Miyazaki International College

Course Syllabus Spring 2021

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| Course Title (Credits) | **ASA 365-1: Japan and East Asia (3 credits)** |
| Course Designation for TC | N/A |
| When and where | Tuesday and Thursday 10:45-12:15 |
| Content Teacher | |
| Instructor | Jeong-Pyo Hong, Ph.D. |
| E-mail address | [jhong@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp](mailto:jhong@sky.miyazaki-mic.ac.jp) |
| Office/Ext | MIC1-302/ Ext.3721 |
| Office hours | 15:00-16:30 Tuesday and Thursday or by appointment |
| Language Teacher | |
| Instructor |  |
| E-mail address |  |
| Office/Ext |  |
| Office hours |  |

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| **Course Description** | | |
| This course deals with the relations between Japan and the two Koreas, Japan and China including Taiwan, and Japan and Russia in the contemporary times. The students will study and research the historical backgrounds, the current situations, the future about their relations through the classroom activities, lectures and guest speeches, negotiations game and debate exercises, and their presentations on reading and independent research project.  “**How to Series**”,which will be distributed to the students at the beginning of the semester, will help student make present a paper, prepare for interviews, write academic papers, and organize meetings. This will be a useful tool for the students to become future professionals in the society of the world.  This course will cover basically the following topics for the students to study during the semester.  **I. Introduction**  -Meiji Renovation and Foreign Relations  -Yasukuni Shrine  -Japanese Culture  -Abe Government and Abenomics  -Abe’s Foreign Policy  **II. Japan and the Korean Peninsula**  1. ***Japan- South Korea Relations***  -History  -Culture including K-Pop & J-Pop  -Politics  -The Comfort Women & the forced labors  -Text Book Issue  -Territorial Issues  2. ***Japan- North Korea Relations***  -The Hermit Kingdom  -Flower Swallow & the Public execution  -N. Korea’s Nuclear-Missile Issue and THAAD  -Leaders' Characters of North Korea  -Abduction issue & Japanese Wives in North Korea  -Normalization between Japan and North Korea  3. ***North Korea-Japan-South Korea***  -North Korea’s Strategy toward Seoul and Tokyo  -Reunification: Sunshine Policy vs. United Front Strategy  -The Six-Party Talks  -Donald J. Trump-Kim Jung-Un Meetings  -Searching for Korean-Japanese Strategic Partnership  **III. Japan and China**  1. ***Japan and China Relations***  -Historical Background  -Wartime Atrocities in China  -Culture and Minority of China  -Chinese Political System and Chinese Communist Party  -The 5th Generation Leadership in China  -One China Policy & Taiwan Straight  -Tibet and Xinjiang Issues  -Rising China and China Threat  -One-Belt and One-Road (OBOR)  -Sino-Japanese Relations and Diplomatic Breakthrough  -Xi Jinping’s extension of Power & Chinese World  2. ***Japan and Taiwan Relations***  -The History of Taiwan  -Democracy in Taiwan  -Presidential Elections in Taiwan  -KMT and The Democratic Progressive Party  3. ***Sino-Japanese Relations and U.S. Factor***  -One China Policy: Mao Zedong, Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Hu Jintao, and Xi Jinping  -Independence of Taiwan: Chang Kai-seck; Lee Denghui; Chen Shuibian, Ma Ying-Jiu, and Tsai Ing-wen  -The Senkaku/Diaoyu Island Issue and the U.S. Factor  **IV. Japan and Russian**  -The History of Relations between Japan and Russia  -The Collapse of the Soviet Union  -Gorbachev, Yaltsin, Medvedev, and Putin  -Northern Territory Dispute and the 2017 Yamaguchi Summit  **V. Conclusion**  -Japanese Foreign Policy and Security in Northeast Asia  -Regional Integration in Northeast Asia  -Japan and Korean Peninsula  -Japan and China  -Japan and Russia  -Japan-USA Alliance | | |
| **Course Objectives** | | |
| The language component of this course aims to help students read materials in the course, express their knowledge and opinions, and write papers about the international relations in English in the East Asia. In the course, the students will develop skills in reading English materials and texts for contents meaning and argument, enhance listening and speaking skills for the expression and comprehension of ideas in English, and promote basic English writing skills in the composition of paragraphs, short summaries and longer essays. | | |
| Course Schedule: | | |
| Day | Topic | Content/Activities |
| 1 | **Introduction** | Syllabus and How to Series |
| Competition and Cooperation between Japan and Korea |
| 2 | **Japan & Two Koreas** | The Hermit Kingdom |
| Flower Swallow & Public Execution |
| 3 |  | Brinkmanship Strategy of the North |
| Sunshine Policy & United Front Policy |
| 4 |  | USA: Time to Leave Korea? |
| Washington’s Current View on the North |
| 5 |  | North’s Nuclear-Missile Issue and THAAD |
| Moon Jae-In and Kim Jung-Un Meetings |
| 6 |  | Simulation: Negotiation Game |
| **Mid-term Test** |
| 7 | **Japan and China** | Timeline of China & Chinese Culture |
| Chinese Communist Party & People’s  Republic of China |
| 8 |  | Traditional Sino-Japanese Relations |
| China’s Open and Reform policy? |
| 9 |  | One China Policy & Taiwan’s Independence |
| *The Senkaku/Diaoyu* Issue and the US Factor |
| 10 |  | Strategic Ambiguity of the United States |
| Which is First for China and Taiwan: Economy or Security? |
| 1 |  | A Rising China: Empire? |
