

Japanese Influence on Western Art and Design

Section 1

Instructor/Title	Dr. Seong A Kim-Lee / Associate Professor
Office/Building	Room 708 / Main Building (Nakamiya Campus)
Office Hours	TBA
Contacts (E-mail)	skimlee@kansai.ac.jp

【Course Outline / Description】

This course is designed to provide students understanding of the cultural exchange between Japan and the West in art and design. Trade between Japan and the West began in the late 16th century and led to its peak as Japonisme at the fin-de-siecle. Moreover, it continues amid globalization as Japan preserves its strong cultural heritage. Therefore, this course provides a historical survey of cultural exchange from the sixteenth century to the contemporary. This course is divided into four units based on the essential turning points and the perceptions of cultural exchange. In the first unit, examining the first cultural encounters from the seventeenth, students will learn how Japan opened to the West for the first time and how Japanese political policies of isolation and globalization influenced artworks. In the second unit, the emphasis will be placed on understanding Japanese ukiyo-e prints and their influence on Western Impressionism in the second half of the nineteenth century. Also, by focusing on American art in the third unit, students will learn how the social change from the feudal system to the Meiji restoration influenced artworks for exports. In the last unit, students will understand how western modern architects began to see the solutions for being modern in traditional Japanese architecture. Consequently, this course will give students a new perspective on studying art and design history in terms of cultural exchange by juxtaposing artworks from Japan and the West.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- Understand the history of cultural influence between Japan and the West and discuss how political and social history affected Japanese influence.
- Describe the difference between Japanese and Western aesthetics caused by different attitudes toward nature
- Recognize the significance of each artwork in terms of cultural influence and demonstrate the specific visual elements representing the cultural influence.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

		Schedule of Instruction	
Class	Date	Schedule of Instruction	Work Outside of Classroom Activities
1	Tuesday, August 30	Unit 1: The First Cultural Encounters The Aesthetics of Japanese Art	Read: Takashina Shuji, "East Meets West: Forms of Expression in Japanese and Western Art," <i>The Japanese Sense of Beauty</i> (Tokyo: Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture), 88-101.
2	Friday, September 2	Unit 1: The First Cultural Encounters Isolation and Globalization	Read: Jan de Hond and Menno Fitski, "The First Europeans," <i>A Narrow Bridge</i> (Rijksmuseum, 2016), 25-31.

3	Tuesday, September 6	Unit 1: The First Cultural Encounters Namban Art and Export Lacquer	Read: Haino Akio "The Momoyama Flowering: Kodaiji and Namban Lacquer," in James C. Y. Watt and Barbara Brennan Ford, <i>The Florence and Herbert Irving Collection</i> , [ext. cat., The Metropolitan Museum of Art: New York, 1991], 163-173.
4	Friday, September 9	Unit 1: The First Cultural Encounters Imari and Kakiemon Wares	Read: Barbara Brennan Ford and Oliver R. Impey, "Japanese Export Porcelain", <i>Japanese Art from Gerry Collection in the Metropolitan Museum of Art</i> , [ext. cat., The Metropolitan Museum of Art: New York, 1989], 61-73, 78-81, 87-90.
5	Tuesday, September 13	Unit 1: The First Cultural Encounters	Take the Unit 1 Quiz
6	Friday, September 16	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe The World's Fairs	Field Trip: Kodaiji, Kyoto
7	Tuesday, September 20	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe Introduction to Ukiyo-e	Read: Frank Whitford, "The Floating World," <i>Japanese Prints and Western Painters</i> (Littlehampton Book Services Ltd, 1977), 26-47.
8	Friday, September 23	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe Japonisme in Britain	Submit the Activity Worksheet: Whitford 1977, "Whistler", 130-147.
9	Tuesday, September 27	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe The impressionists and ukiyo-e	Read: Tamaki Kawasaki, "The World of Hokusai Manga," <i>Highlighting Japan</i> , Vol. 122, (July 2018), 10-11.
10	Friday, September 30	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe The impressionists and ukiyo-e	Submit the Post-reading Activity Worksheet: Whitford 1977, "Degas," 148-163; "Monet and the Impressionists," 164-169.
11	Tuesday, October 4	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe The impressionists and ukiyo-e	Read: Mark Brown, "How Hokusai's Great Wave crashed into Van Gogh's Starry Night," <i>The Guardian</i> September 28, 2018.
12	Friday, October 7	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe Western prints and ukiyo-e	Read: Whitford "Toulouse-Lautrec," 207-219; Whitford "The Nabis, Mary Cassatt and the Print Revival," 131-233.
13	Tuesday, October 11	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe Japonisme in Vienna and Glasgow	Read: Julie Anne Sjaastad, "Gilded Romance: Gustav Klimt's Ornamental Style and the Influence of Japonisme," <i>Sotheby's</i> (June 19), 2019.
14	Friday, October 14	Unit 2: Japonisme in Europe	Take the Unit 2 Quiz
15	Tuesday, October 18	Unit 3: Meiji Period Arts for Exports The Masters of Artisans	Submit the Activity Worksheet: "NHK World—The Masters of Artisans"
16	Friday, October 21	Unit 3: Meiji Period Arts for Exports Meiji Cloisonné	Field Trip: Namikawa Cloisonné Museum, Kyoto
17	Tuesday, October 25	Unit 3: Meiji Period Arts for Exports Art Pottery	Read: Gregory Irvine, "Wakon Yosai," <i>Japonisme and the Rise of The Modern Art Movement</i> (Thames and Hudson, 2013), 166-182.

18	Friday, October 28	No Class	Fall Break
19	Tuesday, November 1	Unit 3: Meiji Period Arts for Exports Silver and Bronze	Read: Hannah Sigur, "Silver and Bronze", <i>Influence of Japanese Art on Design</i> , (Gibbs Smith, 2008), 150-165.
20	Friday, November 4	Unit 3: Meiji Period Arts for Exports Glass and Textile	Read: Sigur 2008, "Glass and Textile," 128-149.
21	Tuesday, November 8	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond What is Japanese Architecture	Take the Unit 3 Quiz
22	Friday, November 11	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond World's Columbian Exposition of 1893 and Japanese Architecture	Read: Joe Earle, "Revolutions and Exhibitions: From Perry to the Centennial," <i>Splendors of Imperial Japan</i> , London: The Khalili Family Trust, 2002, 26-33.
23	Tuesday, November 15	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond Frank Lloyd Wright and Japan	Read: Kevin Nute, "Frank Lloyd Wright Credited Japan for His All-American Aesthetic," <i>Smithsonian Magazine</i> June 8, 2017.
24	Friday, November 18	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond Modern Architects and Art Deco Lacquer	Read: Siegfried Wichmann, "House and Garden: The Influence of the Japanese House", <i>Japonisme: The Japanese Influence on Western Art Since 1858</i> (Thames and Hudson, 1981), 358-379.
25	Tuesday, November 22	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond Cultural Exchange in the Postwar Era	Read: Takuya Kita, "Japanese Crafts and Cultural Exchange with the USA in the 1950s: Soft Power and John D. Rockefeller III during the Cold War," <i>Journal of Design History</i> , 2012, Vol. 25, No. 4, 25th Anniversary Issue (2012), pp. 379-399.
26	Friday, November 25	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond The Second Wave of Japonisme	Read: Yuniya Kawamura, "The Japanese Fashion Phenomenon in Paris since 1970," <i>Japanese Revolution in Fashion</i> , (Berg Publishers, 2004), 91-123.
27	Tuesday, November 29	Unit 4: Modernism and beyond Japamerica	Listen: Oscar Boyd and Matt Alt, "Has Japan's pop culture conquered the world? Jul 15, 2020, in Deep Dive Japan Times, podcast, 28:52.
28	Friday, December 2	Final presentations	Prepare for the final presentation.
29	Tuesday, December 6	Final presentations	Prepare for the final presentation.
30	Friday, December 9	Review	Review notes for the final exam.

【Textbooks/Reading Materials】

The reading materials will be provided by the instructor and uploaded to Blackboard in pdf format.

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

Grading Criteria

Class Attendance & Participation 20%

Assignments 20%

Quizzes 20%

Final Presentation 20%

Final Exam 20%

Students are required to meet all 30 class meetings and expected to participate actively. Class participation is including contributions to class discussion, demonstrated effort, and commitment to course goals. For an official absence, please refer to the Student Regulation Handbook for a definition and procedure. It is always helpful to share an excuse of absence with the instructor before or after an absence so that students get follow up information.