

The University of Tokyo Global Japan Studies Summer Program 2017 (Report)

AN INQUIRY INTO JAPAN'S POSTWAR

July. 29-Aug. 8, 2017



Program Organizer:

Global Japan Studies (GJS) Network

Program Host Institution:

Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo

Global Japan Studies at the University of Tokyo is an interdisciplinary and multilingual network of research and education on Japan. It seeks to bring together Japanese studies overseas and studies of Japan within Japan. This summer program is a short-term education project in pursuit of this goal.

Introduction to the Global Japan Studies Summer Program (2017)

Japan's postwar period is most often described in terms of four decades of high economic growth followed subsequently by the recent recession dubbed "the lost two decades" (1990-present). Japan's postwar, however, points to a far more complicated and ongoing process of social, cultural, and political changes, which this program set out to explore.

Participants were immersed in a ten-day intensive program of interdisciplinary academic lectures (in humanities, social sciences, and engineering) as well as carefully planned fieldtrips in the Tokyo metropolitan area. Through a well-designed combination of on- and off-campus study, the program challenged participants to both critically analyze and actually experience specifically identified sociological and technological issues, such as sustainable urban planning, gender inequality, and social stratification. These issues are key for understanding not only Japan's postwar itself but also the larger world to which Japan is closely connected and of which Japan is intrinsically a part.

Program requirements:

Participants were required to conduct group research projects and give presentations on the final day of the program. Project topics were decided in consultation with program faculty members. Participants also were asked to complete a program evaluation.

While the program lecture and fieldtrip did not count toward course credits, participants received a University of Tokyo summer program certificate upon successfully completing the program.



Welcome Speech and Program Introduction by Prof. Sonoda Shigeto

On way to
fieldtrip



Brainstorming in class



Examining
Primary
Sources in
Class



Program Schedule 2017

	9:00-10:20	10:40-13:30 (10:40-12:10 Lecture; 12:10-13:30: Lunch and Discussion)	13:30-17:30 (field trip, time vary slightly everyday)	Evening	Lodge
7/28 (Fri)	Arrival at Tokyo, check-in at Hotel Graphy Nezu				Hotel Graphy Nezu
7/29 (Sat)	Guidance, Campus tour / No.1 Conference Room, IASA / Atten: Profs. Nakajima, Sonoda, Zhong, Nii, TA		Group orientation, group photo taking / Atten: Profs. Sonoda, Nakajima, Zhong, Nii, TA	Free activity (Kagurazaka matsuri)	
7/30 (Sun)	Tour of Edo-Tokyo Museum (10:30-16:30, lunch inside museum)			Free activity	
7/31 (Mon)	Fieldtrip (1) 10:00-13:30 Kashiwanoha campus SmartCity / Attn: Prof. Zhong, Mr. Mori, TA		Lecture (1) (14:30-16:30) Prof. SATO Jin “Resource Thinking in Postwar Japan” /Lecture & discussion / No.1 Conference Room	Free activity	
8/1 (Tue)	Japanese/Center for Japanese Language Education (CJLE)	Lecture (2) Prof. MURAYAMA Akito “Urban Diversity and Transformation of Tokyo” /Lunch & discussion/ Main Conference Room	Fieldtrip (2) The Futako-Tamagaya Rise, guided by designer Hiraga Tatsuya / Attn: Profs. Murayama, Zhong, TA	Free activity	
8/2 (Wed)	Free activity (optional trip: Exhibition “The Japanese House: Architecture and Life After 1945” @ The National Museum of Modern Art)				
8/3 (Thu)	Japanese / CJLE	Lecture (3) Prof. SHIRAHASE Sawako “Social Inequalities in Postwar Japan” / Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (3) Visiting Sanya with NPO Moyai /Attn: Prof, Zhong, TA	Free activity	
8/4 (Fri)	Japanese / CJLE	Lecture (4) Prof. MATSUDA Yasuhiro “Japan’s Postwar Foreign Policy” /Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (4) Yasukuni Shrine / Attn: Prof. Zhong, TA	Free activity	
8/5 (Sat)	Japanese / CJLE	Lecture (5) Prof. NUMANO Mitsuyoshi “Japanese Literature after World War II: Kawabata, Abe, Oe, Murakami” /Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (5) Kanagawa Museum of Modern Literature, Yokohama Chinatown / Attn: Prof. Zhong, TA	Free activity	
8/6 (Sun)		Lecture (6) Prof. Nicola LISCUTIN “Acts of Memory and Forgetting: Film in Postwar Japan” / Lunch & discussion / MCR	Fieldtrip (6) Asakusa-Odaiba Boat Tour, Lucky Dragon Boat Museum / Attn: Profs Liscutin, Zhong, TA		
8/7 (Mon)	Japanese / CJLE	Group work (Main Conference Rm)	Free activity	Free activity	
8/8 (Tue)	Group presentation preparation and lunch (9:00-12:00) /MCR /Attn: Profs. Nakajima, Zhong, & Nii, TA		Presentation and farewell party (13:00-18:00) / MCR / Attn: Profs. Nakajima, Liscutin, Zhong, & Nii, TA		

