Osaka Gakuin University 2012-13 Fall Semester

Japanese Business: Business Culture and Practices

Instructor:

Jo Kirihara

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Lesson: Wednesday & Friday 12:50-14:20

Office Hours: N/A Subject code: 1034

Course Description:

This is a practical business course for those who are interested in the structure of the Japanese *Kaisha* and want to acquire effective strategies for cross-cultural communication in Japanese business organizations. The class consists of lectures, group work, presentations, a field trip and a term exam. Through various examples of cultural facts and encounters, students will be able to discover why Japanese think and behave the way they do in business settings. This class not only explains how Japanese work, negotiate, entertain, make decisions, but also offer appropriate advice on how to work with Japanese. The class provides an opportunity to learn the common social etiquette and business knowledge that enables students to conduct business smoothly and successfully with Japanese in the future.

Resources

Handouts will be provided for each class.

Evaluation

A grade will be given based on: Participation to the lecture and discussion (20%) Field trip report (10%) A team project presentation (20%) Term exam (50%).

Notes:

No previous knowledge about Japanese business culture is required. Details of a field trip will be given in class

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction to the Japanese business world

Week 2: Kata in business-1: First meeting

Week 3: Kata in business-2: Roles and rules

Week 4: Kata in business-3: Japanese way of working and socializing

Week 5: Japanese organization-1: Personnel administration

Week 6: Japanese organization-2: Structure of a Japanese office

Week 7: Japanese organization-3: Decision-making process

Week 8: Japanese Organization-4: Regulations and advice

Week 9: Negotiation Skills-1: Working with Japanese

Week 10: Negotiation Skills-2: Different Negotiation styles

Week 11: Negotiation Skills-3: Dealing with complaints and advice

Week 12: Project team Presentation

Week 13: Term Exam