

Course title: Japanese Society in the Era of Globalization

<General information>

Instructor: Dr. Hiroko Kinoshita (Ph.D.)

Associate Professor, International Student Center, Kyushu University

APRU VSE Season: Season 1, 2025-2026

Semester: Winter Quarter

Credit: 1

Date: December 5, 12, 19, and 26 (2 classes per day and total 8 classes)

Time: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM (GMT+9/ JST)

Enrollments: Undergraduate

*If you are a postgraduate student and wish to apply for the course, please consult with the VSE Coordinator at Kyushu University.

<Course Description>

This course is an online course designed for undergraduate students majoring in Japanese studies or studying Japanese language at APRU member universities. Students will learn about Japanese society and culture, as well as common issues in the Asia Pacific region, together with Japanese students. The course focuses on discussions with Japanese students, providing a chance for students from different cultural and social backgrounds to learn from each other. Lectures will be given in both English and Japanese.

<Requirements>

- Japanese language proficiency: Intermediate or higher.
- High interest in Japanese culture/language, and social issues in the Asia Pacific region.
- Must be able to attend all lectures throughout the course period.

Optional: If you have any proof of Japanese language proficiency, please submit a copy of certificate or related document when you apply for the course.

<Evaluation>

- Participation during the class (30%)
- Final presentation in the group (40%)
- Essay (30%)

<Note>

- If you have a concern about Japanese language proficiency, but strongly wish to participate, please consult with the VSE Coordinator at Kyushu University in advance.

<Course schedule>

5 December:

Part 1: Orientation and Gender Roles in Japanese Society (1)

Part 2: Gender Roles in Japanese Society (2)

12 December:

Part 1: Embarrassment and Honor (1)

Part 2: Embarrassment and Honor (2)

19 December:

Part 1: Education in Japan (1)

Part 2: Education in Japan (2)

26 December:

Part 1: Group-work/discussion

Part 2: Final Presentation

Note: Topics of each week is tentative and subject to change.