



UNSW Course Outline

ARTS3639 Japan in Popular Culture - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS3639

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture

Academic Unit : School of Humanities and Languages

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Undergraduate

Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Based on the theory of Popular Culture by selected scholars, this course thematically explores Japan's political, cultural and societal issues through domestic Japanese popular culture.

Through reading/interpreting several texts, discussion in class, and set assessment tasks, you

attempt to answer the questions, how and why each theme reflects Japan in its past, present and future.

This course is taught in English with readings in English.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Critically discuss issues embedded into and/or surrounding Japanese Popular Culture in Japan and the world.
CLO2 : Analyse and synthesise texts and other materials to lead to the core discussion of the selected theme and items.
CLO3 : Articulate and critically reflect own initial interests and experiences learning and/or engaging with Japan.
CLO4 : Design and execute a collaborative project on Japanese popular culture.
CLO5 : Evaluate and reflect on learning about and experiences with Japanese popular culture inside and outside the classroom.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Critically discuss issues embedded into and/or surrounding Japanese Popular Culture in Japan and the world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active Tutorial Discussion• Tutorial Leader• Project
CLO2 : Analyse and synthesise texts and other materials to lead to the core discussion of the selected theme and items.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active Tutorial Discussion• Tutorial Leader• Project
CLO3 : Articulate and critically reflect own initial interests and experiences learning and/or engaging with Japan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active Tutorial Discussion• Tutorial Leader• Project
CLO4 : Design and execute a collaborative project on Japanese popular culture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project
CLO5 : Evaluate and reflect on learning about and experiences with Japanese popular culture inside and outside the classroom.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Active Tutorial Discussion• Tutorial Leader• Project

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System | Microsoft Teams | Echo 360

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Active Tutorial Discussion Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: See Additional Information section.
Tutorial Leader Assessment Format: Individual	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: See Additional Information section.
Project Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: 10/06/2024 12:00 AM Due Date: 11:59pm, July 20 for Video / 5pm, August 7 for Essay / During Week 11 for Oral exam

Assessment Details

Active Tutorial Discussion

Assessment Overview

Students contribute to a tutorial discussion summary board (on Padlet) during the tutorial classes for the wrap-up sessions in the one-hour lectures that follow on the day, and/or write reflective journals after the conclusion of the classes of the week to achieve the maximum 20 marks.

Summary board entry:

Length 50-75 words per entry (only one per week)

Mark allocation: 3 per entry

Feedback via mark and oral comments in the wrap-up lecture

Reflective Journal entry:

Length: 200-250 words per entry

Mark allocation: 5 per entry

Feedback via mark and written comments

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Critically discuss issues embedded into and/or surrounding Japanese Popular Culture in Japan and the world.
- CL02 : Analyse and synthesise texts and other materials to lead to the core discussion of the selected theme and items.
- CL03 : Articulate and critically reflect own initial interests and experiences learning and/or

engaging with Japan.

- CLO5 : Evaluate and reflect on learning about and experiences with Japanese popular culture inside and outside the classroom.

Detailed Assessment Description

Important:

It is essential for you to plan how you work on this assessment (whether to write reflective journals or summary board or combination of both) to maximise your marks at the beginning of the term.

Assessment Length

50-75 words per Summary board / 250 words per Journal.

Submission notes

Summary board on Padlet and Journal Submission through Turnitin under each week space on Moodle.

Assessment information

***Activity Period:** Week 1-Week 8

-Avoid overlapping with your tutorial leader report.

***Due dates:**

-Summary board: before Lecture one that follows the tutorial weekly.

-Reflective Journal: Sunday 11:59pm, end of each week.

***Other information**

-In order to write a reflection note, it is essential to read the materials posted by the instructor/ student leaders, and actively participated in the tutorial as well as the 1 hour lecture that follows tutorial class of the week.

-Submission through Turnitin only applies to Reflective Journal.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Tutorial Leader

Assessment Overview

Students select a tutorial week and generate a discussion question based on the readings, and lecture contents. Together with a few sub-questions that help to discuss/answer the tutorial

question, they share the question and discussion materials (readings/media) on the courseTeam prior to the tutorial class. During the assigned class, the student leaders lead their group for discussion and creation of the summary post. After the one-hour wrap-up lecture, the leaders submit a leader report.

Pre-tutorial preparation: ca. 5 hours; lead the tutorial class: ca. 1 hour; post-tutorial activity and discussion: ca. 1 hour (minimum 7 hours for the whole task).

Feedback via rubric and individual written comments.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Critically discuss issues embedded into and/or surrounding Japanese Popular Culture in Japan and the world.
- CLO2 : Analyse and synthesise texts and other materials to lead to the core discussion of the selected theme and items.
- CLO3 : Articulate and critically reflect own initial interests and experiences learning and/or engaging with Japan.
- CLO5 : Evaluate and reflect on learning about and experiences with Japanese popular culture inside and outside the classroom.