Program Lecturers 2017

Nicola LISCUTIN (Professor of Japanese Studies and GLP-GEFIL Program Director at the Center for the Development of Global Leadership Education, the University of Tokyo)

MATSUDA Yasuhiro (Professor of International Politics, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo)

NUMANO Mitsuyoshi (Professor of Modern Literature, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, the University of Tokyo)

MURAYAMA Akito (Associate Professor of Urban Planning, Department of Urban Engineering, School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo)

SATO Jin (Professor of Resource Politics, Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia, the University of Tokyo)

SHIRAHASE Sawako (Professor of Sociology, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, the University of Tokyo)

Total Number of Participants: 16 (University of Tokyo students: 3)

Place of Origin: Sciences Po Paris (Institut d'Etudes Politiques), Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf, University of Nottingham, Trinity College of the University of Toronto, Université d'Ottawa, Shanghai Jiaotong University, University of Hong Kong, Swarthmore College, New York University, University of Tsukuba, University of Tokyo

Final-day Group Presentation Topics:

- Gender Equality in Japan
- Japan's Attitudes Towards Nuclear Energy
- Japanese Cinema as a Coping Mechanism for Japanese Society
- Irregular Employment in Japan

Fieldtrip to Yokohama





Fieldtrip to the Lucky Dragon Boat Museum

Final day group presentation



Farewell party

Participants' Feedback:

This is really an eye-widening and mind-altering experience for me and I am happy that I decided to apply for this program. I think the most important lesson I take from the last 2 weeks is attitude toward learning and handling differing opinions.

The schedule and itinerary perfectly met my expectations. It was indeed very condensed and tiring at times but I applied to this program to optimize at most my stay to study about Japan, which I esteemed have been the case. Extra-resting time would have meant undesirable additional cost to me.

I think that the schedule was appropriate. Especially, it was very good that we utilized lunchtime for discussion.

I could see the great connection between field trips and lectures. The lectures were informative and interesting enough even for Japanese students.

This program let me have a chance to improve both my Japanese and English. It is a really rare chance for me to listen to the Japanese to comment on Chinese culture, policy, and economy. The communication with the international students was really wonderful. We shared our opinion on questions and also shared our own life experiences.

What impressed me most is the combination of lectures and field trips. But I also advise that maybe we can have more group work during fieldtrip.

My favourite field trips were the Yasakuni Shrine, and the visit to the Lucky Dragon 5 Museum. They were the most powerful experiences.

I think I learned a lot academically and intellectually from the program. It was quite structured and intensive. I think the part I liked the most was the ability to interact with other students from UTokyo. They added a very vital and important part to experiencing Japan and Tokyo. I definitely think I will return to Japan once my studies are fully finished.

I have been extremely satisfied with the fieldtrips and I think they produced a great combination of empirical and historical material complementing the lectures.

For me, a key asset of this program were the discussions with the lecturers as well as within the student body which allowed us a comparative and more critical understanding of the different themes.



Thank all the summer program participants of 2017! It is YOU who made the program a success.

Latest information of the 2018 Summer Program will be available soon at gjs.ioc.u-tokyo.ac.jp

We look forward to your participation in 2018!

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Secretariat: Prof. NII Yoko, Prof. ZHONG Yijiang

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