

# Sophia University – Summer Session 2024

June 28<sup>th</sup> – July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 \*June 28<sup>th</sup>: Orientation \*July 5: No-class day

Date: [June 25, 2024 \(updated\)](#)

Course Title	Perspectives in Intercultural Communication: Japanese Communication and Culture
Course Code	SOZ204
Instructor	Kikue Yamamoto & Takashi Kawatani
Class Period	4 <sup>th</sup> period, 3:25-5:05 p.m.
Course Format	In-Person
Language of Instruction	English
Course Description	<p>This course is highly practical, i.e., discussion and doing some exercises, debriefing by Yamamoto and Kawatani.</p> <p>This class provides students with an overview of Japanese communication behaviors, where you will be asked to figure out why Japanese behave in a certain way in that particular situation, described in class, and also which value is a possible motive for the Japanese in each situation in the cases.</p> <p>Through peer teaching &amp; discussion in the beginning of each class, you will learn about other cultures of your peers as well as your own on the topics given.</p>
Course Objectives	<p>You will gain knowledge about Japanese values and communication behaviors and some basic intercultural communication, which will enable you to develop insights into the Japanese culture and other cultures.</p> <p>This class will also help you to develop communication skills with people of other cultures, as well as Japanese people in a business context.</p> <p>Lastly, you will also develop more appreciation to the Japanese culture and your classmates' different cultures.</p>
Expected work outside of class	You're expected to spend about 20 hours outside of the class for reading the textbook and some resources for a preview. This will help you prepare for discussion with your peer in-class.
Course Materials	<p>Intercultural Communication Culture Specific—Working Effectively with the Japanese. By Kikue Yamamoto, Inlingua International Ltd., 2011. To be provided in class. Five hundred yen per copy.</p> <p>Purchase of textbook: optional</p> <p>e-book: not acceptable</p>
Moodle	N/A

Contact Instructor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•via Moodle message</li> <li>•via Email</li> </ul> <p>*The email address will be available at CGED office or informed by the instructor in the first class if needed.</p>
Evaluation (Attendance, Class participation, in-class assignments, final exam, quizzes, etc.)	Attendance (30%), class participation (20%), final in-class essay (50%).
Other comments	-
Class schedule	<p>*June 28: Orientation</p> <p>*July 5: No-class day</p>
	<p>[DAY 1] 7/1 (Kawatani)</p> <p>Orientation: Course Introduction &amp; Self-Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●Self-introduction</li> <li>●Overview of the Course</li> <li>●Geopolitical Drivers that Make Japan Japan</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Why “Japan is One Country, One Civilization.”? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Huntington model ~The Clashes of Civilizations</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Video discussion ①: The Best of Japan ~ Mindfulness of Others</li> </ol>
	<p>[DAY 2] 7/2 (Kawatani)</p> <p>Intercultural Communication: Introduction to Japanese Business Values</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Organisational Drivers That Make Japanese Organisations Act Organically</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Organizing Principles: Japan &amp; West</li> <li>2. Video discussion ②: why Japanese unite as one in crisis?</li> </ol>
	<p>[DAY 3] 7/3 (Yamamoto)</p> <p>Introduction of inter-cultural communication skills to practice.</p> <p>Intercultural Communication: Introduction to the field: Concepts and Practice</p>
	<p>[DAY 4] 7/4 (Yamamoto)</p> <p>Hidden Culture &amp; Japanese Some Key Values</p> <p>Case 1 on values (Harmony &amp; Relationships), Using the tool: cultural lens</p>
<p>[DAY 5] 7/8 (Kawatani)</p> <p>Hidden Culture &amp; Key Japanese Values (Form &amp; Efforts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●Socio-cultural Drivers That Give Japanese Society a Form</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Japanese Concept of Faith: “Self and the world is inseparable.”</li> <li>2. Essence of customer service in Japan</li> </ol>	

	<p>3. Video discussion ③: Japanese Team-- Japanese Style Football in 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia</p>
	<p>[DAY 6] 7/9 (Kawatani) Case Study 2 on Japanese Communication: a highly competent but totally un-cooperative non-Japanese sales manager in a Japanese company</p>
	<p>[DAY 7] 7/10 (Yamamoto) Hidden Culture &amp; Japanese Some Key Values Case 2 on values (Form &amp; Efforts), Using the tool, Cultural lens</p>
	<p>[DAY 8] 7/11 (Yamamoto) Hidden Culture &amp; Japanese Some Key Values Case 3 on values (Hierarchy), Using the tool, Cultural lens</p>
	<p>[DAY 9] 7/12 (Yamamoto) Communication Styles (1) : High-/Low-Context Cultures Verbal Communication: How Japanese Perceive and Use It; Use of "No"; (option ) Video on Japanese Tea Ceremony</p>
	<p>[DAY 10] 7/15 (Kawatani) Communication Styles (2) : Your Cultural Style and Others? Simulation game: Five Shapes</p>
	<p>[DAY 11] 7/16 (Kawatani) Verbal Communication: How Japanese Perceive and Use It ~ Use of "No" Video discussion ④ : Conflict between an American CEO and Japanese Sales Team ~ "Situation" or "Result" ?</p>
	<p>[DAY 12] 7/17 (Yamamoto) Communication Styles (3) : Your Cultural Style, Japan and Others. Discussion on gaps between each other on the scale. Non-Verbal Communication: Japanese Being Expressive; KY (Kuuki-yomu)</p>
	<p>[DAY 13] 7/18 (Yamamoto) 1, Breathing: How Japanese traditional art and martial art have influenced Japanese communication style. 2, Discussion on your take-away: What did you learn about Japanese culture and communication in business and life , and what can you to teach Japanese people? From other people? About yourself?</p>
	<p>[DAY 14] 7/19 (Yamamoto) In-class test and summary</p>

\*Course format, evaluation methods and class schedule may be subject to change.