The University of Oklahoma
College of Continuing Education
Advanced Programs – Course Syllabus

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

Course Number:
HIST 6800-301

Course Description:
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:

Location: Hangar 2, Room 102, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.
Hours: Sun 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; M-F 6:00-10:00 p.m.; Sat. 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Last day to enroll or drop without penalty: January 28, 2012

Site Director:
Mary Keller. Phone: 808-449-6364 (DSN & Commercial); Fax: 808-422-5509; E-mail: aphickam@ou.edu

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 Follett/AP Bookstore located in the Oklahoma Memorial Union, 900 Asp Ave., Norman, OK. Orders can be placed online at www.oklahomaunion.bkstr.com or by telephone at 866-369-9713 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-5960 (outside the U.S.). E-mail orders may be sent to oklahomaunion@bkstr.com. Representatives are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. CST Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CST on Friday. Summer hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. CST. Faxed orders may be placed 24 hours a day to 866-223-5607 (toll free in the U.S.) or 405-325-1557 (outside the U.S.).


5. Materials posted on the OU Desire to Learn (D2L) system: Access D2L at [http://learn.ou.edu](http://learn.ou.edu); enter your OU NetID (4+4) and password, and select course to access material. Please contact your local Site Director if you require assistance.

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 2003), or Kenneth Pyle’s *The Making of Modern Japan*. 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*, 6th ed. (Bedford/St. Martin’s) ISBN-10: 0312535031.

**Note on Course Workload:**

This is a history seminar, and as such 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 D2L. It is crucial that you read through the announcements on D2L 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 weeklong 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, and culminating with defeat in 1945.

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 D2L as a PDF file, or essays available from the website japanfocus.org.

Sunday, February 26

- Lecture: The Meiji Restoration/First Modern Wars
- Discussion: Dower, “Race, Language and War in Two Cultures” (D2); Ienaga, Pacific War, 1931-1945; Dower, “Infamy and the Cracked Mirror of History” (D2L)
- Film: Why We Fight: Japan (Frank Capra)

Monday, February 27

- Lecture: Imperial Expansion/War with China
- Discussion: Yoshida, The Making of the “Rape of Nanking”;
- Soh, “Japan’s Responsibility Toward Comfort Women Survivors” (access at jpri.org); Yang, “Remembering Korean Military Comfort Women” (D2L); Dower, Embracing Defeat, pp. 121-39 (D2L)

Tuesday, February 28

- Film/Discussion: The Atomic Bomb
- Discussion: Bernstein, “Understanding the Atomic Bomb” (D2L); Walker, “Recent Literature on Truman” (D2L); Hersey, Hiroshima (entire book); Selection from Orr, The Victim as Hero (D2L)
- Lecture: The Occupation and Beyond

Wednesday, February 29

- Film: Japan’s American Interlude
- Discussion: John Okada, No-no Boy;
- Fujitani, “Right to Kill, Right to Make Live” (D2L)

Thursday, March 1

- Lecture: A Guide to Writing Final Papers
- Discussion: Ma, “War Museums” (D2L); Yaguchi, “War Memories Across the Pacific” (D2L); Heinrichs, “The Enola Gay and Contested Memory” (D2L); Dower, Embracing Defeat, Chs 12 & 13 (D2L)

Friday, March 2

- Film: Japan’s About Face
- Discussion: Nozaki and Selden, “Japanese Textbook Controversies, Nationalism and Historical Memory” (access at japanfocus.org);
- Ota, “The World is Beginning to Know Okinawa” (access at japanfocus.org); Johnson, “Three Rapes: The Status of Forces Agreement and Okinawa” (access at japanfocus.org)

Saturday, March 3

- Discussions: 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 Wednesday, February 8, this 5-page paper 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 D2L. You may also wish to refer to the optional book by Rampolla for help on writing a critical review. Please upload your completed pre-class paper to the D2L dropbox in PDF form.

**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 D2L no later than the first day of class.

**Post-seminar paper:**

Due on Wednesday, March 28, this 10 to 12-page paper 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 several outside sources. A list of possible paper topics will be posted to D2L before our seminar begins. Students may choose topics not on the list only if the professor approves them in advance. Students should upload a proposed topic (described in a sentence or two) to the D2L Dropbox by the first day of class, and bring a copy of it with them to class to hand in. Students should also plan on discussing their topic and research plan with the instructor during the week of our seminar, and are encouraged to email or request an online chat 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 appropriate style. Final papers should be uploaded to the D2L dropbox as a PDF.

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 D2L 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>% of Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-class paper</td>
<td>Wednesday, February 8</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Each class session</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>Friday, March 3 (in class)</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post-seminar paper</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 28</td>
<td>35</td>
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Grading: 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. 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 Honesty

Honesty is a fundamental precept in all academic activities and … [you] have a special obligation to observe the highest standards of honesty. Academic misconduct in any form is inimical to the purposes and functions of the University and is therefore unacceptable and is rigorously proscribed. Academic misconduct includes:

- cheating (using unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise), plagiarism, falsification of records, unauthorized possession of examinations, intimidation, and any and all other actions that may improperly affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or achievement; assisting others in any such act; or attempting to engage in such acts.

All acts of academic misconduct will be reported and adjudicated as prescribed by the student code of the University of Oklahoma. All students should review the “Student’s Guide to Academic Integrity” found at http://www.ou.edu/provost/integrity

Accommodation Statement

The College of Continuing Education [Advanced Programs] is committed to making its activities as accessible as possible. For accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact your OU Site Director.

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.

Copyright

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

• University of Oklahoma Research Council Grant (2008, 2010)
• University of Oklahoma Presidential International Travel Fellowship (2007, 2010)
• 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
• Social Science History Association
• Midwest Japan Seminar