

**Cross-cultural studies:
Comparisons between Buddhism and Christianity**

Instructor :

Tsuyoshi Kawaguchi

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Lesson : Monday, Thursday 14:30-16:00

Office: N/A

Office Hours : After class or upon consultation

Subject code : 1033

Course Description:

This course will introduce Japanese traditional and modern cultures through religion and its connection with nature. Differences between Buddhism and Christianity or Japanese original religions and Christianity will be looked at, and discussed in relation to topics such as educational systems, politics, sports, events, or any particular topics that are of interest of the students.

Resources

The teacher provides hand-outs for every class.

Evaluation

The class consists of lectures, discussions, and assignment.

The grade will be given based on the participation in the lecture and discussions (25%), homework assignments (25%) and final presentation (50%).

Notes:

Course Schedule

- Week 1: Geographic features, names (Etymology), demographics, population and climate
- Week 2: History of Japan, routes and the outline from the prehistory to the 21 century.
- Week 3: Japanese religions characteristics and present features.
- Week 4: Life expectancy and Population growth of Japan.
- Week 5: Education of Japan
- Week 6: Japanese culture, groupism, honorific style of speech, sense of rank, etc.
- Week 7: Japanese customs and beliefs in daily life.
- Week 8: Japanese Cuisine
- Week 9: Home life of Japan
- Week 10: Business decision making process of Japan.
- Week 11: Japanese houses
- Week 12: Japanese government and company
- Week 13: The emperor and national anthem

Schedule may be altered after discussions with students on topics of interest.