

|                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |           |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Course Name                    | Introduction to Japanese Politics                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                   |           |
| Semester, Year                 | First Semester, 2019                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Number of Credits | 2 credits |
| Course level                   | 2000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Course Number     | 027038    |
| Instructor(s)<br>(Institution) | Hironori SASADA 大学院メディア・コミュニケーション研究院                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                   |           |
| Course Objectives              | This is an introductory course on contemporary Japanese politics. The course will cover the politics and government of post-WWII Japan focusing on Japanese power structure, party politics, political culture, social policies, and recent changes. Throughout the course, we will discuss the following themes: Who governs Japan? How are decisions made in Japanese policymaking process? How has Japan's politics changed over time?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                   |           |
| Course Goals                   | By the end of the course, student are expected to develop the following skills: (1) to explain some key terms of Japanese politics, (2) to discuss some major issues of contemporary Japanese politics from at least 2 different points of view, (3) to discuss some recent important changes in Japanese politics and explain the contexts of the changes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                   |           |
| Course Schedule                | <p>Week 1: Introduction / Basic structure of Japanese politics</p> <p>Week 2: The 1955 system and the Liberal Democratic Party</p> <p>Week 3: The opposition parties</p> <p>Week 4: Bureaucracy / Elitism</p> <p>Week 5: Patterned pluralism</p> <p>Week 6: Leadership under the 1955 system</p> <p>Week 7: Structural corruption and Tanaka Kakuei</p> <p>Week 8: Midterm exam</p> <p>Week 9: Changes in the 1955 system / Increased roles of politicians</p> <p>Week 10: The Koizumi reform and a new leadership</p> <p>Week 11: Electoral campaign in Japan</p> <p>Week 12: Political culture in Japan</p> <p>Week 13: Politics in rural areas</p> <p>Week 14: Gender equality and welfare system in Japan</p> <p>Week 15: Final exam</p> |                   |           |
| Homework                       | Download and read the reading materials before coming to the lecture.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                   |           |
| Grading System                 | <p>Midterm exam      40%</p> <p>Final exam        40%</p> <p>Class participation   20%</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                   |           |
| Textbooks / Reading List       | All reading materials are available at the course website.<br>Download the files and read them before the lectures.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                   |           |
| Websites                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |           |
| Website of Laboratory          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |           |
| Additional Information         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                   |           |