



COURSE OUTLINE

JPN212 About Japan: Current Perspectives

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2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

'About Japan' aims to introduce students to the study of Japan. It is designed for those students with an interest in Japan, either through their language studies or other disciplinary interest. The course will be taught in English, however use of Japanese-language material is encouraged. The course considers approaches to the study of Japan, historical and political influences, socio-cultural issues and Japan in the international domain. Topics include changing family and societal dynamics, language and culture, Japan's popular culture and its international scope, political institutions, the workplace and education.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – In-class tutorial	2hrs	Week 2	12 times
Lecture – 1 hour online lecture content for 12 weeks (or equivalent).	1hr	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

- Japanese identity and social concepts
- Social problems (e.g., hikikomori)
- Ageing society, syoshika (declining birth rate),
- Japanese business practices
- Family
- Minorities
- Gender issues
- Pop culture, otaku
- Religion
- Education
- Culture

2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Understand competing interpretations of contemporary Japanese society.	Creative and critical thinker
2 Evaluate popular (mis)conceptions of Japanese society.	Knowledgeable
3 Respect alternate views of Japanese society and culture.	Creative and critical thinker
4 Communicate cross-cultural concepts with clarity and reason.	Engaged
5 Demonstrate sound written skills in bringing together complex ideas from a broad range of sources in a cohesive and concise manner.	Knowledgeable

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Any 2 courses or enrolled in Program AR505, AR605

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

INT272

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

Early feedback will be provided on Journal by tutors.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Journal	Individual	35%	Based on topic. See Blackboard for details.	Refer to Format	In Class
All	2	Essay	Individual	30%	2000 words	Week 13	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Oral	Individual and Group	35%	10-15 mins	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	In Class

All - Assessment Task 1: Tutorial Journal

GOAL:	The tutorial and research journal aims you to reflect on tutorial content, discussion, and to provide you the venue for the topic research.		
PRODUCT:	Journal		
FORMAT:	Submit: Weeks 4 and 10. Typed, A4 (other formats in consultation with Course Coordinator). It includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparation, research, and discussion on weekly topic - Responses to weekly questions - Reflection on the lecture and tutorial activities - Research information on your essay topic 		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	considered reflection on weekly topic	1 2 3
	2	Research and opinion on the weekly questions	1 3 4
	3	evidence of follow-up reading	5
	4	development of research proposals	5
	5	legible presentation	4 5

All - Assessment Task 2: Research Essay

GOAL:	The research essay aims to give you the opportunity to examine and analyse an aspect of the course in some depth
PRODUCT:	Essay
FORMAT:	Typed, A4 Minimum 1.5 line spacing Minimum 4 references

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Undertake substantive research on their chosen topic	1 5
	2 Ability to use supporting evidence and resources appropriately	5
	3 Ability to present arguments in a clear and concise manner;	1 3 5
	4 Ability to structure ideas clearly and logically	
	5 Demonstrate ability to synthesise the course's key concepts with current issues in the contemporary study of Japan.	2 3 4

All - Assessment Task 3: Tutorial presentation, leading discussion, and participation

GOAL:	The purpose of this task is for you to be involved in the course contents with some depth. For the tutorial presentation, you will present key aspects of the topic and provide a critical review of the topic and an associate reading. It will form a work-in-progress of your essay.	
PRODUCT:	Oral	
FORMAT:	You are required to give a 10+15 minutes tutorial presentation. Each presenter will then lead the ensuing discussion by raising questions to be addressed by the tutorial group. Weekly questions to be read and answered before the tutorial and recorded on your journal. We may open a social network account to encourage discussion.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1 Clear identification of the topic;	1 2
	2 Ability to present clearly and convey key points;	4
	3 Logical and coherent argument supported by academic evidence;	1 3
	4 The presenter's role in facilitating the group discussion;	
	5 Effective use of aids such as images, PowerPoint, graphs or sound files;	
	6 Active involvement in the classroom discussion	3

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au