

Minorities and Sexualities in Modern Japan

Anthropology/WGS 50-03

Course Schedule: MWF 9:40 am ~ 10:40 am
Classroom: Carnegie 204
Course WWW: <http://www.deaflibrary.org/nakamura>
Course e-mail: anth50-03@macalester.edu

Professor: Karen Nakamura
Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 3:00 – 4:00
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Course Description:

Japan imagines itself as a homogeneous nation. Not only does it have its own citizens convinced of this charade, but most of the world as well. In 1980, the government even submitted a report to the UN stating that there were no ethnic, linguistic, or religious minorities in Japan. This of course, conveniently overlooked the resident Korean community, former outcaste *Burakumin*, aboriginal *Ainu*, nascent gay and lesbian activists, among others. Building pressure for many decades, minority politics have burst on the scene in the past several years, shattering the seemingly calm veneer of Japanese society.

This course examines minority politics in Japan from two related perspectives. The first, asks a structural question: What historical, social, or cultural constraints have led to the particular social protest forms and types of minority identity we see in Japan today? The second, comparative frame is more introspective: How does exploring the Japanese case help us to understand identity politics in the U.S. as being the result of similar but differing factors? We will be borrowing from contemporary sociological, linguistic, and anthropological theory in order to answer these questions, and others that will arise in the course of our investigations.

Course Requirements:

Anthro 11 or Asia Studies 11. You can either approach it as an Anthropology/Sociology course on identity politics and modern social movement theory; or as an Asian studies course on the modern history of Japan. Grading will be based on class participation, attendance at film showings and guest lectures, and a final term paper which will require outside research on your part.

Assignments and Grading:

Course participation: As a member of a small seminar group, you will be expected to participate fully each week. That means doing the readings and coming to class prepared to discuss the material. You certainly aren't expected to have any answers or come to any earthshattering conclusions, but the material should be bringing up questions and creating links and networks of queries in your mind to other topics.

Discussion Leadership: Two seminar members will lead weekly discussions of the course material every Monday. Basically, I will expect a short (approx. 5 minute) presentation of the material followed by a series of questions that can bring out discussion of the material. *Don't just summarize the readings!*

Class Presentation: Every Wednesday, we will have two short (< 10 minute) presentations on special topics related to the course. These should be treated as miniature research projects. You will be required to hand an outline with a bibliography (2-4 sources) of outside reading material with the presentation. For every web source used, I expect at least one "physical" source.

Position Papers: You will be assigned to write three short (5-7 page) position papers during the course of the semester. Details will be provided before they are due, but in general you will be expected to integrate the readings to formulate a cogent argument. No outside research is expected, although you are welcome to bring in external material.

Final Integrative Research Paper: At the end of the semester, you'll be expected to hand in a 15-20 page integrative research paper. *Integrative research* means that you will be expected to integrate knowledge that you learned in this class with outside library research. You are encouraged to look at your short position papers and use them as scaffolding in building your argument. A full bibliography is required.

Class Presentation Topics:

- September 18: First People's Movements
- September 25: Sayama Incident, Dowry Education
- October 2: Comfort Women, Unit 731
- October 9: Korean Nationalism
- October 16: Atomic bomb survivors, the Bomb in U.S. memory
- October 23: Migrant Workers in the World Economy, Hispanic Identity
- October 30: Queer Movements in Global Perspective
- November 6: The Image of the Gay Man in Contemporary America
- November 13: Arguing for Shôjo Existence in the U.S.

Grading:

Course Participation	20%
- including presentations (5%)/discussion leadership(5%)	
Pop Quizzes	10%
Position Papers	30%
Final Integrative Research Paper	40%

Reading Schedule

Required Books (Available at Ruminator Bookstore):

- Denoon, Donald, and Gavan McCormack. *Multicultural Japan: palaeolithic to post-modern*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. 1996 . ISBN 052155067X \$25
- Ryang, Sonia. *North Koreans in Japan: language, ideology, and identity*. Boulder, CO: Westview. 1997. ISBN 0813330505 (pbk). 272 pages. \$26
- Weiner, Michael (ed.) *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. New York: Routledge. ISBN 0415152186. 256pp. \$25

Also buy one (1) of the following:

- Gill, Tom. *Men of uncertainty : the social organization of day laborers in contemporary Japan*. Albany: State University of New York Press. 2001 ISBN 0791448282.
- Fowler, Edward. *San'ya blues: laboring life in contemporary Tokyo*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press. ISBN 0801432472 (cloth alk. paper).