| The Belt & Road Initiative & “Made in China 2045” |
| 12 | **Japan & Russia** | History of Russo-Japanese Relations |
| Northern Territory |
| 13 |  | Who is Putin? |
| 2017 Yamaguchi Summit |
| 14 |  | Cooperation between Abe and Putin? |
| Future of Japan-Russia Relations |
| 15 | **Conclusion** | Discussion |
| Final Test |
| **Required Materials** | | |
| **1. Watch and Reports**  Students will be required to report to the class at least once in this course. Watch for any interesting newspaper articles, editorials, and opinions that deal with Japan and East Asia. They should select one of those issues, and show this to the class, and discuss the theme with classmates. They will start this classroom activity on **22 April 2021** with the scheduled *Watch and Reports* for those days. Please bring handouts and/or good visual aids, and prepare at least a 10-minute presentation. If you have any questions about the topic you want to choose, or need help finding something to share with the class, please come to your instructor.  **2. Negotiation Game and Debate**  Almost every day we have to make decisions personally or officially. Professionals in the public and private sectors need to understand the nature of conflict in our society and know how to resolve those conflicts. In this activity, we deal with both theoretical and practical dimensions of the contemporary situations in Northeast Asia. In theoretical dimensions, we shall cover means of *conflict resolution*, model of decision-making and principles of negotiation. In practical dimensions, we shall play negotiation and decision-making games, analyze cases, and learn about real world situations. Toward the mid of the course, students are expected to become strategic negotiators and prudent decision-makers who can handle complex decision-making efficiently and ethically. Then, you will join the negotiation game and negotiate with counterparts on a topic as a classroom activity in **the middle of May**. MIC students are not expected to memorize and repeat materials from class and readings. A sense of curiosity, critical thinking, and creativity are the key elements of teaching and learning at MIC. Students are encouraged to read materials, to express their opinions and engage in a mutual critique of ideas, including those of the instructor, in a spirit of mutual respect.  **3. Independent Research Project**  In this project, you will be required to write a paper on a topic you want to research according to the above topics of this course. Research paper should be about 1,500 words and double-space including bibliography. The theme of research paper should be also discussed in prior consultation with the instructor. First, **on 22 April 2021**,each student will turn in ***a one-page research project proposal***to the instructor. Second, **starting on 6 July 2021**,everystudent will submit her/his research report to the instructor. Feedback will be provided to individual presenter after the review is made. | | |
| **Course Policies (Attendance, etc.)** | | |
| MIC believes that teaching and learning are reciprocal activities that require regular interaction between students and teachers. Such interaction cannot occur when students are absent from classes and related activities. So, attendance and punctuality are both important requirements in this class. Students are required to attend classes regularly and participate actively. Exceptions can only be made if there are compelling situations due to illness or for other emergencies. In order for an absence to be excused, a letter of explanation in English is required from you and standard form is needed from your doctor. More than three absences will be viewed very seriously. | | |
| **Class Preparation and Review** | | |
| Students are expected to spend at least one hour reviewing and doing homework and one hour preparing for every hour of lesson time. | | |
| **Grades and Grading Standards** | | |
| • Participation: 10%  • Watch and Reports: 20%  • Negotiation Game: 20%  • Mid and Final Quiz: 40%  • Independent Research Project: 10% | | |
| **Methods of Feedback** | | |
| Feedback will be given orally to students. Mid-term papers and short tests will be checked and returned with comments. | | |
| **Diploma Policy Objectives** | | |
| Work completed in this course helps students achieve the following Diploma Policy objective(s):  1: Advanced thinking skills (comparison, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) based on critical thinking (critical and analytic thought)  2: The ability to understand and accept different cultures developed through acquisition of a broad knowledge and comparison of the cultures of Japan and other nations  3: The ability to identify and solve problems  4: Advanced communicative proficiency in both Japanese and English | | |
| **Notes** | | |
| Getting a solid education at MIC is your responsibility and has dramatic implications for the quality of life that you will lead in the 21st century in Japan and abroad. Education is an investment that you make in yourself. It is up to you to complete assignments on time and during class. During class, I hope that you will ask questions and challenge ideas pertaining to Japan and East Asia Relations. If you need any assistance for any problems, I will listen and offer suggestions and feedback. Discussions made are your decisions. Work diligently, attend class regularly, participate activities, and you will succeed. | | |

