

# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Introduction to Premodern Japanese History and Culture - 46105*

*Last update 31-08-2023*

*HU Credits: 4*

*Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)*

*Responsible Department: Asian Studies*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. DAN SHERER*

*Coordinator Email: [Dan.Sherer@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:Dan.Sherer@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, 13:30-15:30*

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Teaching Staff:

Dr. DAN SHERER

Course/Module description:

This course is a survey of premodern Japanese history and culture, from pre-history to the Meiji Restoration of 1868. Students will learn the broad outlines of Japanese history and also see the sorts of primary sources used to explore Japan's history. The class will largely be organized chronologically, but each lecture will also have a thematic focus.

Course/Module aims:

To introduce the history and culture of traditional Japan

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

To describe the broad outlines of Premodern Japanese History.  
To recognize the key genres and works of art and literature from Premodern Japan.  
To break down the broad social and political changes in Premodern Japan as well as the changes which led to modern Japan.  
To determine how Premodern Japan related to China, Korea, other Asian countries, and Europe.

Attendance requirements(%):

Attendance mandatory, 80%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Primarily lectures along with the use of videos and movies.

Course/Module Content:

Part 1 The Setting Pre-History, and Proto-History היסטורית-הפרה יפן: התחלה  
1) 16/10 Introduction to the Course, the Geography of Japan, and the Jomon and Yayoi Eras מבווארס, לקורס של הגאוגרפיה, ויאייו ומון'ג ותקופות יפן

2) 19/10 Yayoi to Kofun and Himiko ויהימיקו קופון, יאייו

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Barnes, "The Emergence of Political Rulership and the State in Early Japan"

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From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:  
"Japan in the Chinese Dynastic Histories"

Part 2 The Creation of a Chinese Style State סיני בסגנון מדינה היווצרות

3) 23/10 Yamato to Japan ליפן מיאמאטו

בוחן ראשון

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Fuqua, "Centralization and State Formation in Sixth- and Seventh-Century Japan"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Internal Strife in the Late Sixth Century"

4) 26/10 The Rise of the Ritsuryō System הריצוריו מערכת היווצרות

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Piggott, "Defining 'Ancient' and 'Classical'"

Batten, "Early Japan and the Continent"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Chinese-Style History and the Imperial Concept"

"The Reform Era"

Part 3 the Nara Period, 710 – 794 נארה תקופת 710-794

5) 30/10 The Nara Capital

הבירה בנארה

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Bender, "Emperor, Aristocracy, and the Ritsuryō State"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Chinese-Style History and the Imperial Concept"

6) 2/11 Nara Culture, History and Buddhism בנארה ובודהיזם היסטוריה, תרבות

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Teeuwen, "What Used to Be Called Shinto"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Buddhism and the State in Nara Japan"

"Legends Concerning Shinto Deities"

Part 4 The Early Heian Period, 794 – 1068 תקופת הייאן 794-1068

7) 6/11 From strong emperors to the Fujiwara יווארה'פוג לבית חזקים מקיסרים

בוחן שני

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Adolphson, "Oligarchy, Shared Rulership, and Power Blocks"

8) 9/11 The Lives of the Nobility and Heian Culture הייאן בתקופת ותרבות האצולה

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לא יתקיים שיעור היום, ההרצה תהיה זמינה במוודל.

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Borgen, "The Canons of Courtly Taste"

ממבחר הסיפור היפני:

"יוגאו: פרק מתוך סיפורי גנג'י"

"פנקס הכר של סיי שונאגון"

9) 13/11 The Provinces and Buddhism המחוזות ובודהיזם

Part 5 The Late Heian Period, 1068 - 1185 המאוחרת הייאן 1068-1185 תקופת -

10) 16/11 Shoen and Insei ואינסיי שואן

בוחן שלישי

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Segal, "The Shōen System"

11) 20/11 The Rise of the Warrior הלוחמים עליית

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Segal, "The Shōen System"

Friday, "The Dawn of the Samurai"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Taira and Minamoto"

12) 23/11 Taira no Kiyomori and the Gempei War גמפיי ומלחמת קיומורי טאירה

ממבחר הסיפור היפני:

"מסיפורי הייקה"

"דין וחשבון על צריפי"

Part 6 The Kamakura Period, 1185 - 1333 קאמאקורה 1185-1333 תקופת -

13) 27/11 The Rise of the Kamakura Bakufu קמאקורה של הבאקופו עליית

בוחן רביעי

From Japan Emerging:

Goble, "The Kamakura Shogunate and the Beginnings of Warrior Power"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"The Jōei Code"

14) 30/11 Kamakura Religion and the Mongol Invasion המונגולים ופלישת בקאמאקורה דת

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Bodiford, "Medieval Religion"

Selections from In Little Need of Divine Intervention

<http://digital.princeton.edu/mongol-invasions/>

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15) 4/12 *The Fall of the Kamakura Shogunate and the Northern and Southern Courts* נפילת שוגונאט ודרומית הצפונית החצר והתפצלות קאמאקורה שוגונאט

בוחן חמישי

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Segal, "Kamakura and the Challenges of Governance"

Goble, "Go-Daigō, Takauji, and the Muromachi Shogunate."

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Chronicle of Great Peace (Taiheiki): The Loyalist Heroes"

"Kitabatake Chikafusa and the Southern Court"

Part 7 The Muromachi Period, 1336 - 1573 תקופת י'מורומאצ 1336-1573

16) 7/12 *Ashikaga Yoshimitsu and the Peak of the Shogunate* ושיא יושימיצו אשיקאגה השוגונאט

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Chance, "Medieval Arts and Aesthetics"

Segal, "The Medieval Economy"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Zeami: Entering the Realm of Yūgen"

"Connecting the Arts Through One Intensity of Mind"

"The Nine Stages of the Nō in Order"

"The True Path to the Flower (Shikadōsho)"

17) 18/12 *Ashikaga Yoshimasa and the Decline of the Shogunate* יושימאסה אשיקאגה וסירוב השוגונאט

18) 21/12 *The Sengoku Period* סנגוקו תקופת

בוחן שישי

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Eason, "Warriors, Warlords, and Domains"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"The Law of the Warrior Houses in the Age of War in the Provinces"

19) 28/12 *The Unifiers: Nobunaga and Hideyoshi* והידיושי נובונאגה: המאחדים

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Butler, "The Sixteenth-Century Reunification"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V1:

"Oda Nobunaga"

"The Articles of 1570"

"The Disarmament of the Populace"

"Restrictions on Change of Status"

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Part 8 The Edo Period, 1603 – 1867 תקופת אדו 1603-1867

20) 1/1 The Early Tokugawa Period תחילת תקופת טוקוגאווה

Readings:

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V2:

"Ieyasu and the Founding of the Tokugawa Shogunate"

21) 4/1 Edo Japan: The Warriors הלוחמים: אדו

בוחן שביעי

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Gainty, "The New Warriors"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V2:

"The Debate over the Akō Vendetta"

22) 8/1 Edo Japan: Peasants and Townsfolk ותושבים איכרים: אדו

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Walthall, "Peace Dividend"

Howell, "Urbanization, Trade, and Merchants"

23) 11/1 Edo Thought and Popular Culture. פופולרית ותרבות באדו מחשבות.

Readings:

From Japan Emerging:

Chance, "Ukiyo asobi"

Rubinger, "Thought, Education, and Popular Literacies in Early Modern Japan"

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V2:

"The Teachings of Zhu Xi Brought to Japan"

"Hayashi Razan"

ממבחר הסיפור היפני:

"עושה לוחות השנה"

"הדרך הצרה לאוקו"

24) 15/1 Rangaku and the Return of the West המערב וחזרת הולנד לימודי

בוחן שמיני

Readings:

From Sources of Japanese Tradition V2:

"Dutch Learning"

"The Debate over Seclusion and Restoration"

25) 18/1 The Black Ships and the Bakumatsu והבאקומאטסו השוחרות הספינות

Required Reading:

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*Required Books:*

*Our main textbook will be Japan Emerging, edited by Karl Friday. The books that we will use in this course are:*

*Wm. Theodore de Bary et al., Sources of Japanese Tradition Volume 1*

*Wm. Theodore de Bary et al., Sources of Japanese Tradition Volume 2*

*Karl Friday, Japan Emerging: Premodern History to 1850*

*Additional Reading Material:*

*See Moodle2.*

*Grading Scheme:*

*Written / Oral / Practical Exam 60 %*

*Active Participation / Team Assignment 5 %*

*Mid-terms exams 35 %*

*Additional information:*

*Changes may occur in the final reading list and order of classes.*

*For the final list, please refer to the moodle2 platform.*