Introduction to Minorities in Japan

Week 1.3: September 4 (Wednesday)

- Hand out syllabi
- Course requirements and workload
- Q&A

Week 1.6: September 6(Friday): Introduction to Japan

- McCormack, Gavan. Introduction to *Multicultural Japan*. pp 1-18. **Required text.**
- Katayama, Kazumichi. The Japanese as an Asia-Pacific Population. In *Multicultural Japan*, pp 19-31. **Required text.**
- Weiner, Michael. Introduction to *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. New York: Routledge. ISBN 0415152186. 1997. Pp 1-16. **Required text.**

Nationalism and the Politics of Identity

Week 2.0: September 9

- Anderson, Benedict. Introduction to *Imagined communities: reflections on the origin and spread of nationalism*. London: Verso. ISBN 0-86091-546-8 (pbk). Pp1-7. 1991. **Reserve.** ✓
- Yoshino, Kosaku Culturalism, racialism, and internationalism in the discourse on Japanese identity. In *Making majorities: constituting the nation in Japan, Korea, China, Malaysia, Fiji, Turkey, and the United States*. D. C. Gladney, ed. pp. 13-30. Stanford: Stanford University Press. 1998. **To be handed out in class.**
- Toland, Judith D. Introduction: Dialog of the self and other: ethnicity and the statehood building process. In *Ethnicity and the state*. J. D. Toland, ed. New Brunswick: Transaction Publishers. pp. 1-20. 1993. **Reserve** ✓

Digging up the Nation's History: Archaeology as Nationalism

Week 2.3: September 11

Kaner, Simon. Beyond ethnicity and emergence in Japanese archaeology. In *Multicultural Japan*, pp 46-60. **Required text.**

Fawcett, Clare. Archaeology and Japanese identity. In *Multicultural Japan*, pp 60-80. **Required text.**

Morris-Suzuki, Tessa. A descent into the past. In *Multicultural Japan*, pp 81-95. **Required text.**

Week 2.6:

Film: Meiji

The 'Native' Japanese: Ainu

Week 3.0: September 16

Siddle, Richard. Ainu: Japan's indigenous people. In *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. M. Weiner, ed. pp. 17-49. New York: Routledge. 1997. **Required text.**

Suzuki, David and Keibo Oiwa. Chapter 5: The Original People. From *The Other Japan*. Pp 91-125. Golden CO: Fulcrum Publishing. 1999. **Reserve.**

Week 3.3: September 18

TBA

TBA

Presentation topic: Creating the First People's Movement

Week 3.6: September 20

In-class video: The Ainu Bear Ceremony (Insight Media)

Burakumin: Separate and Equal? Equal and Equal?

Week 4.0: September 23

Upham, Frank K. *Law and social change in postwar Japan*. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. 1987. Pp 78-123. **Reserve. ✓**

Reber, Emily. Buraku Mondai in Japan: Historical and Modern Perspectives and Directions for the Future. *Harvard Human Rights Journal* 12(Spring 1999). Pp 297-359. **Reserve. ✓**

Week 4.3: September 25

Neary, Ian. Burakumin in contemporary Japan. In *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. New York: Routledge. 1997. Pp 79-108. **Required text.**

Ooms, Herman. Status and state racism: from Kawata to Eta. Chapter 5 in *Tokugawa village practice : class, status, power, law*. Berkeley: University of California Press. 1996. Pp. 243-312. **Reserve. ✓**

Presentation topic: Sayama Incident, Dowa Education, etc.

Week 4.6: September 27

Film: Showa

The War, Koreans in Japan, and Linguistic Performativity

Week 5.0 September 30

Tsurushima, Setsure. Human rights issues and the status of Burakumin and Koreans in Japan.

