

INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE REFERENCE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

SYLLABUS & SCHEDULE



COURSE DESCRIPTION

A wealth of information and resources written in Japanese awaits the student who is able to unlock the gate and work his/her way through the maze of information that is available in academic libraries and over the Internet. Through classroom discussions and written assignments, students will learn the skills necessary to locate relevant information in both English and Japanese for use in a research project on Japanese Studies.

Making use of both the W.E.B. Du Bois Library's East Asian Reference Collection and resources over the Internet, students will learn how to utilize dictionaries, general reference works, bibliographies, and Japanese primary sources.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to

- formulate appropriate questions and search strategies to get started in research in Japanese
- utilize the various services of academic libraries and research institutions
- identify important reference and research tools in printed and electronic format
- apply critical thinking skills to the evaluation of reference tools

Each student will track a particular topic and produce a research guide as a final project. Through a thematic focus on the Meiji era, all students will learn about this particular vital period in Japanese history from a variety of different aspects beyond their own individual research projects.

INSTRUCTORS

	Stephen FORREST Dept. of Asian Languages & Literatures	Sharon DOMIER W.E.B. Du Bois Library (East Asian Studies Librarian)
Office Hours	MW 12:30 - 1:30 in Thompson 10. or by appointment	MWF in Technical Services Section at W.E.B. Du Bois Library
Contact info.	phone: 545-950 email: sforrest@asianlan.umass.edu	phone: 545-2728 email: sdomier@library.umass.edu

CLASS MEETINGS

MWF 2:30~3: 20 at LIBR 2249 (W.E.B. DuBois Library, 22nd Floor)

REQUIREMENTS

This course requires a reasonable reading ability in Japanese and an inquisitive nature. You will be graded on your participation in class discussions, oral reports, written assignments, and a final bibliographic project.

N.B. All assignments in English should be word-processed. Except for the final project, items in Japanese should be handwritten.

COURSE SCHEDULE

SEPTEMBER

- Week 0** INTRODUCTION
W 5 Introduction to course; expectations, assignments
F 7 Library Tour, focussing on East Asian Collection
- Week 1** RESEARCH THEME (Japan in the Meiji period) and METHODS
M 10 i) Background to the Meiji period
ii) Assignment of individual research areas
W 12 i) Academic cultures in Japan and the US
ii) Basic bibliographies in Japanese and English -- a short guide
F 14 Assignment Due.
- Week 2** PRELIMINARY SOURCES IN ENGLISH
M 17 Computer Lab. Class: Introduction to UMass Online Library Catalog
W 19 Finding and documenting preliminary sources in English
F 21 Assignment Due
- Week 3** ADVANCED SOURCES IN ENGLISH
M 24 Computer Lab. Class: Introduction to Japan-related online bibliographies and research tools in English.
W 26 Finding advanced sources in English
F 28 Assignment Due.

OCTOBER

- Week 4** PRELIMINARY SOURCES IN JAPANESE
M 1 Introduction to general encyclopaedias, almanacs, and bibliographies in Japanese
W 3 Finding preliminary sources in Japanese (identify key articles)
F 5 Assignment Ni due.
- Week 5** WORDS 1: USING BILINGUAL AND KOKUGO DICTIONARIES (Mon. 8 = Columbus Day HOLIDAY)
W 10 Introduction to bilingual and monolingual (J) dictionaries by category; discussion of dictionary use practices.
F 12 GUEST SPEAKER -- Emeritus Professor William Naff (UMass), speaking on Translation.
- Week 6** WORDS 2: USING MORE SPECIALIZED DICTIONARIES (for dates, names, places, etc.)
M 15 Introduction to reference tools for names, dates, places, poetic terms, etc.
W 17 Tracing people, fixing (pre 1868) dates, locating places.
F 19 Assignment Ho due.
- Week 7** RESEARCH AREAS: PROPOSALS FOR SUBJECT GUIDES
M 22 What is a subject guide? Identifying a topic and defining a target audience.
W 24 Planning your guide: finding advanced sources in English to clarify your topic.
F 26 Assignment He due [graded as MIDTERM]
- Week 8** ADVANCED SOURCES IN JAPANESE (1): Articles (Mon. 29 = mid-semester)
M 29 Computer Lab. Class: Finding Japanese language articles on your topic (using *Zasshi kiji sakuin*, etc.).
W 31 Accessing articles in Japanese through library holdings, ILLIAD, and online sources.

NOVEMBER

- Week 9** F 2 Assignment To due.
ADVANCED SOURCES IN JAPANESE (2): Books
M 5 Computer Lab. Class: Finding Japanese language books on your topic (Using WebCat, etc.).
W 7 Accessing books in Japanese through library holdings, ILLIAD, and online sources.
F 9 Assignment Chi due. GUEST SPEAKER -- Professor Robert Eskildsen (Smith), speaking on Primary Sources.

- Week 10** IDENTIFYING FURTHER RESEARCH TOPICS
 (Mon. 12 = Veterans' Day HOLIDAY)
 W 14 Scholarly trends and histories of scholarly fields: combing scholarship for gaps and unanswered questions (especially topics covered in J but not in E scholarship).
 F 16 ROUNDTABLE -- Further Research Topics: discussion of individual and Meiji-era wide projects and questions.
- Week 11** LOCATING CURRENT RESEARCH
 M 19 Introduction to resources covering directories of scholars, research institutions
 W 21 Identify and locate 2-3 Japanese scholars working in your topic area (for inclusion in final project)
(Thanksgiving Recess follows)
- Week 12** USING PRIMARY SOURCES IN JAPANESE, pt. 1
 M 26 Introduction to the UMass Special Collection: background, catalog, uses, access. Information on how to describe/annotate citations for rare items
 W 28 Visit to Special Collection: taking notes on assigned items.
 F 30 Discuss bibliographic and physical description of assigned items. Begin tracking in reference sources.
- Week 13** USING PRIMARY SOURCES IN JAPANESE, pt. 2
- DECEMBER**
 M 3 Further tracking of assigned items or second visit to Special Collection.
 W 5 Final class visit to Special Collection (pursuing further sources or checking details for citations).
 F 7 Assignment Ri due.
- Week 14** COMPLETING THE PROJECT: Making the "Guide to Meiji Studies"
 M 10 Bibliographic Essays and Research Websites
 W12 Drafting the Introduction/Homepage for the Guide
 F 14 Oral summaries of whole project by instructors. Review "Introduction"
 Final Projects
 Design a web page (no need to write HTML; a word-processed version is fine) introducing scholars to your topic area, and suitable for inclusion on the "Guide to Meiji Studies" site.
 DUE by 5:00 p.m. on MONDAY 17th December.