Detailed Assessment Description

-Tutorial Leader activity begins in Week 3 and concludes in Week 8.

-Each week, the discussion topic focuses on the contents of Lecture 1 in the previous week (e.g. Week 3 tutorial leader discussion focuses on Week 2 Lecture 1 contents) to give the leader enough time to leaders to prepare for the leader session.

-See Moodle for further information.

Assessment Length

minimum 7 hours including preparation

Submission notes

See additional information below

Assessment information

-Due dates:

1. Discussion materials to be posted on Team by Tuesday 12pm of the week you lead the class.
2. Self-reflection of your leadership (report) to be submitted through turnitin on Moodle by Sunday 11:59pm of the week you led the tutorial discussion (i.e. two days after the leader session).

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Project

Assessment Overview

The project is a combination of group work and individual tasks to be worked on in the second half of the course.

Firstly, students form a group of 4. Secondly, research into the topic is carried out by referring to readings and in-group discussions. Thirdly, the group presents a short video (ca. 10 mins) online and leads a tutorial discussion during weeks 9-10 (25%). Lastly, individual students will either write a 1,000-word essay about Japan or attend an oral exam in a form of an interview (ca. 15 minutes) in reflection of their presentation and the class discussion (25%)

Feedback via marks and rubric. Individual feedback is available upon request after the end of the term.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Critically discuss issues embedded into and/or surrounding Japanese Popular Culture in Japan and the world.
- CL02 : Analyse and synthesise texts and other materials to lead to the core discussion of the selected theme and items.
- CL03 : Articulate and critically reflect own initial interests and experiences learning and/or engaging with Japan.
- CL04 : Design and execute a collaborative project on Japanese popular culture.
- CL05 : Evaluate and reflect on learning about and experiences with Japanese popular culture inside and outside the classroom.

Detailed Assessment Description

See Moodle for further information.

Assessment Length

10mins group video presentation + 1000 words individual essay (if selected) or 15 mins oral exam

Submission notes

Video submission on Teams Channel, and essay submission by Word document on Turnitin

Assessment information

You need to view the videos posted by other groups to participate in the discussion sessions in Weeks 9 (and 10). See Moodle for further information.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

General Assessment Information

Check Moodle for further information for all of the assessments.

Use of AIs For all of the assessment tasks, you may use standard editing and referencing software, but not generative AI. You are permitted to use the full capabilities of the standard software such as spell/grammar checkers on Microsoft Word, Endnote etc.). Unauthorised use of Generative AIs will be regarded as academic misconduct and it will be subject to the standard penalties, which may include 00FL, suspension and exclusion.

Useful sites:

[Use of AI for Assessments](#)

[Chat GPT and Generative AI at UNSW](#)

[Academic Integrity and Plagiarism](#)

