

HIEA 115, Social and Cultural History of Twentieth-Century Japan

Spring, 2012

Instructor: Greg DePies
Meeting times: MWF 11:00-11:50
Location: 113 Center Hall

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Office Hours: MW 12-1, Tu 10-11
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Course Description: This course challenges common stereotypes of Japanese society and culture as harmonious, regimented, or docile by following histories of social conflict during the 20th century. While creating a disciplined population was a major goal of modern institutions, the course draws upon critical scholars' suggestion that conflict, resistance and revolt constitute a compelling "neglected tradition" in Japanese history. We will examine social movements which fractured and reconstituted communal identities through peaceful protest and violence while tracing narratives of counter-conduct and the production of subversive forms of knowledge.

Proceeding thematically, we will consider a variety of conflicts, asking:

*What social groups or political/economic institutions comprised the conflict? What differences impelled them into conflict? In what ways did the interconnected systems of industrial capitalism and the nation-state produce or frame these differences?

*How did conflict become a matter of culture? In other words, how did people disagree over the meanings and uses of representative categories such as "workers," "women," "Koreans," or even "Japanese?" How did they produce histories that represented contemporary conflicts as modern iterations of conflicts from the past?

Course Requirements

25% Term Paper (Due Monday April 30. The prompt will be distributed on April 20.)

25% Midterm Examination (In-class essay exam May 30. The prompts will be distributed on May 18.)

40% Final Examination (Essay exam June 15. Prompts will be distributed on June 4. Location TBA.)

10% Class Presentation/Participation (I will divide the students into 3 groups alphabetically. Starting with week 2, each week one of the groups will be responsible for presenting that week's readings to the class and offering an analysis. I will call on students and ask questions of the group. Students can also earn participation credit any week by contributing to class by answering/asking questions or offering comments.)

Reading assignments consist of a combination of primary and secondary sources and should be completed prior to the date of the class listed. Please bring the readings to class and be ready to use them for discussion.

Required Books (Available at the campus bookstore and on 2-hour reserve at the library)

*Gordon, Andrew. *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present, Second Edition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008. [**Gordon**]

*Katayama, Sen. *The Labor Movement in Japan*. 1918. Reprint, Nabu Press, 2010. Also available online at http://www.marxists.org/archive/katayama/1918/labor_movement/index.htm

Articles and book excerpts are available on TED or as listed below.

Fine Print

Students are expected to attend each class meeting. If an absence is unavoidable, get notes from a

fellow student. Electronic devices may only be used for class purposes and in a manner that does not distract others. Students should also refrain from unnecessary chatting, late arrivals/early departures, and other behavior which might disturb other students.

Students must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade. No requests for exam rescheduling will be accepted, so please do not enroll in the course if you have scheduling conflicts preventing you from taking the exams at the designated times. Requests for exceptions/extensions will not be considered without written documentation of a grave emergency.

Students must adhere to standards of academic integrity as defined by University policy. All students must do their own work. No collaboration is allowed. Use of others' words or ideas requires a clear citation.

Students requesting accommodations and services due to a disability for this course need to provide a current Authorization for Accommodation (AFA) letter issued by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD), prior to eligibility for requests. Receipt of AFAs in advance is necessary for appropriate planning for the provision of reasonable accommodations. OSD Academic Liaisons also need to receive current AFA letters.

Course Schedule

The schedule is subject to change. Any changes will be announced in lecture.

-----Section A: Struggles Over Labor & Land in the Empire (1900-1945)-----

Week 1: Introduction

Mon, April 2: Introduction, Syllabus & Course Outline/Objectives

Wed, April 4: Prelude—The Freedom and Popular Rights Movement, 1880s. Read: **Gordon**, 61-93.

Fri, April 6: 1900—Industrial Capitalism and the Modern Nation-State. Read: **Gordon**, 94-137.

Study Questions: In what ways did the Meiji state's policies incite conflict by disrupting the social and cultural systems of the communities it subjugated? How did labor and land become the source of social conflict in the empire?

Week 2: Laborers

Mon, April 9: The Ashio Mine Riot, 1907. Read: **Gordon**, 139-160.

