

# *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

## *Syllabus*

### *Culture and Society in modern Japan - 49663*

*Last update 15-09-2020*

*HU Credits: 2*

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

*Responsible Department: Enrichment Program for High School students*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Helena Grinshpun*

*Coordinator Email: [helena.grinshpun@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:helena.grinshpun@mail.huji.ac.il)*

*Coordinator Office Hours:*

*Teaching Staff:*

---

Course/Module description:

*The course will focus on social and cultural issues related to gender, consumption, and identity in contemporary Japan. In order to explore the links between these, we will focus on two domains: the private sphere of the family and the public sphere of consumption.*

Course/Module aims:

*The aim of the course is to provide an anthropological perspective on the issues of gender and their expressions in the private and public spheres in contemporary Japan.*

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

*The students will learn on the less familiar aspects of Japanese society and obtain new perspectives on the norms and values which shape the social and cultural expressions of gender relations.*

Attendance requirements(%):

100

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Each class consists of an introductory lecture by the teacher, followed by discussion based on the relevantEach student is required to give an oral presentation on the topic that she/he chooses for the final paper.*

Course/Module Content:

- 1. The anthropological research on Japan: trends and controversies*
- 2. Consumption and identity - theoretical overview*
- 3. Women in the private sphere: the ideal of "Good Wife, Wise MOther", motherhood and labor division in the family; body, food, and gender*
- 4. Women in the public sphere: public policy, social participation, employment, media and language, consumption practices, women as a social "other"*
- 5. Men and masculinity*

Required Reading:

*Sharon Zukin and Jennifer Smith Maguire (2004), Consumers and Consumption, Annual Review of Sociology, Vol. 30, pp. 173-197*

---

Katarzyna Cwiertka and Ewa Machotka (2017), Introduction, in *Consuming Life in Post-Bubble Japan*, pp. 15-27

3. נשים בחברה יפנית- מבט היסטורי  
Robert Smith (1981), "Japanese Village Women- Suye Mura", *Journal of Japanese Studies*, vol. 7, pp. 259-284

Tomoko Yoda (2000), "The Rise and Fall of Maternal Society", *The South Atlantic Quaterly*, vol. 99, pp. 865-902

4. נשים בפנים ובחוץ  
משפחתיות וביתיות

Ofra Goldstein-Gidoni (2012), "The New Happy Housewife of Post-bubble Japan, Housewives of Japan", pp. 147-184 /// *Consuming Domesticity in Post-Bubble Japan* (2017), in Cwiertka & Machotka (eds), *Consuming Life in Post Bubble Japan*, pp. 107-128

מזון ובישול:

Klara Seddon (2012), "Bento blogs: Japanese Women's Expression in Digital Food Culture", *Women & Performance: A Journal of Feminist Theory*, vol. 21:3, pp. 301-319

Aiko Kojima (2011), "Responsibility or Right to Eat Well: The Food Education Campaign in Japan", *Japan SJEAA*, pp. 48-63

נשים מחוץ לבית : מגדר ומודרניזציה  
Sally Hastings (2011), "A Dinner Party is Not a Revolution", in *Manners and Mischief*, pp. 95-109

Miriam Silverber (2003), "The Modern Girl as Militant" in *Erotic Grotesque Nonsense: The Mass Culture of Japanese Modern Times*, pp. 51-72

נשים בתקופת המלחמה:  
Sheldon Garon (2000), *Luxury is the Enemy: Mobilizing Savings and Popularizing Thrift in Wartime Japan*, *Journal of Japanese Studies*, vol. 26:1, pp. 41-78

Andrew Gordon (2007), "Consumption, Leisure and the Middle Class in Transwar Japan", in *Social Science Japan Journal*, pp. 1-21

התנדבות ודת:  
Lynne Nakano (2000), "Volunteering as a Lifestyle Choice: Negotiating Self-

---

*Identities in Japan*", *Ethnology*, vol. 39, pp. 93-107

Elizabeth Harrison and Igeta Midori (1995), "Women's Responses to Child Loss in Japan: The Case of "Mizuko Kuyō", *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, vol. 11:2, pp. 67-100.

5. ייצוג מגדרי בספרות ותקשורת:

Keiron Bailey (2007), "Akogare, Ideology, and 'Charisma Man' Mythology: Reflections on Ethnographic Research in English Language Schools in Japan", *Gender, Place & Culture: A Journal of Feminist Geography*, vol. 14:5, 585-608

Akiko Uchiyama (2014), "Akage no An in Japanese Girl Culture: Muraoka Hanako's translation of *Anne of Green Gables*", *Japan Forum*, vol. 26:2, pp. 209-223

Barbara Hartley (2008), "Performing the Nation: Magazine Images of Women and Girls in the Illustrations of Takabatake Kashō, 1925-1937", *Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific*, Issue 16.

6. נשים ופוליטיקות גוף

אמהות ופריון:

Amanda Seaman (2011), "Making and Marketing Mothers", in *Manners and Mischief*, pp. 156-177

דיאטות והרזייה:

Kathleen Pike and Amy Borovoy (2004), "The Rise of Eating Disorders in Japan: Issues of Culture", *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry*, vol. 28, pp. 493-531

Laura Spiegelvogel (2010), "Selfishly Skinny or Selflessly Starving", in *Working out in Japan*, pp. 174-205.

מיניות ותעשיית מין:

Ian Bardsley (2012), "The New Woman Meets the Geisha: The Politics of Pleasure in 1910's Japan", *Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific*, Issue 29.

Elise Tipton (2005), "Sex in the City: Chastity vs. free love in interwar Japan", *Intersections: Gender, History and Culture in the Asian Context*, Issue 11

Kaoru Aoyama (2015), "The Sex Industry in Japan: The Danger of Invisibility", *Routledge Handbook of Sexuality Studies in East Asia*, pp. 281-194

7. נשים "רעות":

David Leheny (2006), "Whatever It Is, It's Bad, So Stop It", in *Think Global, Fear*

---

*Local: Sex, Violence and Anxiety in Contemporary Japan, pp. 49-84*

*Jan Bardsley and Hiroko Hirakawa (2005), "Branded: Bad Girls Go Shopping", in Bad Girls of Japan, pp. 111-127*

8. גברים וגבריות:

*Romit Dasgupta (2010), "Globalization and the Bodily Performance of "Cool" and "Un-cool" Masculinities in Corporate Japan, Intersections: Gender and Sexuality in Asia and the Pacific, Issue 23.*

*Yumiko Iida (2005), "Beyond the 'Feminization of Masculinity': Transforming Patriarchy with the 'feminine' in contemporary Japanese youth culture", Inter-Asia Cultural Studies, vol. 6:1, 56-74*

*Emma Cook (2013), "Expectations of Failure: Maturity and Masculinity for Freeters in Contemporary Japan", Social Science Japan Journal, vol. 16:1, pp 29-43.*

*Kenichi Kumagai (2012), "Herbivorous Boy, Otaku, or Petit-Nationalist? Floating Japanese Men, Masculinity and National Integrity", Cool New Asia, pp. 71-82*

*Sabine Fruhstuck and Anne Walthall (2011), Recreating Japanese Men, University of California Press*

### Additional Reading Material:

#### Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 20 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 80 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

### Additional information: