Seminar in Modern Japanese History: Remembering the Asia-Pacific War

The terms used to describe the period during which Japan was at war in the mid-twentieth century demonstrate how naming and memory work together. The “Pacific War,” “Fifteen Year War,” “World War II,” “Asia-Pacific War,” and the “Greater East Asian War” are all terms used to refer to the same general time period and series of events, but have different specific—and often very political—meanings.

This course will examine the events and experiences of wartime Japan, the ways they have been remembered by groups and by individuals (inside Japan and in other countries), and the ways they have been put to political use. The course will start before the beginning of hostilities in Asia in 1937 and deal with the entirety of the wartime experience to 1945, as well as the changing ways the war has been remembered during the Cold War and beyond. We will examine the way memories of the war have changed and helped shape domestic politics, international relations and national identity in Japan, China and the United States up to the present.

Class Dates, Location and Hours:

Dates: April 23 – 29, 2017
Location: Hangar 2, Room 202, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.
Hours: Sunday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; Monday - Friday 6:00-10:00 p.m.; Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: March 25, 2017

Site Director:

Email: aphickam@ou.edu. Phone: 808-449-6364 (DSN & Commercial).

Professor Contact Information:

Course Professor: Dr. Elyssa Faison
Mailing Address: Dept. of History
455 W. Lindsey St.
University of Oklahoma
Norman, OK 73019
Telephone Number: 405-325-6002
E-mail Address: efaison@ou.edu
Professor availability: The professor will be available via e-mail to students before and after the class sessions. On-site office hours are half an hour before and after each class session, by appointment.
Textbook(s) and Instructional Materials:

Student materials are available at the OU Follett Bookstore located at 1185 Asp Avenue; Norman, OK, and can be ordered online, by phone, by email, or by fax. Ordering online at http://www.bksr.com/oklahomastore/home is strongly recommended – students can track the status of their order within 48 hours. If an order has not been shipped within three days, students can contact the Follett textbook manager by phone (405) 325-3511, (800) 522-0772 (toll-free) or email 0831mgr@fheg.follett.com. Phone orders (ask for the textbook manager and identify yourself as an Advanced Programs student) can be placed 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday; 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday (CST). Summer hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (CST). Fax orders can be placed 24 hours a day at (405) 325-7770. Text prices are available online.

6. Materials posted on the OU Canvas system: Access Canvas at http://learn.ou.edu; enter your OU NetID and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.
7. Materials accessible from online journals, as listed in the class schedule below.

Note: The Follett/AP Bookstore is the Advanced Programs contractual textbook provider. Should text changes become necessary after publication of the course syllabus, Advanced Programs will facilitate text returns/refunds only for texts purchased through the Follett/AP Bookstore.

Optional Purchase:

Students who wish to have a better grounding in 20th century Japanese history and the significant changes to Japan’s politics, economy and society that provided the backdrop for imperial expansion, war, and eventual defeat, may wish to read selections from one of the widely available textbooks. I would recommend in particular Andrew Gordon’s *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present* (Oxford University Press). I also highly recommend the following title, which provides not only models for correct footnote and bibliographic forms, but also useful tips on researching and writing a history paper: Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History* (Bedford/St. Martin’s).

Note on Course Workload:

This is a history seminar that has a substantial amount of required reading. The reading is not supplementary, but rather constitutes the backbone of the course and thus should be completed before our in-class seminar begins. Many required readings as well as all assignments, special instructions, and learning aides will be posted to Canvas. It is crucial that you read through the announcements on Canvas as soon as you become enrolled in the course, and check back frequently to review materials and to see if there have been additional materials posted. You should also be sure to order your books well in advance, so that you have enough time to complete your pre-class paper and your course reading.