Wed, April 11: Labor Movements in Heavy Industry, 1910s-1920s. Read: **Katayama**, *The Labor Movement in Japan*, 11-68.

Fri, April 13: Tenant Unions and Rural Unrest, 1920s. Read: **Katayama**, *The Labor Movement in Japan*, 69-99.

Study Questions: What aspects of working life in an industrializing economy did laborers find unacceptable? How and why did labor and tenant movements come into conflict with various parts of the state?

Week 3: Women

Mon, April 16: Factory Girls, 1910s. Read: Katayama, *The Labor Movement in Japan*, 100-147.

Wed, April 18: Rice Rioters, 1918. Read: **Gordon**, 161-181.

Fri, April 20: Modern Girls, 1920s. Read: Hane, "Women Rebels," 246-292.

Study Questions: In what ways were women essential to capitalist industrialization and imperialism?
How did this new importance create exploitation at the same time it opened up avenues for challenging patriarchy?

Week 4 : Imperialists and Populists

Mon, April 23: Hibiya Riot, 1905. Read: **Gordon**, 182-225.

Wed, April 25: Imperial Democrats, 1910s. Read: Lu, "Against the War-Time Tax, 1904," "On Demonstration, 1914," 90, 95-106.

Fri, April 27: Army Officer Coups, 1930s. Read: Young, "Reinventing Agrarianism: Rural Crisis and the Wedding of Agriculture to Empire," 307-351.

Study Questions: How did popular demonstrations constitute an important part of the politics of imperialism? How did militarism and imperialism offer solutions to the social and cultural conflicts of the modern era?

Week 5: Colonized Peoples & Wartime

Mon, April 30: Colonial Uprisings: The March First Movement, 1919 (Korea) & and The Wushe Incident, 1930 (Taiwan). **(Term Paper Due)**

Wed, May 2: Colonized Peoples in the Metropole. Read: Kim, "Into the Light," 13-38.

Fri, May 4: Wartime Resistance. Read: Hashikawa, "The 'Civil Society' Ideal and Wartime Resistance," 128-142.

Study Questions: What kinds of incidents brought colonized peoples into open conflict with Japanese colonizers? How did the idea of resistance change with the state's increasingly pervasive efforts to mobilize the nation for war?

-----Section B: Citizen Movements and Apathy Post-Empire (1945-2000)-----

Week 6: Laborers Revisited

Mon, May 7: U.S. Occupation and Labor. Read: **Gordon**, 226-243. Livingston, "Yomiuri Strike," 153-162.

Wed, May 9: Miike Mine Strike, 1960. Read: **Gordon**, 245-269.

Fri, May 11: Salary Men, Day Laborers, Temporary Workers. Read: Fowler, "Work," 175-224.

Study Questions: How did the U.S. occupation and the changed economic and political environment

create new challenges and opportunities for labor organizers?

Week 7: Anti-War Protesters

Mon, May 14: AMPO protest, 1960. Read: **Gordon**, 270-290. Lu, "Treaty of Mutual Cooperation and Security," "Formation of the People's Council for Preventing Revision of the Security Treaty," "On the Revision of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty," 235-239, 243-247.

Wed, May 16: AMPO protest continued, 1960. Read: Oda, "The Ethics of Peace," 154-170.

Fri, May 18: American Bases in Okinawa. Read: Ōshiro, "The Cocktail Party," 33-77.

Study Questions: How did the AMPO treaty ratification issue become the rallying point for so many diverse social protest movements? What problems do US military bases bring upon the residents of Okinawa and what is the history behind the US military occupation of Okinawa?

Week 8: Students and other "Lost Youth"

Mon, May 21: 1968 student revolt. Read: **Gordon**, 291-332. Lu, "Declaration to Begin a Strike, 1968," "From the Pages of the Japan Times, 1969," 264-269.

Wed, May 23: School Refusers vs. Education Mothers. Read: Allison, "Producing Mothers" 105-122.

Fri, May 25: 1990s "Lost Generation." Read: Greenfeld, "Tats" and "Hiro and Yoshihara," 19-46, 148-164.

