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**HISTORY OF JAPAN: MID-NINETEENTH CENTURY  
THROUGH THE U.S. OCCUPATION**  
Fall 2010, HIEA 112

Class Meetings:  
Tu-Th, 9:30am-10:50am  
Center Hall, Rm. 214

Office Hours:  
H&SS, 3073  
Tues., 11am-2pm

This course looks at the history of Japan between two watershed moments: The Meiji Restoration, which witnessed the formation of a new modern nation-state centered around the figure of the Japanese emperor, and the United States-led occupation of Japan in the wake of World War II. Both events were deeply unsettling and ultimately transformative of Japanese history. In this course, we shall describe this history as it unfolds across four or five key moments: 1) the opening of the country to foreign influence and the often contentious imagining—across multiple strata of society—of the Japanese nation that followed; 2) the evolution of imperial Japan, both in the form of an emperor-centered polity at home and the acquisition of colonies abroad; 3) an intriguing moment of internationalization, present from the beginning of Japan's engagement with the West, but particularly conspicuous after the Great War in Europe; 4) Finally, we will examine modern Japanese history as it came to be defined in terms of its relationship to China and the United States. As we shall see, far from being mutually exclusive, these moments are intimately bound up with one another, each one making up a strand of the complex tapestry of Japan's history of modernization.

### Course Texts

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#### A. Books Available for Purchase

Bernstein, Gail Lee, ed., Recreating Japanese Women, 1600-1945 (University of California Press, 1991)  
Dower, John. Embracing Defeat (W.W. Norton & Co., 1999)  
Natsume, Sōseki. Kokoro, trans. Meredith McKinney (Penguin Classics, 2010)

#### B. Electronic Course Reserves

A selection of primary sources and historical works—all required reading for the course—has been made available through Geisel Library's electronic course reserves. Each of these readings are marked with a double asterisk (\*\*) on the course syllabus.

#### C. Historical Overview Texts

These texts are intended to provide an overview of the historical period covered in this course. They have been placed on 3-hour reserve at the Geisel Library. They have NOT been ordered for purchase. Students may choose between assignments for each section of the course.

Duus, Peter. The Rise of Modern Japan. Houghton Mifflin Co. 1976. (hereafter *RMJ*)  
Pyle, Kenneth. Making of Modern Japan. D.C. Heath and Co., 1996. (hereafter *MMJ*)

## **Lecture Schedule**

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### **Week 1**

9/23 Course Introduction

### **Part One: Opening the Country, Imagining the Nation**

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**Historical Overview:** MMJ 1-77 or RMJ 25-119

### **Week 2**

9/28 Between Lord and Peasant: The Tokugawa Period (1600-1868)

**Reading:** Fukutake Tadashi, Japanese Rural Society, translator's introduction and chapter 1,\*\* George Wilson, "Plotting Bakumatsu History," in Patriots and Redeemers\*\*

9/30 The Meiji Restoration

Reading: Thomas C. Smith, "The Aristocratic Revolution," in Native Sources of Japanese Industrialization\*\* "The Charter Oath," "The "Abolition of Feudalism and the Centralization of the Meiji State," "Kido Takayoshi on the need for Constitutional Government," "Okubo Toshimichi's Reasons for Opposing the Korea Expedition," "Comments from the Imperial Progress" in Wm. Theodore De Bary, et al, ed., Sources of Japanese Tradition (hereafter SJT),\*\* pp. 671-72, 674-76, 679, 684-88,691

**Note: Begin reading Kokoro**

### **Week 3**

10/05 Meiji and its Discontents

**Reading:** Mikiso Hane, "Modernization and the Peasants," in Peasants, Rebels, Women and Outcastes,\*\* Itagaki Taisuke, "On Liberty," in SJT\*\* , pp. 735-36

10/07 The Meiji Enlightenment

**Reading:** "Fukuzawa Yukichi's View of Civilization," Fukuzawa Yukichi and Education," in SJT\*\* , pp. 698-707, 760-64

### **Part Two: Imperial Japan, Japanese Imperialism**

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**Historical Overview:** MMJ 97-154 RMJ 120-172

### **Week 4**

10/12 Foundations of the Meiji State

Reading: Ito Hirobumi, "Reminiscences of the Drafting of the New Consitution," "The Imperial Rescript on Education," in SJT\*\* , pp. 740-41, 779-782 and Sharon Nolte and Sally Hastings, "The Meiji State's Policy Towards Women," in Gail Lee Bernstein, ed., Recreating Japanese Women, 1600-1945 (hereafter RJW)

10/14 Wars of Empire

**Reading:** Uchimura Kanzo, "Justification of the War in Corea,"\*\* (to be posted)

### **Week 5**

10/19 Japanese Imperialism

**Reading:** Hyman Kublin, "The Evolution of Japanese Colonialism,"\*\* Peter Duus, "Defining the Koreans," in Abacus and the Sword\*\*

10/21 Imperial Japan and its Limits

**Reading:** Jay Rubin, "Soseki on Individualism" and Natsume Soseki, "My Individualism,"\*\* Laurel Rasplica Rodd, "The Taisho Debate over the New Women..." in RJW

**Note: Finish reading Kokoro**

### **Part Three: Interwar Japan**

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**Historical Overview:** MMJ 159-181, RMJ 173-205