Course Objectives:

1. To understand the history of Japan’s road to militarism and its war in Asia and with the United States
2. To understand the key debates in Japan, China and the United States involving memories of the Asia-Pacific War
3. To learn to analyze the politics of memory in its historical context.
Course Outline:
Class sessions will consist of a combination of lecture, discussion, and video presentations, with special emphasis on the discussion component. Students will be expected to be able to discuss readings thoughtfully and intelligently, and to make connections between those readings and lecture/video materials. To this end, all assigned readings must be completed before our week-long seminar begins. Each student should expect to make a short presentation summarizing and evaluating a reading assignment at least once during our week of class. (The exact number of presentations expected of each student will depend on course enrollment.)

Since students are not expected to have any prior knowledge of Japanese history, several hour-long lectures will focus on Japan’s path toward modernity and eventually toward war beginning with the Meiji Restoration of 1868.

Class discussion will be the central focus of our seminar, and will focus on readings assigned for the day. Each student will be expected to engage in discussion with insightful comments and questions during every class period. All readings listed below will either be a book required for purchase, essays and selections available on Canvas as a PDF file, or essays available from the Asia Pacific Journal (online journal), located at japanfocus.org.

Sunday, 8:30-4:30
- **Lecture:** The Meiji Restoration/First Modern Wars
- **Discussion: The Pacific War**
  - Dower, “Race, Language and War in Two Cultures” (Canvas)
  - Ienaga, *Pacific War, 1931-1945* (book)
- **Lecture:** Imperial Expansion/War with China
- **Film:** *Why We Fight: Japan* (Frank Capra)
- **Discussion: The Nanjing Massacre**

Monday, 6-10pm
- **Discussion: The Nanjing Massacre (continued)**
  - Yoshida, *The Making of the ‘Rape of Nanking’* (continued)
- **Lecture:** The Occupation and Beyond
- **Discussion: Comfort Women**
  - Soh, selections from *The Comfort Women* (Canvas)
  - “The Japan-Korea Comfort Woman Deal: This is only the Beginning” (access at Forbes.com)
  - Sakamoto, et. al., “The Flawed Japan-ROK Attempt to Resolve the Controversy Over Wartime Sexual Slavery” (access at japanfocus.org)

Tuesday, 6-10pm
- **Film:** The Women Outside
- **Discussion:** Pearl Harbor
  - White, *Remembering Pearl Harbor* (book)

Wednesday, 6-10pm
- **Film/Discussion:** The Atomic Bomb
- **Discussion:** The Atomic Bomb
  - Frank, *Downfall*, chapters 16, 17, 19, 20 (Canvas)
  - Selection from Oishi, *The Day the Sun Rose in the West* (Canvas)
Thursday, 6-10pm

- **Discussion: Memorials and Museums**
  - Kohn, “History and the Culture Wars: The Smithsonian Institution’s *Enola Gay* Exhibition” (Canvas)
  - Ma, “War Museums” (Canvas)
- **Lecture:** A Guide to Writing Final Papers
- **Discussion:** Yasukuni
  - Takenaka, *Yasukuni Shrine* (book)

Friday, 6-10pm

- **Discussion: Okinawa and Other Islands**
  - Gluck, “Sekinin/Responsibility in Modern Japan” (Canvas)
  - Gavan McCormack, “Japan’s Problematic Prefecture: Okinawa and the US-Japan Relationship” (access at japanfocus.org)
  - Gavan McCormack, “Much Ado over Small Islands” (access at japanfocus.org)
  - Brown, “Abe’s 2016 Plan to Break the Deadlock in the Territorial Dispute with Russia” (access at japanfocus.org)
- **Film:** *Japan, the Emperor and the Army*
- **Discussion:** Constitutional Revision
  - Komori, “Japan's Article 9 and Economic Justice: The Work of Shinagawa Masaji” (access at japanfocus.org)

Saturday, 8:30am-12pm

- **Q and A:** Final Exam Prep
- **Final Exam** (closed book IDs; open book long essay)

Assignments, Grading and Due Dates:

**Pre-class paper:**

Due on Sunday, April 2, this 5-page paper (double spaced) should examine and assess Yoshida’s book *The Making of the “Rape of Nanking”*. Your paper should offer a cogent summary of Yoshida’s main arguments, discuss the kinds of sources and methods he uses to make those arguments, and evaluate the effectiveness of those arguments. Do not use any outside sources for this paper (books, articles, websites). This is to be your reading of Yoshida’s book. For additional guidelines, see PDF’s by Rampolla and Benjamin on how to write an academic book review posted on Canvas. Please upload your completed pre-class paper to Canvas.

**Participation:**

Participation is expected from each student during every class. Your participation grade will be determined by the quality of your contributions rather than on quantity alone. Each student will be expected to give at least one (depending on the number of students in the class) brief (five minute) presentation on an assigned reading during the seminar week, and these also will count towards your participation grade.

**Final Examination:**

Your final exam will take place during our last class session. The exam will consist of a closed-book short identification section, and an open book essay section. A prep sheet for the final examination will be available on Canvas no later than the first day of class.
Post-seminar paper:

Due on Saturday, May 20, this 10 to 12-page paper (double spaced) should focus on an aspect of war memory in Japan. While students must use some of the sources we have read in class that are appropriate for their chosen topic, papers should also include the use of outside sources. A list of possible paper topics will be posted to Canvas before our seminar begins. Students may choose topics not on the list only if the professor approves them in advance. Students should be prepared to propose a final paper topic for instructor approval during the early days of our on-site seminar. Students are encouraged to email with the professor before or after the seminar week to discuss or ask questions about their topic or paper. Papers should include footnotes and bibliography using Chicago style. Final papers should be submitted to Canvas, preferably as a PDF file.

Please note: while the instructor recognizes that deployments, official travel and other work-related issues may require some adjustments to the due date of the final paper for certain individuals, there will not be an opportunity to resubmit papers for higher grades after your initial submission. The instructor will be available to give advice and guidance up until the time you submit the final paper, but you may not “revise and resubmit” once the paper has been graded. Your final paper should represent your best work.

Please consult the Rampolla book (see “Optional Purchase” above) and material on Canvas for information on how to approach a research paper, how to properly cite references, write footnotes and bibliographies, etc.

Grading:

This is a letter-graded course: A, B, C, D, or F.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-class paper</td>
<td>Sunday, April 2 (11:59pm)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Each class session</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Sunday, April 29 (in class)</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-seminar paper</td>
<td>Saturday, May 20 (11:59pm)</td>
<td>35</td>
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Notice: Failure to meet assignment due dates could result in a grade of I (Incomplete) and may adversely impact Tuition Assistance and/or Financial Aid.
POLICIES AND NOTICES

Attendance/Grade Policy

Attendance and participation in interaction, individual assignments, group exercises, simulations, role playing, etc. are valuable aspects of any course because much of the learning comes from discussions in class with other students. It is expected that you attend all classes and be on time except for excused emergencies.

Excused absences are given for professor mandated activities or legally required activities such as emergencies or military assignments. It is the policy of the University to excuse absences of students that result from religious observances and to provide without penalty for the rescheduling of examinations and additional required class work that may fall on religious holidays. Unavoidable personal emergencies, including (but not limited to) serious illness; delays in getting to class because of accidents, etc.; deaths and funerals, and hazardous road conditions will be excused.

If you are obtaining financial assistance (TA, STAP, FA, VA, Scholarship, etc.) to pay all or part of your tuition cost, you must follow your funding agency/institution’s policy regarding “I” (Incomplete) grades unless the timeline is longer than what the University policy allows then you must adhere to the University policy. Students who receive Financial Aid must resolve/complete any “I” (Incomplete) grades by the end of the term or he/she may be placed on “financial aid probation.” If the “I” grade is not resolved/completed by the end of the following term, the student’s Financial Aid may be suspended make the student ineligible for further Financial Aid.

Students are responsible for meeting the guidelines of Tuition Assistance and Veterans Assistance. See the education counselor at your local education center for a complete description of your TA or VA requirements.

