Osaka Gakuin University 2024 Fall Semester

The Power of Japanese Pop Culture

Instructor :

Yuko KANEMURA

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Lesson：   Tuesday & Thursday 15:30-17:15
Office Hours : By appointment
Subject Code: 1035

Course Description:

This course focuses on the social environment in which Japanese pop culture was created and developed. How did it grow and establish itself as the manga and anime that are representative of Japanese culture? Students will learn about the history of Japanese pop culture as it continues to grow into a culture familiar to people around the world.

Resources

Lecturer will prepare materials.

Grade Breakdown

Submitted works in daily lecture: 30 %
Participation in class activities and presentations: 50 %
Assignments: 20 %

Notes:

• Information in this syllabus is subject to change slightly. Any such changes will be announced in class.

• Classes are scheduled for weekend off-campus activities.
  - One of activities with fixed dates: **Saturday, November 9th**

Course Schedule :

Week 1   Introduction and preliminaries:
                  -The beginning of Japanese Pop Culture
Week 2   Uniqueness of Japanese Culture
                 - What is popular culture and subculture in Japan?
Week 3   Contrast between Japanese culture and your own culture
                 - Analyze the social and cultural environment
Week 4   Japanese Manga and Anime ①
                  - Visual expressiveness: The role of character
Week 5   Japanese Manga and Anime ②
                 - Narrative expressiveness: The power of stories
                 - Find hidden messages in anime scripts
Week 6   Japanese Manga and Anime ③
                 - Learn about the animation production process
Week 7   Connections between pop culture and society ①
                 - Collaborative learning project
Week 8   Japanese Pop Culture and Industry
                 - Popular culture and economic effects
Week 9   Japanese Pop Culture and Youth Culture
                 - Youth and cultural change
Week 10   The Power of Japanese Pop Culture ①
                  - Social impact of pop culture : Positive impact
Week 11   The Power of Japanese Pop Culture ②
                 - Social impact of pop culture : Negative impact
Week 12   Connections between pop culture and society ②
                 - Collaborative learning project
Week 13   Course review and final presentation