

Sophia University – Online January Session 2023

January 10th - 30th, 2023

Date: August 19, 2022

Course Title	Japanese Business and Economy
Instructor	John West
Class Period	2nd Period (10.55-12.35)
Course Format (ex. real-time, on-demand)	On-demand
Course Description	The course will provide an overview of Japan's rise from the ashes of World War 2, its financial crisis in the 1990s and lost decades, Abenomics, and then more recent challenges from the rise of China, COVID-19, and the war in Ukraine.
Course Objectives	The course aims to provide students with sufficient knowledge to envisage a career working in a Japanese company, or in a foreign company or government dealing with Japan, or further post-graduate studies or research on Japan.
Expected work outside of class	Students should make an effort to follow current affairs relating to Japanese business and economy via the Internet, Youtube and newspapers.
Course Materials	The following book provides excellent reference material, and is accessible online via Open Access: https://www.palgrave.com/br/book/9789811071812
Evaluation (Attendance, Class participation, in-class assignments, final exam, quizzes, etc.)	One paper analysing the main challenges facing Japanese business and economy, and proposing solutions (50% of grade). Student presentation (30% of grade). Student participation and attendance (20% of grade).
Class schedule	Introduction
	Japan's postwar resurgence.
	Bubble economy and financial crisis
	Demographics and ageing population

	New challenges — COVID, Ukraine War and rise of China.
	Immigration and Womenomics solutions.
	Robotics and free trade solutions
	Cultural and creative industries solution
	Responding to natural disasters and climate change
	What future for Japan?

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