

Osaka Gakuin University 2025-2026 Fall Semester	
Japanese Society and Culture	
Instructor :	
Meline Mesropyan E-mail: melinemesropyan7@gmail.com Lesson: Fridays 13:30 - 15:15, 15:30 – 17:15 Subject code : 2051	
Course Description:	
<p>Welcome to "Japanese Society and Culture: Customs, Etiquette, and Social Norms." This course offers an in-depth exploration of the intricate web of customs, etiquette, and social norms that shape the vibrant tapestry of Japanese society. Japan is a country renowned for its unique blend of tradition and modernity, and understanding its cultural nuances is crucial for anyone seeking to navigate its rich social landscape effectively.</p> <p>Each week has its subject and is divided by a lecture and presentations (15mins) by students.</p> <p>By the end of this course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of Japanese customs, etiquette, and social norms. They will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to engage with Japanese culture respectfully and effectively, whether in a personal or professional context.</p>	
Resources	
The materials will be provided throughout the course.	
Evaluation	
Class participation: [30%] Quizzes and activity: [30%] Presentation: [40%]	
Notes:	

The content of the course is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.
Course Schedule:
<p>Course starts from the week of 9/9</p> <p>Week 1: Introduction to the course Week 2: History, Geography, Philosophy Week 3: Social Hierarchy and Harmony Week 4: Communication: Manners and Etiquette Week 5: Rituals and Traditions (Field trip) Week 6: Education in Japan (Visit elementary school) Week 7: Working in Japan Week 8: Japanese families Week 9: Case Studies and Guest Speakers Week 10: Japanese Martial Arts (to be discussed) Week 11: Women’s role in the society Week 12: Disability in Japan Week 13: Course Conclusion and Cultural Competence</p>