This seminar will examine the principal debates after 1945 in the writing of modern Japanese history. We will cover the Tokugawa era (1600-1868) through the immediate postwar years and pay special attention to the ways in which analyses of modern Japan have changed over time and across national boundaries (principally, in the United States and Japan). The course aims to give graduate students a firm grasp of the latest scholarship on modern Japan and of some of its most visible personalities. Requirements are structured to offer practical training in several critical aspects of academic life.

Texts
All readings will be provided as PDFs or are available online.


Requirements

1) Attendance / Participation 40
2) Short Papers (c. 3–5p. ea.) 30 (15 ea.)
3) Final Paper / Project
   (proposal = 5; presentation = 10; paper = 15) 30

* Paper and project guidelines provided through the course website.

Course Itinerary

Week I
Intro

Week II Changing Postwar Visions

Week III Travel, Print, and Gender in Tokugawa Japan

Week IV Tokugawa-Meiji Transition Revisited

**Due: Writing #1**


Week V Emperor


Week VI Empire and Ethnicity


Week VII

**Due: Project / Paper Proposal**

**Week VIII Taishō Politics and Society**


**Week IX Geography and Environment**

**Due: Writing #2**


Week X The Domestic and Everyday


**Week XI Advertising, Consumption, Gender**


**Week XII TBA**

**Presentation of Projects/Papers?**

**Week XIII TBA**

**Presentation of Projects/Papers?**

**PAPERS/PROJETS DUE: LAST DAY OF FINAL EXAMS**