
DEEP CULTURE DIFFERENCE : UNDERSTANDING JAPAN
THROUGH CROSS-CULTURAL COMPARISON 2 credits
(Spring)

異文化比較を通じての日本理解 2単位(春学期)

Understanding Japan through Cross-Cultural Comparison

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Course Description/Objectives/Teaching Method/Intended Learning Outcome:

In this course we will learn about the psychology of experiencing cultural difference, and examine cultural differences between Japan and other countries. We will see that the largest impact of cultural difference often takes place at the level of the unconscious mind. We will learn about the unconscious process of deep culture learning. The class has two parts, 1) the brain and research into cultural difference, and 2) analyzing cultural difference. The ultimate goal of this course is a deeper understanding of yourself, your cultural programming, Japan and other cultural communities.

Course Plan:

- 1 First class - The deep culture of Japan
- 2 The "Oz Moment" and the "international brain".
- 3 The autopilot - System one versus system two
- 4 Configuration - The hidden impact of culture
- 5 Systematic Intuitions - Learning to read cultural patterns
- 6 Dilemma theory and deep cultural difference
- 7 The cognition of in-group and out-group
- 8 Deep Culture and Status
- 9 Deep culture and our moral compass
- 10 Deep culture and issues of control
- 11 Deep culture and time
- 12 Life spaces, privacy and identity
- 13 Student presentations

Other There will be supplemental readings.

Method of Evaluation:

1. Final Reflection Paper (30%)
2. Presentation(s) (40%)
3. Attendance, Participation (30%)

Textbooks:

- The Intercultural Mind: Connecting Culture, Cognition and Global Living, (2015) Shaules, Intercultural Press, Boston

Reference Books:

- Deep Culture: The Hidden Challenges of Global Living, by Joseph Shaules, Multi-lingual Matters, 2007
- The Beginner's Guide to Deep Culture: Beneath the Surface, (2010), Shaules, Intercultural Press, Boston and London

Lecturer's Comments to Students:

Students will be expected to reflect on and discuss their intercultural experiences. The instructor is passionate about the material.