

Osaka Gakuin University 2017-18 Spring Semester

Japan and The World of Business

Instructor :

Edward Lee, MBA, MA

E-mail: emorselee@hotmail.com
Lesson: Monday & Wednesday 14:30-16:00
Office Hours : By appointment after class
Subject code : 2031

Course Description:

While focusing mainly on Japan – but also the US and Germany - we will examine factors which have contributed to and distinguish their unique business environments. Links between government, industry, and society will be explored, often from an historical perspective. Background understanding of macro-economics, corporate finance, and capital markets will be provided as necessary. Elementary math skills will suffice. The objective of this course is to give an overview of the interdependencies of global business. This year we will look at foreign direct investment, international trade, and state-sponsored business as they have come under scrutiny by various entities.

The objective of the course is to examine the big picture comprising global economics, finance, politics, corporate governance, innovation, culture, and history. Interdependence will be a common theme while certain philosophical differences and their cultural roots will be highlighted.

Students' intragroup participation and the enhancement of analytical skills are other prime objectives.

Resources

Readings will be both articles by leading business writers and the

textbook.

50-60 pertinent articles selected over the past five years mainly from the BBC, Reuters, the Economist and The New York Times dealing with business, government and management.

The instructor does not pretend to be an expert in any of the aforementioned fields. Students must expect to bring a curious and inquisitive attitude to each class session. Participation is imperative.

Students will be expected to purchase a copy of the textbook (either order through a bookstore or online):

Taggart Murphy, R. "**Japan and the Shackles of the Past**", Oxford University Press; 1st edition, 2014

ISBN-13: 978-0199845989, ISBN-10: 0199845980

Evaluation

A grade will be given based on:

Attendance and Participation	50%
Presentation or Paper (student's choice)	25%
Mid-term Test	25%

Notes:

English Ability: Fluent English speakers will need to be considerate of those who are still learning the language; while those who are less than fluent will need to make a special effort to participate.

Course Schedule:

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1/22 - Introduction, survey of students' interests
1/24 - Key issues in global trade, business, and economics
1/29 - Key issues in global trade, business, and economics
1/31 - Cultural issues
2/5 - Historical issues
2/7 - Attitudes and values affecting business
2/14 - Labor unions in Japan, Germany and the US
2/19 - Education and training in Japan, Germany and the US
2/21 - Business ethics (various cases)
2/26 - Corporate governance
2/28 - Global issues
3/5 - Abenomics
3/7 - Economics in the US and Germany
3/12 - Innovation
3/14 - Financial statement analysis
3/19 - Financial statement analysis
3/26 - Capitalism vs. Communism w Chinese characteristics
3/28 - Business / Government relations
4/2 - Business / Government relations
4/4 - National strategies
4/9 - Corporate strategies

4/11 - Outsourcing, direct investment, China, etc.
4/16 - Macro-economics essentials (review)
4/18 - Global issues
4/23 - Global issues
4/25 - Presentations
5/2 - Presentations
5/7 - Military considerations
5/9 - Global issues