

Syllabus format 2025

Semester	2025Summer			
Course	International Relations			
Instructor	TBD			
Instructed only by foreign language				
Instruction Language	English			
Active Learning included				
Active Learning Type	Discussion, Debates		Group work	Presentation
	Flipped Classroom	Practicum/Fieldwork		Experience
	Investigation	Mock classes	PBL	Others
Course Description	This course is designed to introduce students to the field of International Relations with special reference to the countries of the Asia and the Pacific, and particularly to Japan. This course provides a broad introduction to contemporary East Asia and Japan international relations. The first part of the course examines the major theories of International Relations and International Political Economy focusing on East Asia and Japan. The next part focuses on a number of policy issues relating to Japan's foreign policy, including Japan's post-war foreign policy, East Asia's regional cooperation, development issues, security issues, and Japan's role. The classes culminate in a discussion on contemporary issues that have profound impact on Japan and East Asia's stability and future directions. Students are expected to participate in critical discussions regarding what role Japan should play in the 21st century. The course meets for a minimum of 45 hours per two-week period. Students receive 4 Oberlin University credits and a Certificate of Completion for passing with a minimum grade of a D.			
Course Objectives	1. To develop student's understanding of Japan's foreign policy from historical, political/strategic and economic perspective. 2. To apply and develop the skills and knowledge of political theory and method through analysis of policy issues. 3. To provide students with the background that will enable them to include reference to Japan in their research.			
Course Schedule ※Fill in according to the number of times the class is to be held.				
	Date	Details		
1st	17-Jun	Course Orientation, Introduction to International Relations, Key Concepts and Theories		
2nd	18-Jun	Field Trip: Bank of Japan Museum (afternoon) Theories of International Relations: Realism, Liberalism, Constructivism, Critical Theories		
3rd	19-Jun	Peace and Security: IR Theories, Issues and Challenges International Relations of East Asia interaction with global powers: US and China		Japan's
4th	20-Jun	Japan's interaction with regional powers: ASEAN Video Watching: The strategic significance of ASEAN relations		
5th	23-Jun	Theories of International Political Economy Global Economic Governance Discussion on individual and group presentations		
6th	24-Jun	Japan's post-war diplomatic policy. Japan's Overseas Development Assistance		
7th	25-Jun	Field Trip and workshop: JICA Global Plaza (afternoon) Regional Cooperation in East Asia Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy		
8th	26-Jun	Group discussions: Reflections on the field visits of Japanese institutions and article analysis (Japan's current foreign policy) Individual report on contemporary political and economic issues in Japan and the Asia and the Pacific		
9th	27-Jun	Individual report on contemporary political and economic Issues in Japan the Asia and the Pacific  Wrap-up Lecture and Discussion		
Supplementary Activities ※Fill in according to the number of times the class is to be held.				
	Date	Details		
1st				
2nd				
3rd				
Textbook	The instructor will provide class materials.			
Supplementary Reading				
Homework	Daily homework will focus on study and fieldwork for development of the final presentation/project/test.			
Grading	90-100 = A 80-89 = B 79-70 = C 60-69 = D 50 and below = F Breakdown: ● Class Participation: 25% ● Attendance: 25% ● Assignments: 20% ● Final Project: 30%			