Asia 190: Travel Study in Asia

January 6-18, 2020: Matsuyama Japan

January 19-27: Sacramento

Course Dates: January 3-26, 2020

NOTE: THIS IS NOT THE FINAL SYLLABUS

# General Information

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# Catalog Description

Asia 190: A faculty-led study abroad course to Asia. Students will learn about an Asian country by experiencing it both in a classroom setting and through field trips to local sites.

# Course Description

Students will learn about *Botchan*, a short, semi-autobiographical novel by Natsume Soseki that is set in Matsuyama. Soseki was Japan’s first great writer in the modern era. (To give an idea of his importance and revere in Japanese history, he used to be on their paper currency). Students will also read about, watch a film about, and visit Hiroshima, the first city to be bombed by a nuclear weapon. Students will learn about *kamishibai*, paper plays, the most popular form of entertainment in Japan in the 1930s and 1950s, through lecture and demonstration. Students will also take part in walking a brief (12-15k) section of the 1200-year old Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage. They will learn about the history of the pilgrimage and its place in Japanese society today, while also participating in the pilgrim rituals at several temples. In short, this course will allow students to learn about and experience a number of different aspects of Japanese history.

# Course Objectives

1. Students will reflect critically on the world and themselves as global citizens while immersed in an Asian environment.

2. Students will develop new perspectives of their own culture while examining Asian cultural perspectives.

3. Students will engage and think critically about Asian culture and history, which in turn will lead them to reflect and think critically about their own values, beliefs, and goals.

4. Students will develop life skills of adaptability, problem-solving, and self-reliance in order to manage the challenges of life in a different culture.

# Required Texts

Natsume Soseki. *Botchan*.

Nakazawa Keiji. *Barefoot Gen*, vols., 1&2.

# Requirements and Grading Rubric

Your grade for this course will be assessed based on your: 1. Active and Engaged Participation; 2. Two Book Quizzes; 3. PechaKucha Presenation; and 4. Final Assignment. These will be weighed in the following manner:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Active and Engaged Participation (ELO 1, 2, 3, 4) | 40% |
| Book Quizzes (ELO 2) | 20% |
| PechaKucha Presentation (ELO 1, 2, 3, 4) | 20% |
| Final Assignment (ELO 2, 3) | 20% |

A = 93-100% A- = 90-92%

B+ = 87-89% B = 83-86% B- = 80-82%

C+ = 77-79% C = 73-76% C- = 70-72%

D+ = 67-69% D = 63-66% D- = 60-62%

F less than 59%

# Active and Engaged Participation

Everyone is expected to participate in an engaged fashion in all of the scheduled activities. What does that mean? For starters that means, showing up to meetings, lectures, events, field trip departures, etc., on time and ready to go. It means being attentive and asking questions. It means that when someone is talking about something you are not tuned out with earbuds/headphones on, or playing games on your phone. You must be respectful to all of your fellow participants and everyone we encounter during our studies. You represent Sacramento State, so represent it well. Whatever you do in your free time, do in a safe and respectful manner.

I will provide you with periodic Participation Grades that I will post on Canvas to let you know how you are doing.

# Reading Quizzes

There will be two reading quizzes for this course, one for each book we read. Please read the books by the assigned class time listed below. The quizzes are to see if you have read the book, so please read the books.

# PechaKucha Presentation

Near the end of the trip everyone will give a PechaKucha talk reflecting on what they have learned about Japan and about themselves on the trip. PechaKucha talks are meant to be short, informative, and entertaining talks. They are in a “20X20” format, meaning 20 slides show for 20 seconds each. The slides advance automatically. Thus, each talk is 6 minutes and 40 seconds exactly. Thus, you will want to be taking pictures along the way that you can perhaps incorporate into your talk. You are also going to want to prepare and practice your talk. The more polished your PechaKucha the stronger it will be.

# Final Assignment

By midnight of Sunday, January 26, 2020, roughly one week after your return to Sacramento, You must submit your final assignment, which can take one of three forms. 1. A 1,000-1,500 word essay. 2. An 8-page manga. 3. A 5-minute documentary video. The assignment must focus on one of the academic items of Japanese history or culture or society that we studied on the tour. You must get your topic and the format you wish to submit your final project in approved by me. I recommend getting started on the project before we even depart for Japan.

# Academic Honesty

This course follows the CSUS Academic Honesty policy. If you are not familiar with California State University, Sacramento’s Policies and Procedures Regarding Academic Honesty, please read them.

In short, **CHEATING OR PLAGIARISM** will not be tolerated and may result in failure of the course and possible referral for academic discipline. I expect your book critiques to be your own work. If they are not, beware!

# Students With Disabilities

If you have a disability and require accommodations, you need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008, (916) 278-6955. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class or during my office hours before we leave.

# Flights to Japan

Students are responsible for booking their own flights to Japan. Students may go over earlier if they want. We ask that if you are flying into Matsuyama that you try and arrive between 3:00-5:00 pm. If you are taking a bus or train that you try and arrive between 1:00-2:00 pm.

## Tentative schedule subject to change.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Day | Dates | Activity | Nights |
| 1 | January 5  Sun | Leave for Japan |  |
| 2 | January 6  Mon | Arrive Matsuyama, transfer to Share house | Share House |
| 3 | January 7  Tues | • Program orientation, campus tour, get bicycles  • Lunch  • Matsuyama castle (Afternoon)  • Welcome dinner/nabe party with English Speaking Society (ESS) students  • Make Origami Cranes @ dinner??? | Share House |
| 4 | January 8  Wed | • Japanese Language Lecture  • Homestay Prep and Manners  • Lecture on Ohenro  • Make Origami Cranes  • Watch *In This Corner of the World* with Ehime students followed by discussion of film between students. | Share House |
| 5 | January 9  Thur | • Walking the Shikoku 88 Temple Pilgrimage,  Temples 46 to 51, about 12km  Full day with stop for lunch | Share House |
| 6 | January 10  Fri | • Class discussion and **Book Quiz** on *Barefoot Gen* vols. 1&2  • Visit the town of Uchiko  Paper making  Kabuki theatre | Share House |
| 7 | January 11  Sat | (From afternoon) | Home stay or Home visit |
| 8 | January 12  Sun | • Home stay  • Participate in Seijin-shiki | Home stay or Home visit |
| 9 | January 13  Mon | • Home stay | Share House |
| 10 | January 14  Tues | • Hiroshima/Miyajima Tour | Share House |
| 11 | January 15  Wed | • Free Time  • History of Kamishibai and discussion of it with Ehime students. | Share House |
| 12 | January 16  Thurs | • Book Quiz on *Botchan*.  Botchan walking tour  Dogo Onsen  • Tea Ceremony  • Visit Anime/Manga store in Matsuyama | Share House |
| 13 | January 17  Fri | • Presentation Prep  • PechaKucha Presenations | Share House |
| 14 | January 18  Sat | • Depart for Sacramento  • Arrive Sacramento |  |
| 22 | January 26  Sun | **Final Assignment must be submitted on Canvas by 11:59 pm Sunday, January, 26, 2020.** |  |