

Introduction to Modern Japanese Society

Kyushu University JICA-DSP course
Spring/Summer 2021

Yu YANG and Sven KRAMER, Faculty of Humanities

This course aims to provide JICA students at Kyushu University with historical knowledge about various aspects of modern Japan's society, such as politics, economy, industry, urbanization, and culture, etc.

This course is open to all graduate students at Kyushu University for credits. Everyone is welcome to audit this course (self-registration on Moodle).

Date and Time: Wednesdays 14:50 to 16:20 JST

Online: by Microsoft Teams & Moodle

Weekly schedule on the next page



Weekly Schedule

April 14: Introduction

April 21: Basics of Early Modern Japanese Society

April 28: Urban Space in Early Modern Japan

May 12: From Agrarian to Industrial: Social Change and
Industrialization During the Meiji Period

May 19: Zaibatsu: The Industrial Conglomerates of
Imperial Japan and their Influence

May 26: Political Culture from the Meiji
Restoration until the 1930s

June 2: Building the New Nation:
Public Space and Buildings

June 9: Modern Society and Local Governments

June 16: Defending the Local:
An Opposition Against Municipal Merger

June 23: Clashing Temporalities:
Urban Culture in the 1920s

June 30: Building a Colonial Empire:
Japan and East Asia in the 1930s

July 7: Circulation of People, Goods, and
Ideas in the Japanese Empire

July 14: The Postwar Economic Miracle
and its Influence on Society

July 21: Contested Ground in Postwar Japan

July 28: Conclusion