FAH 12/REL 12: ARTS OF JAPAN
Instructor: Prof. Ikumi Kaminishi
Office: Department of Art & Art History, 11 Talbot Ave., 3rd floor
Contact: (617) 627-2424 or ikumi.kaminishi@tufts.edu
Office hours: Wednesdays 2:00-4:00 pm or by appointment

FALL 2014    Classroom: Tisch Library Rm 316    Time: Tue/Thr 12:00-1:15 pm

Description of the Course:
This course is an interdisciplinary survey of Japanese arts and culture—architecture, painting, prints, sculpture, tea ceremony, and theater—from ancient to contemporary times. The class is also a forum for discussion of select themes of the visual and literary arts of Japan. Topics and issues include: the impact of Buddhism and Chinese culture, the privatization of religious art, the role of patronage and politics and the impact of graphic art in popular culture. To give more focused themes on a long history of Japanese art, we pay particular attention to the issues of ritual and art, the patronage (aristocrats, samurais, collectors, and connoisseurs) and politics that affected the use and designs of art works as expressions of power.

Learning Objectives:
• To familiarize with visual arts and cultures of Japan
• To develop an ability to analyze, interpret, and write on visual works of art
• To learn to contextualize cultural and historical significance of Japanese art
• To develop critical thinking ability in response to scholarly literature
Requirements and policies:

- The completion of all assignments: exams, papers, and group project
- Mandatory class attendance: Any anticipated excuses must be notified in advance with proper paperwork. In case of emergency, provide me a note from your class dean or doctor.
- Late papers will be downgraded by a third of a full grade each day.

Requirements:

1. Two exams: Midterm and Final (35% x 2): Total 70%
   In-class tests will be on the material covered in lectures and readings. Students are responsible for the terms, names, and dates of the images of monuments shown in class. The questions will be a combination of slide identifications and essays.

2. Group project on Barthes and Japanese designs (Presentation 10%, paper 20%: Total 30%)
   Read The Empire of Signs by Roland Barthes. Each group picks a subject from the book and develop an argument that discusses Japanese sense of patterns or designs. The visual material can be selected from external sources of your choice with my consent.

An important note on Plagiarism:

Absolutely no plagiarism is tolerated. If detected, that portion of the assignment receives 0 point or grade of F, and I report to Academic Judiciary Affairs Officer. For your information, please review Tufts University Academic Integrity. And if you are not sure how to cite your academic sources properly, please consult with me before you hand in papers.

   For proper citation and academic writing format, use:
   • Turabean, Kate. A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Thesis and Dissertations.

   For those who is taking an art history course for the first time, consult:
   • Barnet, Sylvan. A Short Guide to Writing about Art. (any edition)

Lecture slides:

Available on TRUNK.Tufts.edu prior to each lecture.
Textbook and other reading material on Tisch Reserve:

- Mason, Penelope. *History of Japanese Art.*
- Selected reading materials from downloadable JSTOR website.
- Additional reading materials available at TISCH Library Reserve as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>N7354 .C45 2006</td>
<td>Conant, Ellen, ed.</td>
<td><em>Challenging Past and Present</em></td>
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<td>N6447.W5313</td>
<td>Wichmann, Siegfried</td>
<td><em>Japonisme</em></td>
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<td>NE1322 .M44 1986</td>
<td>Meech-Pekarik, Julia</td>
<td><em>The World of the Meiji Print</em></td>
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<td>DS822.4 .B45 2000</td>
<td>Elise Tipton et. al.</td>
<td><em>Being Modern in Japan</em></td>
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<td>N7350 .O4c</td>
<td>Okakura, Kakuzo</td>
<td><em>The Ideals of the East</em></td>
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<td>DS821.B31713</td>
<td>Barthes, Roland</td>
<td><em>Empire of Signs</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>N8193.3.P8 F8413</td>
<td>Fukuyama, Toshio.</td>
<td><em>Heian Temples: Byodoin &amp; Chusonji</em></td>
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<td>N7350 .M2 1993</td>
<td>Mason, Penelope.</td>
<td><em>History of Japanese Art</em></td>
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<td>NC1764.5.J3 J37</td>
<td>MacWilliams, Mark</td>
<td><em>Japanese visual culture</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>NA6053.2 .S8913</td>
<td>Suzuki, Kakichi.</td>
<td><em>Early Buddhist architecture in Japan</em></td>
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Online sources through TISCH Library online database

1. ARTSTOR (image database)
2. JSTOR (scholarly articles)
3. OXFORD ART ONLINE (art history dictionary/encyclopedia)

Other helpful external websites

1. Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History, Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC
   “South and Southeast Asia” and “East Asia”
   [http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/world-regions/#/06/World-Map](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/world-regions/#/06/World-Map)

2. “The John C. and Susan L. Huntington Photographic Archive of Buddhist and Asian Art”


4. A to Z Photo Dictionary: Japanese Buddhist Statuary (You may look up this site but all the facts must be double-checked with academic sources before citing in papers)
SCHEDULE (subject to revision; read assignments before class except for the first day)

9/2 Introduction:
- About the course
- Japanese patterns and designs
- Roland Barthes, Empire of Signs

Ancient Periods (6th-13th centuries): Asuka, Nara, and Heian

9/4, 9 Asuka and Nara Periods: Buddhism, Power, and Art
- Patronage and power
- Iconography of Buddhist images

9/11, 16 Heian Period: Formulation of Court Culture
Read: 1. Mason 100-165.

Medieval Periods (13th to 16th centuries): Kamakura, Muromachi, and Momoyama

9/18, 23 The Rise of the Samurai and Diverging Buddhist Schools
Read: 1. Mason, 166-201.

9/25, 30 Pure Land Buddhism vs Zen Buddhism
Read: 1. Mason 201-234
Medieval architecture: 

Preliminary group meeting, and review for the mid-term

**Mid-term Exam**

**Early Modern Period (16th to 19th centuries): Edo**

10/14 Castles and Palaces, and Kano Painting Workshop 
Read: Mason, 235-267.

10/16 Discussion on art and pattern: 
Film: *Double Suicide* 

10/21, 23 Rise of Popular Culture in the Floating World 
Read: 1. Mason 272-342. 

10/28 Wealthy Marchants and Yamato-e Revival 
Read: Mason, 267-271, and 312-317

**Modern Period (19th and 20th centuries): Meiji, Taisho, Showa, and Heisei**

10/30 Meiji—Building a New Image of the Nation 
Read: Mason, 343-355.

**Group Presentations**
11/13, 18  Japan and the West

11/20, 25  Japan in the Twentieth Century
Read:  1. Mason, 355-282

11/27  No class (Thanksgiving Day)

12/2  Contemporary Japanese art and also Review for the final
Read: Mason 382-391

12/4  Final Examination (No Univ. scheduled exam on Dec. 18)