GROSSMONT COLLEGE

Official Course Outline

JAPANESE 149 - JAPANESE CULTURE AND CIVILIZATION

1. Course Number Course Title Semester Units Semester Hours

JAPN 149 Japanese Culture 3 3 hours lecture: 48-54 hours

and Civilization 96-108 outside-of-class hours

144-162 total hours

2. Course Prerequisites

None

Corequisite

None

Recommended Preparation

None

3. Catalog Description

A survey of major characteristics of Japanese culture as seen in Japan today. This course will compare and contrast traditional Japanese culture and values with the modern Japanese culture. This course will examine what role history has played in the development of traditional Japanese culture and the role western culture has played in the development of the modern Japanese culture. It will examine the issues that this dichotomy creates and the relationship between Japan and the western world. This course will be taught in English.

4. Course Objectives

The student will:

1. Synthesize and evaluate the traditional and modern Japanese culture as found in literature, drama, music, and arts.
2. Analyze, compare, and contrast the difference between Japanese culture and western culture.
3. Interpret the attitudes, actions, customs, and beliefs of Japanese society.
4. Differentiate and evaluate the influence of Japanese culture by foreign countries.
5. Identify and examine the role Japan plays in neighboring Asian countries.
6. Discuss and analyze comparisons and contrasts of the Japanese culture to its own and other cultures.

5. Instructional Facilities

Standard classroom

. 6. Special Materials Required of Student

None

7. Course Content

1. Japanese culture as presented through articles, books, music, essays, and movies.
2. Impact of western culture on Japan.
3. Japanese culture as compared to other cultures.
4. Influences of foreign countries in both traditional and modern Japanese culture.
5. Stereotypical views of Japan.

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7. Course Content (continued)

1. Japan’s role among Asian countries.

8. Method of Instruction

1. Lecture.
2. Discussion
3. Guest lectures.

9. Methods of Evaluating Student Performance

1. Written chapter and lecture tests to include objective and essay type questions to evaluate students’ mastery and understanding of the subject matter.
2. Written and oral reports.
3. Midterm and comprehensive written final exam.
4. Group presentations on topics from assigned sections of the textbook, “With respect to Japanese,” including real life examples from the business world (based on online research).

10. Outside Class Assignments

1. Assigned readings.
2. Written reports, such as a group report about a planned travel package to Tokyo and one region in Japan. Each group needs to create a packaged travel plan including: cost, route, history and cultural background of the region.
3. Oral presentations, such as a group presentation about an assigned section of the textbook, “With Respect to Japanese,” including real life examples from the business world (based on online research).

11. Texts

1. Required Text(s):

1) Condon, John and Masumoto, Tomoko, *With Respect to the Japanese Paperback:* Nicholas Brealey Publishing; 2nd Edition, January 16, 2011.

2) Farcia, Hector, *A Geek in Japan: Discovering the Land of Manga, Anime, Zen, and the Tea Ceremony.* Tuttle Publishing; 2nd Edition. 2019

b. Supplementary texts and workbooks:

None.

Addendum: Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, our students will be able to do the following:

Recognize the differences and appreciate/respect Japanese culture.

Date approved by the Governing Board: May 19, 2020