

## Huron Brief Course Outlines

Fall/Winter 2023-2024

**Course Title:** Cultural Foundations of Modern Japan

**Course Number and Section**

JAPANESE

2601A - 550

**Instructor Name(s):** Christopher White

**Instructor Email(s):** cwhite53@uwo.ca

Disclaimer: Information in the brief course outline is subject to change. The syllabus posted on OWL is the official and authoritative source of information for the course.

### Course Description:

A survey of the historical, artistic, philosophical, and religious factors that shape modern Japan. Taught in English.

### Class Methods:

Introduction to Japanese civilization from historical, geo-political, and cultural perspectives. The course presupposes no knowledge of Japanese civilization. The course begins by listing the characteristics of modern Japanese culture. We will examine how these characteristics have evolved. The course will be conducted through lectures and classroom discussion based upon the reading materials, students' individual (mini) research, and/or video and other materials. Students are expected to prepare for each class by doing short (preliminary) research.

### Learning Outcomes:

To acquire a basic knowledge of Japanese history, cultural heritage, and other "cultural" elements of the modern Japan.

To develop a critical (and comparative) view toward a "foreign" culture.

To exercise modern research methods

To formulate questions and discover the answers

### Textbooks and Course Materials:

Varley, Paul. 1973/2000. Japanese Culture Fourth Edition. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.

Other required reading materials will be posted in OWL.

### Methods of Evaluation:

Assignment	Due Date mm/dd/yy	Weight - %
Short Paper 1	10/04/2023	20%
Short Paper 2	11/11/2023	20%

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Date mm/dd/yy</b>	<b>Weight - %</b>
Short Paper 3	11/22/2023	20%
Short Paper 4	12/06/2023	20%
Participation	Ongoing	20%

In solidarity with the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak, and Chonnonton peoples on whose traditional treaty and unceded territories this course is shared.