



Gender and Sexuality in Today's Japan

(2 credit hours)¹

Spring/Summer 2019

JTW Classroom: 5105, Tuesdays 13:00 – 14:30

*Living simply makes loving simple.
(bell hooks)*

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I. Course Description

This course provides an overview of gender and sexuality-related topics and issues in today's Japan, mainly through the lens of various media outlets, lived experiences, and real life examples. As the nation attempts to catch up with the global standards of "gender equity," there may be some room for improvement in terms of how and why different measures are to be implemented. Juxtaposition with cases/examples from students' home countries will be highly encouraged.

II. Learning Objectives

To **understand, identify, and/or challenge contemporary issues, problems, and concerns around gender and sexuality in Japan**. By engaging with the assigned readings, class discussions, reflections, and other related activities, you are encouraged to constantly think about how you (as a student, current/future educator, and a member of society) would like to respond to such issues, problems, and applications on a personal, professional, as well as societal level.

III. Required Texts and Readings

Hardcopies of all required course readings will be provided during class.

IV. Course Assignments, Assessment, and Grading

a. Assignments

- 1) **THREE Writing assignments**² (Due: **Tuesday, April 16**; **Tuesday, June 4**; and **Tuesday, July 16**)
- 2) **Group presentation**² (Week 12 or 13)
- 3) **Self-evaluation**² (Due: **Tuesday, July 23**)

¹ Or, consult with the instructor about enrolling in 3 credit hours of work.

² Specific guidelines, rubrics, and/or checklists will be provided on separate sheets.



b. Assessment and Assignment Details

1) **Participation/attendance – 60 points** (4 points/session x 15 class sessions)

You are expected to **come prepared** (e.g. completing the required readings/assignments as instructed) and **on time** for each class session. If, for unforeseen reasons, you are unable to arrive on time for or attend a class session, please let the instructor know as early as possible. Also, you are expected to be **respectful, attentive, and engaged** during class and complete in-class assignments/activities as instructed.

2) **Writing assignments – 30 points** (Due: **Tuesday, April 16**; **Tuesday, June 4**; and **Tuesday, July 16**)

There will be **THREE** writing assignments for this course:

1. Autoethnography (10 points) – **Due: Tuesday, April 16**
2. Media analysis or Event report (10 points) – **Due: Tuesday, June 4**
3. Mini research paper (10 points) – **Due: Tuesday, July 16**

3) **Group presentation – 5 points** (Week 12 or 13)

You will choose one of the topics covered during the semester and as a group, you will prepare a presentation. **In Week 12 or 13**, you will give a group presentation which will also serve as an opportunity for the class to review and reflect on what we have learned about the particular topic during the semester. Your group presentation must include:

1. **Introduction** (e.g. clearly state your topic, its background, why you/your group chose the particular topic over others?)
2. **Body** (e.g. what are some of the deeper issues behind the topic?, how do such issues relate to us *personally* and *professionally*?)
3. **Conclusion** (e.g. summary and suggestions on how these issues may be addressed/approached and how you as future educators respond to such issues)

4) **Self-evaluation – 5 points** (Due: **Tuesday, July 23**)

You will be asked to write and submit a brief self-evaluation (≈ 300 words³) at the end of the semester. This is for the instructor to better understand the progress and effort you have made over the semester, so please be specific, clear, and honest in your writing.

NOTE: Late assignments will result in deducted points (0.5 point deducted per day) !!!

c. Grading

You will receive a letter grade (A-F) based on the following percentages (= points explained above):

A:	90-100%	(90 – 100 points)
B:	80-89%	(80 – 89 points)
C:	70-79%	(70 – 79 points)
D:	60-69%	(60 – 69 points)
F:	59% or lower	(0 – 59 points)

³ Approximately **one** A4 size paper with 1-inch (=2.54cm) margin, double-spaced, 12 point font.

V. Calendar

	Topic	Readings and Assignments <i>DUE</i> (Must be completed <u>before</u> class)
<u>Week 1</u> Tuesday, April 9	Course introduction and community building	
<u>Week 2</u> Tuesday, April 16	Gender and sexuality theories (1): LGBTQQIAAP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardcopy (or e-copy) of Autoethnography <i>DUE</i> • Bring a list of questions (if any) about the course syllabus.
<u>Week 3</u> Tuesday, April 23	Gender and sexuality theories (2): Gender v. Sexuality?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).
<u>Week 4</u> Tuesday, May 7	Media and sexuality in Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).
<u>Week 5</u> Tuesday, May 14	#MeToo movement of 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).
<u>Week 6</u> Tuesday, May 21	Legality and gender in Japan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).
<u>Week 7</u> Tuesday, May 28	Bathrooms!!!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).



	Topic	Readings and Assignments <i>DUE</i> (Must be completed <u>before</u> class)
<u>Week 8</u> Tuesday, June 4	Laws and regulations: The case of Fukuoka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardcopy (or e-copy) of Media Analysis or Event Report <u>DUE</u>
<u>Week 9</u> Tuesday, June 11	Japanese female sexuality in global contexts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).
<u>Week 10</u> Tuesday, June 18	Rethinking gender and sexuality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the article & bring your notes (including the responses to the guiding questions).
<u>Week 11</u> Tuesday, June 25	Review and prepare for the group presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review all the videos/articles (<u>Weeks 2-10</u>) and notes. • Bring a list of wonderings/questions.
<u>Week 12</u> Tuesday, July 2	Group presentations #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for your group presentation.
<u>Week 13</u> Tuesday, July 9	Group presentations #2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for your group presentation.
<u>Week 14</u> Tuesday, July 16	Wrap-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardcopy (or e-copy) of Mini Research Paper <u>DUE</u>



	Topic	Readings and Assignments <i>DUE</i> (Must be completed <u>before</u> class)
<u>Week 15</u> Tuesday, July 23 <i>Happy Summer!</i>	Self-evaluation and reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Email or submit</u> a hardcopy of the self-evaluation.



VI. Policies and Resources

a. Attendance and Participation

You are expected to **be prepared and on time** for each session. Please be attentive, responsive, and engaged during class and complete in-class assignments and homework as instructed.

b. Use of Electronic Devices

When using a laptop computer/tablet in class, you are expected to practice/model courtesy and respect for your peers and the instructor. **Use technology only when appropriate and instructed.**⁴

c. Academic Integrity and Ethical Behavior

All work you submit as yours must include proper documentation and crediting of sources. Failure to properly introduce and document paraphrased material or borrowed ideas is **plagiarism**. **Plagiarism carries serious consequences** and possible dismissal from the class.

d. Other Support

The Counseling and Health Center helps to promote a safe and healthy environment for everyone. For more information, please visit their website at:

<http://www.chc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/type/student.html>

Also, you may want to ask your peer(s) and/or tutor for help as necessary. Refer to the **guidebook** for general information:

<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/intlweb/cmndata/pdf/livingguide.pdf>

Please feel free to ask questions and let's have a great semester 😊

⁴ Please also think about what we (as a community of learners) can do to help each other ***stay focused*** when some of us are using our electronic devices out of necessity.