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Course proposal

I. Catalog Description

HIST 337 History of Modern Japan

3 class hours
0 lab hours
3 semester hours
(3c-01-3sh)

Prerequisites: none

The history of Japan from the beginning of the Tokugawa period to the present. Japanese culture

The Tompa crisis, Neo-Confucianism, Nativism, and even less comprehensible stuff

-Why did the Tokugawa favor Neo-Confucianism? What is Nativism and why did it appear?
-Who are the foreigners and what do they want? How does Japan fit into the international system at this point?

E. Collapse of the Bakufu and Meiji 3 hours

Corruption in the Bakufu. Strengthening and weakening Daimyo. Peasant revolts and Oshio Hehachiro. Perry and the Black Ships. Attempts to reform the Bakufu and final collapse.

-What was wrong with the Bakufu? Why did reform fail?

-What proved to be wrong with the elaborate system the bakufu had set up to control the Daimyo and the society?

-What caused the rising tide of popular discontent? Was it mostly due to temporary problems or structural changes in society?

- Why did Japan invade China? Why did they attack the Western Powers?
- What effect did militarism and the war have on Japan and its people?
- Why did Japan lose? What exactly were they trying to gain in the first place?

K. Occupation and Postwar Japan 3 hours

MacArthur and the re-making of Japan. The reverse course and Japanese ideas about

- What did the Americans try to do to Japan and to what extent did they succeed?
- Why did the Japanese economy grow from 1945 to 1980? Was there anything unusual about the Japanese system or people that accounts for this?

L. Japanese society today 4 hours

The structure of Japanese society from burakumin to Todai Law School. The family, the schools

VI. Special resource requirements

none

VII. Bibliography

Reference works and general studies

-*Encyclopedia of Japan*. Tokyo: Kodansha, 1993

-*Cambridge Dictionary of Japan*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990-1992

-*Devine and Kenji*, eds. *Cambridge Encyclopedia of Japan*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1993

- Vaporis, Constantine. *Breaking Barriers: Travel and the State in Early Modern Japan*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1994.
- Walker, Bret. *Marsumae Domain and the Conquest of the Ainu Lands: Ecology and Commerce in Tokugawa Expansion*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1999.

Tokugawa thought

- Ackroyd, Joyce, trans. *Told Round a Brushwood Fire: The Autobiography of Arai Hakuseki*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1979.
- Hardacre, Helen. *Shinto and the State*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989.
- Koschman, J. Victor. *The Mito Ideology*. University of California Press, 1987.
- Maruyama Masao. *Studies in the Intellectual History of Tokugawa Japan*. Mikiso Hane trans. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1974.

1987.

- Nosco, Peter, ed. *Confucianism and Tokugawa Culture*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1984.

Onuma, Tetsuo. *Visions of Virtue in Tokugawa Japan*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press

-Robertson, Jennifer. *Native and Newcomer, Making and Remaking a Japanese City*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1991.

Author: Janet Shimizu. The Rise and Fall of Japanese Business in the United States

Stanford: Stanford University Press, 1997.

Author: Michael J. L. ... The Union of ... New York: ... 1997

Course Analysis Questionnaire

Section A: Details of the Course

A1 This course is intended as an elective for History majors. It will be one of several courses which will fulfill the departmental Non-Western requirement. It is also intended for students in other majors who are interested in Japan and will carry university Non-

Western and Liberal Studies credit.

A2 This course requires no changes in existing courses.

A3 This course was offered as a Special Topics 481 class in Fall 2002.

A4 This will not be a dual-level course

A5 This course will not be offered for variable credit

A6 This course is offered at many institutions. Examples include University of Illinois, Northern Illinois University, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and University of Pittsburgh

A7 This course is not connected to any outside agency

Section B: Interdisciplinary Implications

B2 This course is not related to courses in any other department

B3 Seats will be made available to Continuing Education students

Section C: Implementation

C1 Faculty resources are adequate. The course will be taught by the same faculty

Liberal studies IV

A. This course will be taught in a single section by a single instructor.

Officially, Japan is an entirely homogenous society that has no racial or ethnic minorities. We

will look at how this position was created and why it was so important to the Japanese state. We will look at how this idea had affected Japan's relationship with its neighbors and how it relates to the treatment of those considered un-Japanese, e.g. Burakumin, Koreans, and

workers. The treatment of Okinawans is a major theme of the Field book.