b>Lecturer(s)</b>	SHIRAHARA, YUKIKO
<b>Credit(s)</b>	2
<b>Academic Year/Semester</b>	2026 Fall(1st Half)
<b>Day/Period</b>	Mon.3,4
<b>Campus</b>	Mita
<b>Classroom</b>	515
<b>Class Format</b>	Face-to-face classes (conducted mainly in-person)
<b>Registration Number</b>	26934
<b>Faculty/Graduate School</b>	INTERNATIONAL CENTER
<b>Year Level</b>	2, 3, 4
<b>Grade Type</b>	S, A, B, C, D
<b>Course Description</b>	A course to aim to obtain knowledge and skills to appreciate fundamental and diverse characteristics of Japanese visual art dealing with Japanese art from the ancient times to the contemporary.
<b>K-Number</b>	CIN-CO-00123-212-01

[▼ Detail](#)

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

**First of all**, Lecturer of this course would like to say, "Do please read the syllabus carefully for making your decision whether you take this course or not." In case too many students (over the limited number) apply, a lottery should be executed (by International Center) for fixing the course students.

**Secondly**, for the course students, do not forget to attend the first lecture which is to be held on MONDAY, October 5. Details of this course are to be explained then.

**Thirdly**, also for the course students, please bring PAPER notebook or leaf (for making a file) and WRITING UTENSIL into the class (see Lecturer's Comment).

**fourthly**, Electric devices, including mobile phone and camera (except an electric dictionary), are not allowed to use during the lecture time of this course (see Lecturer's Comment).

**This course** (two lectures x seven times) deals with masterpieces of Japanese visual art (architecture, sculpture, painting and decorative art) from the ancient times to the contemporary. Meaning, expression, material, technique and cultural background of selected artwork are explained, aiming for guiding the students to obtain basic knowledge and understanding of Japanese art history, and skill of talking/writing on Japanese art.

Several small group discussions and one short-time individual presentation (by all students) are set thought the course.

Final report should be submitted as the final work of the course.

## Course Taught by Faculty Member with Professional Experience

Applicable

Doctor of Philosophy (field: Japanese art history)

Visiting scholar, Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, UK  
Curator, Seattle Art Museum, US  
Gakugei-in (curator), Nezu Museum, Tokyo  
Visiting Professor, International Christian University, Tokyo

## Active Learning Methods [Description](#)

Presentations  
Discussions, Debates  
Group work  
Flipped classroom

## Preparatory Study

Preparatory Study: General knowledge of Japanese history should be helpful to take this course.  
Revision and Self-research: Important after each class (3 hours or more/week), for deepening understanding, for preparing own presentation and final paper.

## Course Plan

### Lesson 1

Oct. 5: Introduction of the course/Material and Technique of Painting and Sculpture

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### Lesson 2

Oct. 5: Jomon - Art of Prehistoric Times

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### Lesson 3

Oct. 12: Buddhist Art - Expression and Symbolism

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### Lesson 4

Oct. 12: Shinto Art - Combination of Shinto and Buddhism

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### Lesson 5

Oct. 19: Yamato-e - Picture Handscroll of the Tale of Genji / Aesthetics of Visual Art Linked with Literature

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### Lesson 6

Oct.19: Kan-ga, Ink Painting, Introduced by Hands of Zen Buddhist People

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### Lesson 7

Oct. 26: Urushi - Characteristics of Japanese Lacquer Work

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### Lesson 8

Oct. 26: Yakimono - Japanese Ceramics in the European Market

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### Lesson 9

Nov. 2: Art of Edo Period - Tosa and Kano Schools, and Rinpa

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### Lesson 10

Nov. 2: Ukiyo-e - Mt. Fuji and Katsushika Hokusai

## Lesson 11

Nov. 9: Japonaiserie and Japonisme

## Lesson 12

Nov. 9: Modern Japan - Architecture, Painting and Print

## Lesson 13

Nov. 16: War, Art and Woman

## Lesson 14

Nov. 16: Beyond Borders - Art of Late 20th Century

## Other

Submission of Final Paper

Guidelines and deadline are to be announced almost a month before the deadline.

Box is to be set in K-LMS.

## Method of Evaluation

### No examination

**Attendance 40%:** attend not less than 6/7 of lecture time (except traffic or unavoidable accident), submit answer or comment responding to Lecturer's request which should be asked in the class. A sheet of paper is distributed at the beginning of lecture.

**Individual oral presentation with PowerPoint 20%**

**Final report: 40%**

## Generative AI Policy for Classes

Generative AI could be used as a reference.

Discussion, presentation and final paper should be done/prepared by own research, personal thought and expression.

It is prohibited to use Generative AI directly from such work.

## Textbooks

Nothing

## Reference Books

Reference books are sometime passed around in the class.

## Lecturer's Comments to Students

- Details of the course are to be explained in the first lecture (Monday, October 5).
- Students are requested to bring own PAPER and WRITING TOOL at each lecture time, write answer or comment on a sheet of paper (responding to Lecturer's request) which is distributed at the beginning of lecture.
- Electric devices, including mobile PHONE, CAMERA (except an electric dictionary) are NOT allowed to use during the lecture time.

- Only in the case of LATENESS or ABSENCE owing to some UNAVOIDABLE OBSTACLES, such student should contact Lecturer as soon as possible, either in the classroom or by e-mail (no later than the following lecture day). If the reason is accepted by Lecturer, the student will be able to have a Make-up report to have 90% of attendance point. Lecturer will send e-mail to the student in person with details of the report.

## Question/Comments

Before, intermission or after the lecture in the classroom.

E-mail: sirahara@ga3.so-net.ne.jp

Please use this personal address rather than the one through K-LMS.