Study Questions: How have college students become such prominent members of protest culture? Why have children and students become the subjects of intense anxiety or the barometers of the social and cultural health of the nation?

Week 9: Aum Shinrikyō

Mon, May 28: No Lecture, Memorial Day

Wed, May 30: **Midterm Examination**

Fri, Jun 1: Sarin gas attacks, 1995. Read: Shimazono, "The Evolution of Aum Shinrikyō as a Religious Movement," 19-52.

Study Questions: In what ways can religious beliefs become a source of social conflict?

Week 10: Environmental Movements

Mon, Jun 4: Minamata Disease. Read: Lu, "A Plan to Remodel the Japanese Archipelago, 259-264." Livingston, "Judging Tanaka's 'Remodeling Japan' Theory" and "Pollution: Basic Theory of Kōgai," 568-575.

Wed: Jun 6: Sanritsuka Struggle. Read: Apter, *Against the State*, 1-40.

Fri: Jun 8: Nuclear Power, Wrap Up. Read: Miyoshi, "Japan is Not Interesting," 189-204.

Study Questions: In what ways is environmental degradation a matter of social conflict? Who suffers from environmental problems and why?

Article and Book Chapter Excerpts

- Allison, Anne. "Producing Mothers." In *Permitted and Prohibited Desires: Mothers, Comics, and Censorship in Japan*. Boulder: Westview Press, 1996: 105-122. [Electronic version available at UCSD library website.]
- Apter, David E. and Nagayo Sawa. *Against the State: Politics and Social Protest in Japan*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1984. [available on TED]
- Fowler, Edward. "Work." In *San'ya Blues: Laboring Life in Contemporary Tokyo*. Ithaca and London: Cornell University Press, 1996: 175-224. [available on TED].
- Greenfeld, Karl Taro. "Tats" and "Hiro and Yoshihara," in *Speed Tribes: Days and Nights with Japan's Next Generation*. New York: HarperCollins, 1994: 19-46, 148-164. [available on TED].
- Hane, Mikiso. "Women Rebels." In *Peasants, Rebels, Women, and Outcastes: The Underside of Modern Japan, Second Edition*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield, 2003. [available on TED]
- Hashikawa, Bunsō. "The 'Civil Society' Ideal and Wartime Resistance." In *Authority and the Individual in Japan: Citizen Protest in Historical Perspective*, edited by J. Victor Koschmann. Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press, 1978: 128-142. [available on TED].
- Kim, Sa-ryang. "Into the Light." In *Into the Light: An Anthology of Literature by Koreans in Japan*, edited by Melissa L. Wender. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press, 2011: 13-38. [available on TED].
- Livingston, Jon, Joe Moore, and Felicia Oldfather, editors. *The Japan Reader 1: Imperial Japan, 1800-1945*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1973. [available on TED]
- , *The Japan Reader 2: Postwar Japan, 1945 to the Present*. New York: Pantheon Books, 1973. [available on TED].
- Lu, David John. *Sources of Japanese History, Volume Two*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1974. [available on TED].
- Miyoshi, Masao. "Japan is Not Interesting." In *Trespasses: Selected Writings*. Durham: Duke University Press, 2010: 189-204. [Electronic version available at UCSD library website.]
- Oda, Makoto. "The Ethics of Peace." In *Authority and the Individual in Japan: Citizen Protest in Historical Perspective*, edited by J. Victor Koschmann. Tokyo: University of Tokyo Press, 1978: 154-170. [available on TED].
- Ōshiro, Tatsuhiro. "The Cocktail Party." In *Okinawa: Two Postwar Novellas*, translated by Steve Rabson. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, 1989: 33-77. [available on TED].
- Shimazono, "The Evolution of Aum Shinrikyō as a Religious Movement." In *Religion and Social Crisis in Japan: Understanding Japanese Society Through the Aum Affair*, edited by Robert J. Kisala, Mark R. Mullins. New York: Palgrave, 2001: 19-52. [available on TED].
- Young, Louise. "Reinventing Agrarianism: Rural Crisis and the Wedding of Agriculture to Empire." In *Japan's Total Empire: Manchuria and the Culture of Wartime Imperialism*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998. [Electronic version available at UCSD library website.]