### **Week 6**

10/26 MIDTERM EXAMINATION

10/28 Taishō Japan and the Great War

**Reading:** Yoshino Sakuzō, "Democracy as Minponshugi,"" Ishibashi Tanzan, "Before Demanding the Abolition of Racial Discrimination," Konoe Fumimaro, "Against a Pacifism," in SJT,\*\* pp. 837-45

Note: Begin reading John Dower, Embracing Defeat

### **Week 7**

11/02 Internationalization and its Limits

**Reading:** "Peaceful Cooperation Abroad,"" Kaneko Fumiko, "What Made Me Do What I Did?," Kawakami Hajime, selections, , in SJT,\*\* pp.886-889, 915-926, Margit Nagy, "Middle-Class Working Women during the Interwar Years," and Miriam Silverberg, "The Modern Girl as Militant," in RJW

11/04 Crisis and Mobilization

**Reading:** "The Tenko Phenomenon," SJT,\*\* Yoshiko Miyake, "Doubling Expectations..." in RJW

## **Part Four: The Asia-Pacific War and its Aftermath**

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**Historical Overview:** MMJ, 181-226 RMJ, 206-54

### **Week 8**

11/09 The War in China

**Reading:** "The Way of Subjects," in SJT, 998-1002 Louise Young, "Colonizing Manchuria" in Mirror of Modernity\*\*

11/11 Veteran's Day- No Class

### **Week 9**

11/16 The Pacific War

**Reading:** James Morley, "A New Deal for Japan" in Modern East Asia: Essays in Interpretation\*\*

11/18 1945

**Reading:** Maruyama Masao, "Theory and Psychology of Ultrnationalism" in Thought and Behavior in Modern Japanese Politics\*\*

### **Week 10**

11/23 The U.S. Occupation

**Reading:** "The New Constitution" in SJT, pp.1031-36

11/25 Thanksgiving- No Class

### **Week 11**

11/30 Legacies of the Occupation

12/02 Final Review

**Final papers due in class on 12/02**

### **Academic Honesty**

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**Plagiarism** is a serious offense and will be treated as such in this course. The History Department's statement on plagiarism explains, the "most obvious form of plagiarism is the verbatim copying of words, sentences, paragraphs or entire sections or chapter without quotation and proper attribution... You must use quotation marks even if you only borrow several words in sequence from a source." Students should reference the History Department's statement on plagiarism at:

<http://historyweb.ucsd.edu/pages/undergraduate/Current/plagiarism.htm>

Any questions concerning plagiarism and academic honesty should be addressed before assignments are submitted.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

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- **Midterm Examination**– 30 percent of overall grade

A midterm examination for this course will be given in class on October 26 and will cover Parts 1 and 2 of the course syllabus.

- **Final Paper**–30 percent of overall grade

Students of this course will have the opportunity to read Embracing Defeat, John Dower's classic treatment of the Japanese experience of the U.S Occupation, in its entirety and write a final paper on one of the themes it addresses. A list of possible paper topics will be circulated after the midterm examination.

- **Final Examination** – 40 percent of overall grade

The final examination will be administered on December 9, 8:00 am-11:00 am, and will cover the entire course, but with particular emphasis on Parts 3 and 4 . Location TBA.

Electronic Course Reserves Key (In General Order of Appearance)

Fukutake Tadashi, Japanese Rural Society, trans. R. P. Dore (Cornell University Press, 1972), translator's introduction and chapter 1

George Wilson, "Plotting Bakumatsu History," in id., Patriots and Redeemers in Japan: Motives in the Meiji Restoration (University of Chicago Press, 1992),

Thomas C. Smith, "The Aristocratic Revolution," and "The Right to Benevolence: Dignity and Japanese Workers, 1890-1920," in id., Native Sources of Japanese Industrialization (University of California Press, 1988).

Wm. Theodore de Bary et al., comps., Sources of Japanese Tradition, 2nd ed., vol. 2, unabridged, part 2 (Columbia University Press, 2006), pp. 671-72, 674-76, 678-79, 685-88, 691, 698-707, 735-36, 740-42, 760-64, 779-82, 835-45, 868-71, 886-89, 896-902, 915-20, 921-26, 940-45, 984-86, 998-1002, 1029-36

Mikiso Hane, "Peasants and Modernization," in id., Peasants, Rebels, Women and Outcasts: The Underside of Modern Japan, (Rowman & Littlefield, 2003)

Hyman Kublin, "The Evolution of Japanese Colonialism," Comparative Studies in Society and History II no. 1 (October 1959): 67-84. (Available on JSTOR)

Peter Duus, "Defining the Koreans," chap. 11 of id., The Abacus and the Sword: The Japanese Penetration of Korea, 1895-1910 (University of California Press, 1998),

Jay Rubin, "Soseki on Individualism" and Natsume Soseki, "My Individualism," Monumenta Nipponica 34, no. 1 (Spring 1979) (Available on JSTOR).

Louise Young, "Colonizing Manchuria," in Mirror of Modernity: Invented Traditions of Modern Japan (University of California Press, 1998)

James Morley, "A New Deal for Japan" in Morley ed., Modern East Asia: Essays in Interpretation (Harcourt, Brace & World, 1970)

Maruyama Masao, "Theory and Psychology of Ultrnationalism," in id., Thought and Behaviour in Modern Japanese Politics (Oxford University Press, 1969)