In *Institutions for change in Japanese society*. G. A. DeVos, ed. Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies University of California. Pp 83-113. 1984. **Reserve.** ✓

Goto, Ken'ichi. Indonesia under the 'Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere.' In *Multicultural Japan*. pp 160-173. **Required text.**

Utsumi, Aiko. Japanese Army Internment Policies for Enemy Civilians. In *Multicultural Japan*. pp 174-213. **Required text.**

Week 5.3 October 2

Mihashi, Osamu The symbolism of social discrimination: a decoding of discriminatory language. *Current Anthropology* 28(4):S19-S29. 1987. **Reserve.**

Austin, J. L. *How to do things with words*. Boston: Harvard University Press. 1975. Pp. 1-24. **Reserve.**

Upham, Frank Unplaced persons and movements for place. In *Postwar Japan as history*. A. Gordon, ed. Berkeley: University of California Press. Pp. 325-346. 1993. **Reserve.**

Presentation topic: Comfort Women, Unit 731

Week 5.6: October 4

Film: Osaka Story Part I

Week 6.0 (October 7)

Position Paper #1 Due: Burakumin and Race

North Koreans in Japan

Weeks 6.0 – 7.0:

Ryang, Sonia. *North Koreans in Japan: language, ideology, and identity*. Boulder, CO: Westview. 1997. **Required text.**

6.0 (10/7): pp 1-50

6.3 (10/9): pp 51-136

Presentation: Korean Nationalism

6.6 (10/11): Osaka Story Part II

7.0 (10/14): pp 137-225

Representation and Colonial Memories

Week 7.3 : October 16

Weiner, Michael. The representation of absence and the absence of representation: Korean victims of the atomic bomb. In *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. New York: Routledge. ISBN 0415152186. 1997. Pp 79-108. **Required text.**

Yoneyama, Lisa. Chapter 5: Ethnic and Colonial Memories from *Hiroshima traces: time, space, and the dialectics of memory*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN 0520085868 (alk. paper). Pp 151-186. 1999. **Reserve.** ✓

Presentation topic: Atomic Bomb Survivors, The Bomb in the U.S. Memory

Week 7.6: October 18

Film: Doubles (59 min.)

Brazil Nikkeijin

Week 8.0: October 21

Sellek, Yoko. *Nikkeijin*: the phenomenon of return migration. In *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. M. Weiner, ed. pp. 178-210. New York: Routledge. 1997. **Required text.**

Tsuda, Takeyuki The permanence of 'temporary' migration: the 'structural embeddedness' of Japanese-Brazilian migrant workers in Japan. *Journal of Asian Studies* 58(3). 1999. **Reserve.** ✓

Week 8.3:

TBA

TBA

Presentation topic: Migrant Workers and the World Economy

Week 8.6:

Fall Break

Week 9.0

Position Paper #2 Due: Koreans, Nikkeijin, and foreigners, Oh my!

Male Sexuality and Poststructuralism

Week 9.0: October 28: More Theory

Calhoun, Craig. Introduction from *Social theory and the politics of identity*. Oxford: Blackwell. 1994. Pp 9-36. Reserve. ✓

Foucault, Michel. *The history of sexuality*. R. Hurley, transl. New York: Vintage Books. 1990. Pp 57-73. Reserve.

D'Emilio, John. Capitalism and gay identity. In *Powers of desire: The politics of sexuality*. A. Snitow, C. Stansell, and S. Thompson, eds. pp. 100-113. New York: Monthly Review Press. 1983. Reserve.

Week 9.3: October 30: Male Sexuality in Japan

McLelland, Mark. Chapter 1 of *Male Homosexuality in Modern Japan*. Reserve.

Gamson, Joshua. Must identity movements self destruct?: a queer dilemma. *Social Problems* 42(3):390-407. 1995. Reserve. ✓

Presentation topic: Queer Movements in Global Perspective

Week 9.6 : November 1

Movie: Okoge Part I

Week 10.0: November 4: History of Male Homosexuality

Pflugfelder, Gregory M. Introduction 1 from *Cartographies of desire: male-male sexuality in Japanese discourse 1600-1950*. Berkeley: University of California Press. ISBN 0-520-20909-5 (cloth). 1999. Reserve. ✓

McLelland, Mark. Chapter 3 of *Male Homosexuality in Modern Japan*. Reserve.

