

【Course Description】

The course explores experiences and issues that minority groups, broadly defined, face in Japan. This multidisciplinary course provides theoretical approaches to understanding power relations, structures, and the politics of identity that affect the lives of minorities in Japanese society. It explores the historical roots and contemporary situation of different minority groups in Japan, including conflicts over discrimination and diversity.

【Class Goals】

Students will deepen their understanding of Japanese society by learning about minority communities from theoretical and empirical perspectives. Through their course work, students will gain the ability to articulate ideas and analyze arguments.

【Course Schedule】

【第1回】Introduction: Minority, the idea and issues

【第2回】Ethnicity and Race

【第3回】Koreans I: History

【第4回】Koreans II: Recent Development

【第5回】Chinese

【第6回】Immigration and migration

【第7回】Nikkeijin

【第8回】South Asians/South East Asians

【第9回】Film

【第10回】Language Education

【第11回】Ainu

【第12回】Ryukuan

【第13回】Mid-term Test

【第14回】Burakumin

【第15回】Poverty I

【第16回】Poverty II

【第17回】Differently-abled, People with Disabilities, Disabled, and Handicapped

【第18回】Illness and Discrimination

【第19回】Film

【第20回】Fukushima

【第21回】Women

【第22回】Sexual and Gender Minorities

【第23回】Religion

【第24回】Food

【第25回】Freedom of Speech, Harassment, Hate, and Discrimination

【第26回】Refugees, Human Trafficking

【第27回】Media Representation of Minorities

【第28回】Presentation I

【第29回】Presentation II

【第30回】Final Exam and Revisiting Various Issues – The Vision for the Future

【Preparation for Class】

Students are expected to read one to two assigned academic journal articles or book chapters for each week's class.

【Review of Class】

Students will be responsible for reviewing their lecture notes, assigned readings, and class discussion before taking exams and writing the term paper.

【Remarks for Class】

All lectures and discussion will be in English. Come prepared to take part in class discussion.

【Texts】

Obligatory reading: The course handout, articles posted online

【Reference Books】

1. Weiner, Michael, ed.(2009) Japan's Minorities: The Illusion of Homogeneity, 2nd edition. London: Routledge.
 2. Arudou, Debito. (2015) Embedded Racism: Japan's Visible Minorities and Racial Discrimination. Lanham: Lexington Books.
- *More books may be added later.

【Evaluation Criteria】

Class Participation 15%, Midterm 20%, Final Exam 20%, Term Paper 35%, Class assignments 10%.

【Notes】