Spring 2-1-1999

PSC 329H.01: Politics of Japan

Louis D. Hayes

University of Montana, Missoula

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This course is concerned with the organization, structure and operation of the political system of Japan. Apart from exploring the main features of the system, the course addresses those social and cultural factors that give Japan its distinctive character.

Requirements:
There will be two one-hour exams. The first will be on March 1 and the second on April 5. These exams will each count for 20% of the final grade. A comprehensive final exam will count for 40% of the final grade. This exam is scheduled for May 13, 8:00-10:00. Exams will consist of identification, short answer and/or essay questions. (BLUEBOOKS REQUIRED)

Research Paper:
An additional requirement is a 10 page (minimum) research paper concerning some aspect of contemporary politics or public policy (contemporary being defined as post-World War II). Deadline for topic selection is February 20. The paper should follow standard manuscript style (Turabian). For references, use either footnotes or endnotes. Bibliographies should include only material not contained in notes. The paper is due no later than April 23. The papers will be returned to allow for corrections on May 1. The corrected version is to be resubmitted on the day of the final exam (May 11). It is strongly recommend that these papers be handed in earlier than the due date. LATE PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. The paper counts for 20% of the final grade.

In order to make the experience of this course as pleasant and rewarding as possible for all concerned, you are asked to observe the following rules. Do not come to class late or depart early. Do not use class time to read the Kaimin, write letters, chat with your neighbors or engage in other activities not related to the course.
Topic Outline:

1. Historical Background
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 1

2. The Occupation
   Read: Hayes Ch. 2

3. The Constitutional Framework
   Read: Hayes Ch. 3

4. Political Parties
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 4

First Exam March 1

5. Political Parties, Corruption and Political Reform
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 5

6. Political Participation
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 6

7. The Social Order
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 7

8. The Economy
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 8

Second Exam April 5

9. Education
   Read: Hayes, Ch. 9

10. Public Safety
    Read: Hayes, Ch. 10

11. Foreign Relations
    Read: Hayes, Ch. 11

12. Defense
    Read: Hayes, Ch. 12

13. Overview
    Read: Hayes, Ch. 13

Final Exam May 13 8:00-10:00

Note: March 8 is the last day to drop classes or change grading option.