

# KC3023/3024 Contemporary Global Issues A (\*set with B)

- History of the Present in Yokohama and Japan -

Yokohama  
ROBERTS Luke S.  
Mon 2

## 【Course Aim】

To learn how the past influences the present and sets agendas and possibilities for the future. There is no sui generis Japanese identity or culture, and we will also learn how to see the Japanese present as the product of a continuous history of creative integration with the rest of the world, producing identities through processes of interaction throughout the world.

## 【Contents of Course】

Yokohama is a fabulous city to live in and explore, and it has the perfect history to serve as a vantage point from which to learn about contemporary global issues. Yokohama was begun as a Treaty Port in nineteenth century at the dawn of Western imperialism in East Asia. It thrived in the era of building nationalism and Japanese imperialism. It was destroyed twice by earthquake and air raids and rose again like a phoenix to become one of the most interesting cities of Japan. We will investigate the historic roots of various aspects of Yokohama, Japan in its world context.

## 【Course Schedule】

- 【第1回】 Autobiographies as history: Group discussion
- 【第2回】 Lecture: Yokohama as treaty port
- 【第3回】 Lecture: Issues of Meiji Restoration
- 【第4回】 Lecture: Origins of Newspapers in Japan
- 【第5回】 Lecture: Japanese Empire I, to 1931
- 【第6回】 Lecture: Japanese Empire II, 1931-1945
- 【第7回】 Lecture: Yokohama Consumer Culture and the Modern Girl
- 【第8回】 Lecture: Occupation of Japan 1945-1952
- 【第9回】 Lecture: Occupation of Yokohama and Popular Culture
- 【第10回】 Movie: Kanashiki Kuchibue (Mournful Whistle) 1947, starring Misora Hibari
- 【第11回】 Economic Growth in Postwar Yokohama
- 【第12回】 Yokohama Economic Development and Quality of Life Struggles
- 【第13~15回】 Recent Culture in Yokohama

## 【Preparation / Advice】

Each week will have assigned readings that will be distributed and students will have to write out their answers to questions posed by the professor, and also write out their questions to ask the class and professor.

Each lecture will begin with a question and answer review of the previous lecture.

## 【Texts】

The professor will post links to internet articles and article scans of on our course web page.

## 【Reference】

A Historical Guide to Yokohama (Yūringō, 2002) by Burrit Sabin

## 【Grading】

- 20% Class participation
- 30% Minor assignments
- 30% Class presentations
- 20% Final examination

## 【Other】

This class will use Mondays mostly for lecture and discussion, and use Thursdays for student presentations and discussion. The syllabus may be subject to changes to meet educational goals.

Please see the attachment.