

# The U.S. and Japan From Pearl Harbor to the Present Syllabus and Required Reading

January – April, 2006  
Columbia University Political Science Colloquium G8876  
Wednesdays, from 6:10 – 8pm  
Room 717, International Affairs Building  
Office hours: 5 – 6PM on class nights, Room 915

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## Course organization:

- Prior course on American Foreign Policy since 1945 recommended
- One 10-12 page paper analyzing an issue raised in the course (with bibliography)
- Brief (10-15-minute) oral report summarizing your research
- No mid-term or final exam
- Grade based on class participation (40%), paper (40%), and oral report (20%).

January

## **Overview of 150 Years of US-Japan Relations since 1853: Extraordinary friendship or continuing clash?**

### Optional Reading:

Benfey, Christopher, *The Great Wave: Gilded Age Misfits, Japanese Eccentrics, and the Opening of Old Japan*

LaFeber, Walter, *The Clash*

Miyoshi Masao, *As We Saw Them: The First Japanese Embassy to the United States* (1994).

VanAlstyne, Richard W., *The Rising American Empire* (1960), Chaps. 1, 5-6, 8

- January **Origins and Causes of World War Two: Could the War in the Pacific have been avoided?**  
 Iriye, Akira, *Power and Culture*, pp. 96-268 [OR]  
 Jansen, Marius B., *The Making of Modern Japan*, Chaps. 14-16
- Feb. **War in the Pacific: Was Pearl Harbor Necessary? Inevitable?** National goals in war and in peace.  
 Jansen, *ibid.*, Chaps. 17-18  
 Dower, John, *War Without Mercy* (optional)
- Feb. **Potsdam Declaration; Hiroshima and Nagasaki; Surrender; Could the atomic bombings have been avoided? Should the Emperor have remained on the throne?**  
 Frank, Richard B., *Downfall: The End of the Imperial Japanese Empire*, Chaps. 14-21  
 Dunne, John Gregory, "The Hardest War," *New York Review*, Dec. 20, 2001  
 Bix, Herbert P., *Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan*, (optional)
- Feb. **The American Occupation of Japan: success or failure? Democratization of Japan: is it working?**  
 Schaller, Michael, *Altered States*, pp. 7-61  
 Jansen, *ibid.*, Chap. 19  
 Moore and Robinson, *Partners for Democracy*  
 Dower, John *Embracing Defeat* (optional)
- Feb. **Peace and Security Treaties of 1952 and the "Grand Bargain." Who were the winners and losers?**  
 Schaller, Chaps. 8-9  
 Green and Cronin, eds., *The US-Japan Alliance: Past Present and Future*, Introduction, Chaps. 1-8
- Mar. **Japan's "Miracle Economy," the Reischauer Years (1961-1966) and the dark cloud of War in Vietnam**  
 Schaller, Chaps. 10-11  
 McCraw, Thomas, ed., *America vs. Japan*, Chap. 1

Mar. **After Independence: Japan and its Asian Neighbors: the two Koreas, China and the Soviet Union**

Green, Michael J., *Japan's Reluctant Realism*,  
Chaps. 3-5

Vogel, Steven K., ed., *U.S.-Japan Relations in a Changing World*

Togo Kazuhiko, *Japan's Foreign Policy, 1945-2003*  
Chaps. 4 - 7

Mar. SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS

Mar. **Okinawa, textiles, and the “Nixon Shocks,” (1968-71)**

Destler, I.M., *American Trade Politics*, Chap. 3

Destler, I.M. et. al., *Managing an Alliance*, Chaps. 1-2.

Schaller, Chap. 12

STUDENT REPORTS

March **Japan's “Bubble Years” and The Rise of “Revisionism”**

Bergsten et. al., *No More Bashing*, Chaps. 3-5.

Tyson, Laura, *Who's Bashing Whom?*

Schoppa, Leonard, *Bargaining with Japan*

Destler, I.M., *American Trade Politics*, Chaps. 5-10

**Is Japan a real democracy? Threat to the U.S.?**

Johnson, Chalmers, *MITI and the Japanese Miracle*

“ *Japan: Who Governs?*”

Alexander, Arthur J., *In the Shadow of the Miracle*,  
Chapter 15, “Revisionism Revisited”

STUDENT REPORTS

Apr. **Politics, Foreign Policy and Alliance Issues**

Funabashi Yoichi, *Nihon no Kokorozashi (in Japanese)*

Curtis, Gerald L., *The Logic of Japanese Politics*

Green and Cronin, eds., *The U.S.-Japan Alliance*,  
Chapters 9 – 14 and Conclusion

Apr. **Comparing Democracy in the US and Japan (I)**

Comparing the constitutions of Japan and the US (read both)  
See articles on “Democracy” posted on Courseworks

STUDENT REPORTS

Apr. **Comparing Democracies (II): Elections, the role of money, the media, responsiveness of government to voters etc.**

See articles on Democracy posted on Courseworks

STUDENT REPORTS

April **Bush and Koizumi after September 11, 2001: The Problem of Terrorism, Iraq, and North Korea**

Curtis, Gerald L., *New Perspectives on US-Japan Relations*,” pp. 1-38

“The Armitage Report,” [“The United States and Japan: Advancing Toward a Mature Partnership”] Institute for National Strategic Studies, October 11, 2001 (see Courseworks)

Bergsten, *No More Bashing*, Chaps. 5-7

Krauss and Pempel, eds., *Beyond Bilateralism: The U.S.-Japan Alliance in the New Asia-Pacific*

Perry and Yoshihara, eds., *The U.S.-Japan Alliance: Preparing for Korean Reconciliation and Beyond*

STUDENT REPORTS

**ALL TERM PAPERS DUE!**

