

CONSTRUCTING JAPAN -INDIA PARTNERSHIP 2credits
(Spring)

日本とインドのパートナーシップを構築する 2単位(春学期)
Indian-Japanese Perspectives and Policies

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Course Description:

In recent years there has been a new upsurge in Japan-India partnership evidenced through university exchange programs in social sciences and technology, Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) in the areas of industrial manufacture and household electronics, and IT business connected to software services and e-learning. This has opened the way for both countries to benefit mutually through exchanges of intellectual capital, innovative skills and manufactured products. Yet much of the business and cultural protocols of the two countries remain somewhat inaccessible to policy makers, business enterprises, and the public at large. Indians see Japan as a rich but linguistically difficult to do business with, while the Japanese see India as intellectually advanced but quite bureaucratic and ethnically diverse. There is a need to bridge the gap within the Japanese academic community by translating cultures, social practices, business protocols, IT-related procedures and academic standards. Given the above-mentioned urgencies, the course will trace the cultural similarities and spiritual affinities between the two countries beginning in the sixth century with the arrival of Indian saint Bodhisena to Nara, moving to the cotton and silk merchants to Yokohama and Kobe in the early twentieth century, to the coming of freedom fighters like Rash Behari Bose and Subhash Chandra Bose in the early and mid twentieth century, and ending with the recent influx of IT professionals in the twenty-first century. The course will further study the new financial assistance by Japan to India and economic cooperation between the two countries such as ODA, FDI, EPA, Maruti-Suzuki Automobile Partnership, Delhi Metro Project, Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project (DMIC), and other projects related to mobile technology, disaster management, civilian nuclear technology and optic fiber networks. The course will also introduce students to borrowings between Devanagari and Hiragana syllabary and useful Indian and Japanese phrases for effective business and social communication.

This course will use an interdisciplinary approach to explore the shifting contours of India's and Japan's past by focusing on the economies, nuclear policies, hard/soft identities, literatures and languages. It will not provide a simplistic solution by employing a unified "grand" narrative but explore multiple narratives to reveal the unity and fragmentariness of the Indian and Japanese experiences. Beginning with an examination of the histories of an Indian past, the course will proceed through lectures by representatives of the Indian and Japanese communities and the academia, to develop a more comprehensive perspective of India and the historical and cultural connections that inform Japan's policies to India today.

The class will be conducted in English and reading and writing will be primarily in English.

Grades are also based on attendance and classroom participation.

Textbooks:

Williams, Mukesh and Wanchoo Rohit.(2008) Representing India: Literatures, Politics, and Cultures. New Delhi: Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-569226-8

Reference Books:

Hasegawa, Yozo. (2010) Rediscovering Japanese Business Leadership: 15 Japanese Managers and Companies They're Leading to New Growth. Trans Anthony Kimm. Singapore: Wiley & Sons. ISBN: 13: 978-0470824955

Chellaney, Brahma. (2010). Asian Juggernaut: The Rise of China, India, and Japan. New York: Harper Paperbacks. ISBN: 13: 978-0061363085

Course Plan:

- 1 Historical and cultural introduction/Organization/demo/study groups
- 2 Importance of Japan and India in the regional and global context; What is a partnership? Different kinds of international partnerships and their changing nature
- 3 EPAs, ODAs and FDIs including tariff reductions, industrial agreements, academic exchanges and demography of the two nations

- 4 The State Bank of India in Japan Promoting Japanese Investment in India by State Bank of India Regional Head and CEO Japan Sandeep Tewari
 - 5 Lecture on Indian Social and Spiritual Connections to Japan relating to the concept of 'unity in diversity' and social homogeneity by a representative of the embassy/business community (Mid-May, date to be announced later)
 - 6 Business and Academic Progress-Xavier Labour Relations Institute, Jamshedpur (XLRI) and IITs; Tokyo Institute of Technology and International University of Japan
 - 7 Successful Indian and Japanese Projects-Maruti-Suzuki, Delhi Metro, TCS and Wipro (speaker and date will be announced later)
 - 8 Social and Business Protocols of the two countries. Useful Japanese and Hindi phrases by Indian/Japanese business leader, date to be announced later
 - 9 Popular Culture-Representations of Japan and India in cinema and TV -NHK serials on India and Indian movies on Japan such as The Japanese Bride
 - 10 The ways India views Japan and Japan views India-Japanese WW II support for the concept of "India for Indians," Rash Behari Bose/ Higuchi Papers, Renkoji Temple, Nakamura, Nair Restaurant Ginza; See "Indians in Japan" by Mukesh Williams at <http://cms.boloji.com/index.cfm?md=Content&sd=Articles&ArticleID=7007>
 - 11 India's Nuclear Program: See the following essay by Dr. M. Williams entitled "Reevaluation of India's Nuclear Program" at <http://www.boloji.com/analysis2/0436.htm>; End-semester project work - in class preparation
 - 12 Mobile technology, disaster management, civilian nuclear technology and optic fiber networks; Additional points related to India's Nuclear Program will also be discussed: End-semester project work - in class preparation continued
 - 13 Business practices and the legal system--India and Japan--strength and weakness
 - 14 End semester project presentation
- Other In-Class Test, Summing up, and submission of late assignments

Lecturer's Comments to Students:

The course will require two hours of outside class reading per week as well as 30 minutes of homework preparation. Please participate in class discussions even when you are not confident about your ideas. I want you to speak and offer your opinions freely. You will be expected to present seminar papers, conduct discussions in the classroom and write reports on related topics. You might like to establish individual email contact with undergraduate and graduate students of Delhi University/ Jawaharlal Nehru University and exchange ideas on youth culture, local and national politics and individual aspirations.

Lectures 2, 5, and 9 of this course will be based on the book *Representing India* mentioned above. It is hoped that the preorder of the book will be made available to students before the beginning of the semester. However those who wish to procure the book beforehand may place an order directly with the publishers at the following URL of Amazon.co.jp:

http://www.amazon.co.jp/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?__mk_ja_JP=%E3%82%AB%E3%82%BF%E3%82%AB%E3%83%8A&url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Williams+Representing+india

Classes will be supplemented with PowerPoint outlines and web addresses of relevant material.

This is an exciting new class and will provide you with great information about the shared histories and new directions in Japan-India relationship and partnership. We will study new things every week and listen to interesting people about Japan and India. I will appreciate if you could make notes in class and summarize your responses as we go along.

Method of Evaluation:

1. Project Presentation: 40% Credit
2. In-class End-Semester Test: 40% Credit
3. Lecture Summary Reports: 10% Credit (Short Weekly reports of one paragraph on all topics discussed in class)
4. Attendance, Participation: 10% Credit

Questions/Comments:

Please send all your questions and comments to the class email that we will create on the first day of the class.