

< 科目名 Subject > Japanese Society A

< 担当者 Instructors > Geoffrey Gunn

< 授業の到達目標及びテーマ Class Theme >

< 授業の概要 Summary >

Taking a more contemporary approach to Japanese society, this course reference such topics as identity, gender, family, class, status, social organization, work, education, minorities, and current politics. But as an example of what sociologists call a post-modern society, we cannot ignore such issues as leisure, cinema, anime, youth culture, divorce, dysfunctional elements, new religions, etc.

< 授業計画 Class Plan >

While we allow the uniqueness of Japanese culture, language and other specific practices (such as celebrated by the *nihonjinron* school), we are also cognizant as students of society to look for the universals. In fact, as will become apparent in this course, the tension besetting opposing schools of thought within the community of Japan specialists offers a guide or way through some of the new literature on Japanese culture, society and politics.

< 評価方法 Evaluation >

Evaluation will be based primarily on a written project due during the term.

< テキスト Textbooks >

The key text used in this course is Sugimoto Yoshio, *An Introduction to Japanese Society*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, Second Edition 2003 (reprint 2004). (c. Yen 4,500)