

Kalamazoo College
Center for International Programs and Center for Asian Studies
2005 International Study Seminar in Japan

Course Name	Gender in Japanese Culture and History
Location	Kansai, Himeji, and Hiroshima
Sponsoring Institution	Kalamazoo College
Approved for Transfer of	Academic Credit
Tentative Dates	June 17- July 5, 2005
Language of Instruction	English
Eligibility Requirements	<p>Class Standing: Second and Third -year students will be given priority. First year students are encouraged to apply but will be admitted on a space available basis.</p> <p>Recommended Preparation: One course in East Asian Studies G.P.A.: 2.70 minimum Language: Japanese recommended Enrollment: 12</p>
Application deadline	February 14, 2005
Selection	Students will be selected by the Center for International Programs, the Center for Asian Studies, and the Instructors. Students meeting the College's and any program-specific eligibility requirements are selected for participation in the International Study Seminar program on the basis of such items as their cumulative grade point average, their grades in the appropriate foreign language (where applicable), the strength of the required essay(s), faculty letters of recommendation, an evaluation of the transcript, and other information provided in their application and their College records.
Orientation	There will be four mandatory orientation sessions in Kalamazoo during the Spring 2005 quarter. In addition, there will be an on-site orientation in Japan.
Academic Program	<p>This course will focus on the place of gender in Japan's history and present-day society. The International Study Seminar will examine and visit sites related to men and women in pre-modern Japan, men and women in the modern period (Meiji through the end of World War II), and the gender roles of contemporary men and women. Readings will be assigned and must be completed prior to departure; a number of lectures will also be presented during the Spring 2005 quarter.</p> <p>Because this course will involve close interaction with Japanese people, students' cultural sensitivity will be particularly important.</p>
Housing and Meals	Students will live in hotel accommodations or local dormitories. Some meals will be provided on-site in student cafeterias or local restaurants. Students will be expected to pay for some meals on own (approximately 15 meals) and should be prepared to budget \$200.00 USD for this expense.

Credits

Students are eligible to receive one K-unit upon successful completion of this course. This course has been approved for credit towards the IAS major (EAS), the Japanese minor, and Social Science AOS. Grades from all international study seminar courses will appear on the Kalamazoo transcript and are included in the Kalamazoo grade point average. Kalamazoo College transcripts will list the title of the course and the appropriate discipline. All course work must be completed and turned in before the end of the academic program, unless otherwise specified by the instructor, or no credit will be given. Attendance is required at all classes and activities.

Location

According to archaeological evidence, a human culture emerged on the Japanese islands as early as 10,000 BCE. The 6th through 8th centuries mark the period of Japan's all-out efforts to assimilate continental ideas and institutions. These included Buddhism, Confucianism, Chinese governmental system, the Chinese writing system and its texts, architecture, and many art forms. During the 9th century, the Japan underwent a great flowering of native culture in its new capital, developing a culture independent of the Chinese.

In the 1850s Commodore Perry opened Japan to limited trade. Beginning in this period, Japan became increasingly involved with the outside world. Some among Japan's leaders saw the need to modernize. These leaders rallied around the young emperor Meiji and restored imperial rule to Japan. In the aftermath of the Meiji Restoration, Japan began large-scale borrowing of technology from the West. The transportation and communication networks were improved by means of large governmental investments. The government also directly supported the proliferation of businesses and industries.

The Kansai District encompasses seven prefectures and is Japan's most historic region. The Kansai District contains two of Japan's ancient capital cities, Nara and Kyoto and two of its most important port cities, Kobe and Osaka. The town of Himeji, in Hyogo Prefecture, contains one of Japan's most beautiful castles. Himeji Castle is the best example of Japanese military architecture. One of Japan's major industrial cities, Hiroshima also has the unfortunate distinction of being the first city in the world to be destroyed by an atomic bomb.

Program Fee

Participants will be required to pay a \$750.00 non-refundable deposit upon acceptance into the program. Additional participant costs will include fees for required and recommended immunizations, textbooks, required health and medical insurance, independent travel, U.S. domestic air (if applicable), and incidental expenses en-route and abroad. This seminar is supported by a generous grant by the Freeman Foundation.

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