Week 10.3: November 6

Lunsing, Wim Marinus. Lesbian and gay movements: between hard and soft,. In *Soziale Bewegungen in Japan*. Vol. 128. C. Derichs and A. Osiandereds. pp. 279-310. Hamburg: Gesellschaft für natur- und Volkerkunde Ostasiens e. V.; ISBN 3928463632. 1998. Reserve. ✓

Lunsing, Wim Marinus. Japanese gay magazines and marriage advertisements. In *Gays and lesbians in Asia and the Pacific: social and human services*. Vol. 3. G. Sullivan and L. W.-T. Leongeds. pp. 71-87. Haworth: The Haworth Press. 1995. Reserve.

Presentation Topic: The Image of the Gay Man in Contemporary America

Week 10.6: November 8

Okoge Part II

Women's Sexuality

Week 11.0: November 11

Anonymous. A married woman. In *Queer Japan: personal stories of Japanese lesbians, gays, transsexuals, and bisexuals*. B. Summerhawk, C. McMahonill, and D. McDonald, eds. Norwich, Vt.: New Victoria Publishers. pp. 97-107. 1998. **Reserve.** ✓

Nakamura, Karen, and Hisako Matsuo. Female masculinity and fantasy spaces: transcending genders in the Takarazuka theatre. In *Men and Masculinities in Modern Japan: Beyond the Urban Salaryman Model*. J. E. Roberson and N. Suzukieds. New York: Routledge. 2002. **Reserve.**

Week 11.3: November 13

Yoshimoto, Banana. *Kitchen*. New York: Grove Press. 1993. **Reserve**

Treat, John Whittier. Yoshimoto Banana writes home: shōjo culture and the nostalgic subject. *Journal of Japanese Studies* 19(2):353-388. 1996. **Reserve**

Presentation Topic: Arguing for Shōjo Existence in the United States

Week 11.6: November 15

Movie: Dream Girls

Week 12.0

Position Paper #3 Due: Sexuality in Japan

also

Research Paper Proposals and List of Resources Due

Week 12.0: November 18

Kondo, Dorinne K. Chapter 1: The Eye/I from *Crafting selves*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Pp 3-48. 1990. **Reserve.**

Melucci, Alberto. A strange kind of newness: what's 'new' in new social movements. In *New social movements: from ideology to identity*. E. Laraña, H. Johnston, and J. R. Gusfield, eds. pp. 101-132. Philadelphia: Temple University Press. 1994. **Reserve.**

Week 12.3: November 20

Gill, Tom. Chapter 1 & 2 of *Men of uncertainty : the social organization of day laborers in contemporary Japan*. pp 1-37. **Reserve.**

Week 12.6 November 22

Movie: Shinjuku Boys

Week 13.0:

Fowler, Edward. Prologue and Chapter 1 of *San'ya blues: laboring life in contemporary Tokyo*. pp 1-52. Reserve.

Thanksgiving Break

Things to do over Thanksgiving Break:

- Finish either Gill or Fowler
- Start working seriously on your final paper
- Try not to gain too much weight or go postal on your family

Week 14.0

Research Paper Draft (10 pages) Due

Conclusions: State, Ethnicity, and the Self

Week 14.0: December 2

Discussion of Gill and Fowler

Week 14.3: December 4

TBA

Week 14.6: December 6

Creighton, Millie

Soto Others and *uchi* Others: imaging racial diversity, imagining homogeneous Japan. In *Japan's minorities: the illusion of homogeneity*. M. Weiner, ed. pp. 211-238. New York: Routledge. 1997. **Required text.**

Week 15.0

Integrative Research Papers Due (15-20 pages)

Week 15.0: December 9

Student Presentations

Week 15.3: December 11

Student Presentations

Week 15.6: December 13

Student Presentations

END OF THE SEMESTER

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS