

LABOR AND MANAGEMENT IN MODERN JAPAN

History 194D

Fall 1988

DESCRIPTION

This course covers the historical development of the recruitment, management, and organization of blue and white-collar labor in Japanese business and government organizations. The first half of the course will deal with contemporary Japan seeking to separate reality from image. The second half of the course will be concerned with the role of traditional culture in shaping the present-day labor relations system.

PREREQUISITES

None. Students with no background in Japanese history should read a survey text for the period covered by this course. The instructor will recommend appropriate items.

READINGS

Benjamin Duke, The Japanese School: Lessons for Industrial America (Praeger: 1986). [LA 1312 D85 1986]

Chalmers Johnson, MITI and the Japanese Miracle: The Growth of Industrial Policy, 1925-1975 (Stanford University Press: 1981). [d 3616 j 33 j 643 1982]

David Friedman, The Misunderstood Miracle: Industrial Development and Political Change in Japan (Cornell University Press, 1988). [hd 3616 j33 f75 1988]

Ishinomori Shōji, Japan, Inc. -- Introduction to Japanese Economics [The Comic Book] (University of California Press, 1988). [hc 462.9 i74 1988]

Earl H. Kinmonth, Newspaper Readings in Interwar Japanese Social and Economic History.

NOTE This item will be supplied in manuscript form.

TIME AND ROOM

Two meetings each week on Tuesday and Thursday in 151 Hart from 9:30 - 10:50 am.

INSTRUCTOR, OFFICE HOURS

Earl H. Kinmonth 154 Voorhies Hall 752-1636

Monday and Friday 8:00 - 10:00 am.

REQUIRED WORK

All students will be required to write one essay on a topic designated by the instructor. This will count for one-third of the grade.

The remaining course requirements may be fulfilled by one of the following:

* Write two review essays and a final (take home) paper.

The review essays should each involve two or more books that treat a common subject from contrasting perspectives or use different methodologies. Bibliographies of works on Japanese business and labor will be placed on reserve. Books for review should be chosen from these lists in consultation with the instructor.

* Write a research paper of 15 - 20 pages length.

The subject should be one that can be researched within the time constraints of the quarter and should have good English language sources. The subject can be from any time period but it must be within the purview of this course and approved by the instructor.

MISSING LECTURES

The lectures will deal with material not covered in the texts or present counter interpretations. You are equally responsible for interpretations and information given in lecture and appearing in the readings.

If you know in advance that you are going to miss a lecture, you can request that it be taped. When you do, provide your own C-120 tape.

Do not expect a summary lecture during office hours to cover material you miss.

TOPICAL OUTLINE

The dates given below are very tentative. Do not expect a close correlation between reading assignments and lectures. Try to skim the reading(s) prior to the related lecture; reread for detail after the lecture.

Specific chapter or page assignments will be given in class or in a revised version of this outline.

CONTEMPORARY JAPAN

"Introduction to the Course" 29 September (Th)

"Japan in the American Imagination" 4 October (Tu)

"The Japanese Miracle" 6 October (Th) 11 October (Tu)

"Japan, Inc." 13 October (Th) 18 October (Tu)

"The The White Collar Worker and His Company" 20 October (Th) 25 October (Tu)

"The Blue Collar Worker and His Company" 27 October (Th) 1 November (Tu)

"Small Business and Their Workers" 3 November (Th) 8 November (Tu)

THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

"The 'Traditional' Economy and Its Workers" 10 November (Th) 15 November (Tu)

"Meiji Economic Growth and Its Controversies" 17 November (Th) 22 November (Tu)

"Structural Change and Class Conflict in Prewar Japan" 29 November (Tu) 1 December (Th)

"The Prewar White-Collar Worker" 6 December (Tu) 8 December (Th)

FINAL EXAMINATION

The final examination for this class is scheduled for Friday, December 16, 4:00 - 6:00 pm.

The final examination will be a take home essay. The topic for this essay will be given to you at least one week in advance. You should present this essay and any other required work by the date and time scheduled for the final examination.

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