Syllabus for Understanding Japanese Culture through Art (2)

Fall Semester 2014
Hiroko Johnson, Ph. D.

Class meets Thursdays from 10:00 to 12:00
Contact Info: email: hjohnson@mail.sdsu.edu

TEXTBOOK:

- Copies of articles will be provided for Yokohama

DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE:
The class explores a variety of monuments, themes, iconographies of the visual art of Japan. Fortunately, the Japanese have preserved their artwork and architectural sites intact from the great civilization of antiquity, such as the Horyuji temple, the oldest wooden structure in the world. Their rich resources in artifacts enable us to explore a wondrous world of Japanese art with visual examples. The first three weeks will focus on art of aristocracy, samurai and merchants, the latter three weeks concentrates on the modernization of Japan after Commodore Perry demanded Japan opened the country to the West in 1853.

COURSE OUTLINE AND READING
The reading is tentative.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Introduction to the course</th>
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<tr>
<td>Emergence of Japanese Civilization</td>
<td>Chapt 1     JC</td>
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<td>Ise Shrine-Shintoism</td>
<td>Chapt 2 JC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction of Buddhism to Japan</td>
<td>Chapt 3     JC</td>
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<td>The Court Art at its Zenith</td>
<td>Chapt 4 JC</td>
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<td>The Advent of a New Age</td>
<td>Chapt 5 JC</td>
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<td>(art of aristocracy)</td>
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<td>The Advent of a New Age</td>
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<td>The Canons of Medieval Taste</td>
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<td>(art of samurai)</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>The Canons of Medieval Taste</th>
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<td>Chapt 5 JC</td>
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The Country Unified

Week 3
Flourishing of Bourgeois Culture
Merchant Art

Flourishing of Bourgeois Culture
Merchant Art

Week 4
Modernization of Japan, Opening of Yokohama
Circumstances under which Japan Opened the country
After almost 250 years of practicing isolationism

Week 5
First foreign tourism and Journalism in Japan

Week 6
Foreigners in Yokohama and their Life style

REFERENCE:


Heibonsha Survey of Japanese Art series of 30 volumes will be useful sources:

1. Major Themes in Japanese Art by Itsuji Yoshikawa
2. The Beginnings of Japanese Art by Namio Egami
3. Shinto Art: Ise and Izumo Shrines by Yasutada Watanabe
4. Asuka Buddhist Art: Horyuji by Siichi Mizuno
5. Nara Buddhist Art: Todaiji by Takeshi Kobayashi
6. The Silk Road and the Shoso-in by Ryoichi Hayashi
7. Temples of Nara and Their Art by Minoru Ooka
8. Art in Japanese Esoteric Buddhism by Takaaki Sawa
10. Painting in the Yamato Style by Saburo Ienaga
11. Sculpture of the Kamakura Period by Hisashi Mori
12. Japanese ink Painting: Shubun to Sesshu by Ichimatsu Tanaka
13. Feudal Architecture of Japan by Kiyoshi Hirai
14. Momoyama Decorative Panting by Tsugiyoshi Doi
15. **Japanese Arts and the Tea Ceremony** by T. Hayashiya, M. Nakamura, and S. Hayashiya  
16. **Japanese Costume and Textile Arts** by Seiroku Noma  
17. **Momoyama Genre Painting** by Yuzo Yamane  
18. **Edo Painting: Sotatsu and Korin** by Hiroshi Mizuo  
19. **The Namban Art of Japan** by Yoshitomo Okamoto  
20. **Edo Architecture: Katsura and Nikko** by Naomi Okawa  
21. **Traditional Domestic Architecture of Japan** by Teiji Itoh  
22. **Traditional Woodblock Prints of Japan** by Seiichiro Takahashi  
23. **Japanese Painting in the Literati Style** by Yoshio Yonezawa  
24. **Modern Currents in Japanese Art** by Michiaki Kawakita  
25. **Japanese Art in World Perspective** by Toru Terada  
26. **Folk Arts and Crafts of Japan** by Kageo Muraoka and Kichiemon Okamura  
27. **The Art of Japanese Calligraphy** by Yujiro Nakata  
28. **The Garden art of Japan** by Masao Hayakawa  
29. **The Art of Japanese Ceramics** by Tsugio Mikami  
30. **Japanese Art: A cultural Appreciation** by Saburo Ienaga

The following books are useful in understanding the background of Japanese history and art.


The *Kodansha Encyclopedia of Japan* is a good source for individual topics. It is a good idea to check this source first and acquire introductory information before starting the research paper. It will give you a direction for your paper.