Academic Integrity and Student Conduct

Academic integrity means honesty and responsibility in scholarship. Academic assignments exist to help students learn; grades exist to show how fully this goal is attained. Therefore all work and all grades should result from the student's own understanding and effort.

Academic misconduct is any act which improperly affects the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement. Misconduct occurs when the student either knows or reasonably should know that the act constitutes misconduct. Academic misconduct includes: cheating and using unauthorized materials on examinations and other assignments; improper collaboration, submitting the same assignment for different classes (self-plagiarism); fabrication, forgery, alteration of documents, lying, etc…in order to obtain an academic advantage; assisting others in academic misconduct; attempting to commit academic misconduct; destruction of property, hacking, etc…; intimidation and interference with integrity process; and plagiarism. All students should review the Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity at http://integrity.ou.edu/students_guide.html

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. All students should review policies regarding student conduct at http://studentconduct.ou.edu/

Accommodation Statement

The University of Oklahoma is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your local OU Site Director.

Adjustment for Pregnancy/Childbirth-Related Issues

Should you need modifications or adjustments to your course requirements because of documented pregnancy-related or childbirth-related issues, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss. Generally, modifications will be made where medically necessary and similar in scope to accommodations based on temporary disability. Please see http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo/faqs/pregnancy-faqs.html.
Title IX Resources

For any concerns regarding gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, stalking, or intimate partner violence, the University offers a variety of resources, including advocates on-call 24/7, counseling services, mutual no-contact orders, scheduling adjustments, and disciplinary sanctions against the perpetrator. Please contact the Sexual Misconduct Office at smo@ou.edu or (405) 325-2215 (8-5), or the Sexual Assault Response Team at (405) 615 -0013 (24/7) to report an incident. To learn more about Title IX, please visit the Institutional Equity Office’s website at http://www.ou.edu/content/eoo.html

Course Policies

Advanced Programs policy is to order books in paperback if available. Courses, dates, and professors are subject to change. Please check with your OU Site Director. Students should retain a copy of any assignments that are mailed to the professor for the course. Advanced Programs does not provide duplicating services or office supplies.

Any and all course materials, syllabus, lessons, lectures, etc. are the property of professor teaching the course and the Board of Regents of the University of Oklahoma and are protected under applicable copyright.

For more information about Advanced Programs, visit our website at: http://www.goou.ou.edu/
INSTRUCTOR VITA
Elyssa Faison

Education
• 2001 Ph.D., UCLA, history
• 1993 M.A., UCLA, history
• 1988 B.A., Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio

Current Positions
• Advanced Programs Professor since 2007
• Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Oklahoma

Major Areas of Teaching and Research Interest
• Twentieth century Japanese history
• War and memory studies
• Japanese gender and women’s history
• History of labor in Japan

Representative Publications and Presentations
• Sexing Class: Gender and Labor in Korea and Japan, co-edited with Dr. Ruth Barraclough (Australian National University); RoutledgeCurzon “Women in Asia” series, 2009.

Representative Honors and Awards Received
• Ed Cline Faculty Development Award, OU (2016)
• Oklahoma Regents’ Award for Superior Teaching (2012)
• Invited Visiting Scholar/Visiting Professor, Graduate School of East Asian Studies, Yamaguchi University, Japan (May-June 2012)
• University of Oklahoma Research Council Grant (2008, 2010)
• Gary B. Cohen Distinguished Faculty Award for service in International and Area Studies (2008)
• University of Oklahoma Junior Faculty Research Grant (2002, 2003, 2005)
• University of Oklahoma Presidential Dream Course Award (2004)
• Yale Council on East Asian Studies Japan Travel Grant (2004)
• Northeast Asia Council (NEAC) short-term travel grant to Japan (2004)
• Japan Foundation Doctoral Fellowship (1996-1997)

Major Professional Affiliations
• Association of Asian Studies
• American Historical Association
• Midwest Japan Seminar