

Osaka Gakuin University 2026-2027 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:	
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. Each week has its subject and is divided by a lecture and presentations (15mins) by students. 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.	
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:
Course starts from September 4.
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