
LECTURE COURSES IN JAPANESE AREA STUDIES

All lecture courses listed are taught in English by scholars highly qualified in their respective fields, but assignments for some courses may include work in Japanese. Unless otherwise stated, there are no restrictions regarding the level of Japanese that students must possess.

21020 JAPANESE ECONOMY II

INSTRUCTOR: Satoshi Hanai

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course concentrates mainly on Japan's economic performance since the end of World War II, with emphasis on international comparison. After a brief introduction to the process of Japan's economic development before World War II, the course focuses on a number of issues pertaining to the Japanese economy in the post-war period. Topics covered in the course include: long-term economic development since the Meiji Restoration, post-war macro economic performance (including the "High Economic Growth" period), consumption and saving, the labor market, Japanese-style industrial relations, public finance, banking, and living conditions.

This course does not assume any knowledge of economics on the part of students. Those who are interested in obtaining some background in economics can find standard textbook(s) in the University Library.

COURSE SCHEDULE

- I. Introduction
- II. Modern Japanese Economy
 - A. Japan's long-term economic development (Drysdale and Gower, pp. 61-69)
 - B. Post WWII macroeconomic performance (Yoshikawa, pp. 19-26)
 - C. Understanding the period of high economic growth: Was it a miracle? (Yoshikawa, pp. 60-70)
 - D. Why is the savings rate declining? (Citrin and Zanello, pp. 31-41)
 - E. Industrial relations: permanent employment, seniority-based wages, and company unionism (Flath, pp. 312-322)
 - F. Women's role in the labor market (Flath, pp. 330-334)
 - G. Social role of college in Japan (Belfield, pp. 40-47)
 - H. Current issues of the Japanese economy
 1. Declining birth rate and aging population
 2. Agricultural policy and food supply (Citrin and Zanello, pp. 220-233)
 3. How to revitalize Japanese industries (Citrin and Zanello, pp. 203-217)
 4. Sustainable economic growth: Which is more important, demand or supply?
 - I. Will the sun rise again? The future of the Japanese economy

TEXTS

Textbook

Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs, *Japan 2010: An International comparison*.

Required Reading

Belfield, C.R., *Economic Principles for Education: Theory and Evidence*, Edward Elgar, 2000.

Citrin, D.A., and A. Zanello, (ed.), *Japan's Economic Revival*, Palgrave Macmillan, 2008.

Drysdale, P., and L. Gower, (ed.), *The Japanese Economy*, Part I, vol. I, Routledge, 1998.

Flath, D., *The Japanese Economy*, 2nd ed., Oxford U.P., 2005.

Yoshikawa, H., *Macroeconomics and the Japanese Economy*, Oxford University Press, 1995.

ASSESSMENT

Class discussion 20%; Final examination 40%; Term paper 40%