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

Minimum 80% of the total class attendance is required to pass the course as all assessments are closely linked to the class contents.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Lecture	Lecture 1: Course Introduction Understanding Japanese Popular Culture Studies Lecture 2: Introduction to Supernatural
	Tutorial	Discussion Exercises
	Reading	Storey, J. (2012). What is Popular Culture?, Cultural Theory and Popular Culture: An Introduction, 1-16. Taylor & Francis Group. Tsutsui, W. (2010). Forms and Theme in Japanese Popular Culture, Japanese Popular Culture and Globalization. 5-22, Association for Asian Studies, Inc.
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Lecture	Lecture 1: Supernatural: Guest Lecture by Dr Zilia Zara-Papp Lecture 2: Mock tutorial leader wrap-up discussion.
	Tutorial	Mock tutorial leader task
	Reading	Papp, Z. (2009). Monsters at War: The Great Yōkai Wars, 1968-2005. Mechademia, 4(1), 225–239. Shamoon, D. M. (2013). The Yōkai in the Database: Supernatural Creatures and Folklore in Manga and Anime. Marvels & Tales, 27(2), 276–289.
	Assessment	Project group should be formed by the end of this week. For those who have already formed a group, discuss a few potential topics within the group and make an appointment with the course instructor for a consultation (either f2f or online).
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Lecture	Lecture 1: Supernatural: Godzilla and Japan Lecture 2: Tutorial Leader Session Wrap-up.
	Tutorial	Tutorial Leader Session 1 (Based on Week 2 Lecture 1 contents).
	Reading	Low, M. (1993). The birth of Godzilla: Nuclear fear and the ideology of Japan as victim. Japanese Studies, 13(2), 48–58. Tanaka, M. (2022). Apocalyptic Imagination in Godzilla Resurgence, Electric Journal of Contemporary Japanese Studies 22(3). Godzilla movies 1954 and 2016.
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Lecture	Lecture 1: Japan's TV Culture Lecture 2: Tutorial Leader Session Wrap-up.
	Tutorial	Tutorial Leader Session 2 (Based on Week 3 Lecture 1 contents)
	Reading	Mōri, Y. (2020) Media in Japan, in Takeda, H., & Williams, M. (Eds.), 458-470. Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Japan (1st ed.). Routledge. Aboud, J. (1992). Japan as a TV culture. Japanese Studies, 12(2), 32–43.
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Lecture	Lecture 1: From TV to Online: Idols and Popular Music in Japan. Lecture 2: Tutorial Leader Session Wrap-up.
	Tutorial	Tutorial Leader Session 3 (Based on Week 4 Lecture 1 contents)
	Reading	Galbraith, P.W. (2021). Idol Economics: Television, Affective and Virtual Models in Japan. In: Hiroshi, A., Galbraith, P.W., Kovacic, M. (eds) Idology in Transcultural Perspective, 65-89. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. Vichot, R. (2024). The Expression of sehnsucht in the Japanese city pop revival fandom through visual media on Reddit and YouTube, Transformative Works and Cultures, 42.
Week 6 : 1 July - 7 July	Project	No class this week. Work on Project
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Lecture	Lecture 1: Tourism in Japan Overview. Lecture 2: Tutorial Leader Session Wrap-up.
	Tutorial	Tutorial Leader Session 4 (Based on Week 5 Lecture 1 contents)
	Reading	Seaton, P., & Yamamura, T. (2015). Japanese Popular Culture and Contents Tourism – Introduction. Japan Forum, 27(1), 1–11. Okamoto, T. (2015). Otaku tourism and the anime pilgrimage phenomenon in Japan. Japan Forum, 27(1), 12–36.
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Lecture	Lecture 1: Mascot culture and Overtourism in Japan Lecture 2: Tutorial Leader Session Wrap-up.
	Tutorial	Tutorial Leader Session 5 (Based on Week 7 Lecture 1 contents)
	Assessment	Project video submission is due at 11:59pm on Saturday, July 20. Watch other group's presentation video to prepare for the project discussion in Week 9 and 10.
	Reading	Duignan, M.B; Everett, S. & McCabe, S. (2022). Events as catalysts for communal resistance to overtourism, Annals of Tourism Research, Volume 96. Occhi, D. J (2023). Kumamon, in Freedman, A. (Ed.). Introducing Japanese Popular Culture (2nd ed.) 26-36. Routledge.

Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Lecture	Lecture 1: Future of Japan Lecture 2: Project Discussion Session 3
	Tutorial	Project Discussion Session 1-2
Week 10 : 29 July - 4 August	Lecture	Lecture 1: Project Discussion Session 4 Lecture 2: Project Discussion Session 7 / Course Wrap-up
	Tutorial	Project Discussion Session 5-6
Week 11 : 5 August - 11 August	Assessment	Project written essay is due at 5pm on Wednesday, August 7.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance is required for Lectures 2 (this lecture is used for a discussion in reflection of the tutorial class on the day) and tutorials. Unexcused absence from more than 20% of lecture/tutorial classes will result in the award of a fail grade. For lecture 1, a clash is permitted, in which case you need to catch up the lecture contents with the lecture recordings.

In Lecture/Tutorials you will actively engage with core course content, enabling you to attain CLO 1,2,3 and 5.

Attendance of both lectures and tutorials in Weeks 9 and 10 is mandatory in this course due to project discussion sessions.

- Align with the course learning outcomes;
- Result in a recorded artefact (an artefact for participation may include a post, or response, to an online discussion forum, poll or quiz, when an artefact for mandatory attendance may include a record of attendance) and have processes in place for recording the student artefact;
- Where relevant, include evidence that the attendance or participation is required to meet a statutory or professional body requirement; and
- Be comparable where the activity is delivered in different modes.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

No set textbook. Readings for the weekly focused topic are partly listed under the weekly schedule on this outline.

A full reading list is on Leganto via Moodle. The readings are available online.

Recommended Resources

Book - : 70(Za kuronikuru : sengo Nihon no 70-nen) = The Chronicle (2014)

Photobook series. Only hardcopy is available at the UNSW Library.

Google Scholar (reference search) UNSW Library (reference search)

The Japan Times, The Japanese News via e-Resources in NSW State Library site.

<https://www.pressreader-com.ezproxy.sl.nsw.gov.au/catalog> (You need a NSW local library card to access)

See 'Other Useful Readings' section on Leganto (via Moodle).

Course Evaluation and Development

Formal feedback from students will be collected via my Experience, and will be used to improve future iterations of this course. Informal real-time feedback is also very welcome either in person or through Moodle forum for suggestions and comments.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Sumiko Iida		Morven Brown 272	02 9065 5331	TBA	No	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines> for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.
- **Collusion:** Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- **Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other

assessment tasks

- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated

on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle>

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

School Contact Information

School of Humanities & Languages

Email: hal@unsw.edu.au

Location: School Office, Morven Brown Building, Level 2, Room 258

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm