

Osaka Gakuin University 2016-17 Spring Semester

## "Japan, Inc." And The World of Business

### Instructor :

Edward Lee, MBA, MA

E-mail: emorselee@hotmail.com  
Lesson: Monday & Wednesday 14:30-16:00  
Office Hours : By appointment after class  
Subject code : 2031

### Course Description:

While focusing mainly on Japan – but also the US and Germany - we will examine factors which have contributed to and distinguish their unique business environments. Links between government, industry, and society will be explored, often from an historical perspective. Background understanding of macro-economics, corporate finance, and capital markets will be provided as necessary. Elementary math skills will suffice. The objective of this course is to give an overview of the interdependencies of global business. This year, for example, we will look especially hard at foreign direct investment and international trade as they have come under scrutiny by certain opinion leaders.

The objective of the course is to examine the big picture comprising global economics, finance, politics, corporate governance, innovation, marketing, culture and history. Interdependence will be a common theme while certain philosophical differences and their cultural roots will be highlighted.

### Resources

Readings will be both articles by leading business writers and the textbook. Students will be expected to purchase a copy of the textbook (either order through a bookstore or online) .

Taggart Murphy, R. "Japan and the Shackles of the Past" Oxford University Press; 1st edition, 2014

ISBN-13: 978-0199845989, ISBN-10: 0199845980

### Evaluation

A grade will be given based on:

Participation and Discussion	34%
Team project presentation	33%
Research Paper	33%

### Notes:

English Ability: Fluent English speakers will need to be considerate of those who are still learning the language. English learners will not be penalized, but they will of course need to spend extra time reading.

### Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction, discussion of various interdependencies  
Week 2: Cultural issues  
Week 3: Key issues in global trade, finance, and economics  
Week 4: Attitudes and values affecting business  
Week 5: Global auto industry  
Week 6: Roles of unions in Japan, the US and Germany

Week 7: Roles of governments in Japan, the US, and Germany

Week 8: Global business issues (Select topic of presentation)

Week 9: Corporate governance

Week 10: Abenomics

Week 11: Business ethics

Week 12: Corporate strategies (Selection of topic for research paper)

Week 13: Global issues

Week 14: China

Week 15: Research Paper Due, Wrap up