

Syllabus

Course title: Theoretical lecture and reading seminar / Form and Spirit – understanding Japanese culture				
Course instructor(s), contact details: Judit Várhelyi e-mail: judit.varhelyi@gmail.com				
Code: M-AE-E-201-C	Curriculum (program/level): ESMA	Recommended semester: 1-3	Credit: 5	Number of class hours: 36 Student task hours: 114
Related codes: M-AE-201, ER-THEO-BA-ELM- 232401-03	Type: seminar/lecture	Can it be an elective course? no	In case of an elective course what are the specific prerequisites:	
Course connections (prerequisites, parallels):				
Learning outcomes (professional and general competences to be developed):				
<p>Knowledge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Japanese culture and aesthetics - inspiration / integration of Japanese aesthetics and viewpoints in own creative work <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - research - teamwork - presentation <p>Attitude:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - openness and respect for other cultures - critical thinking <p>Autonomy and responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - individual research, critical thinking and essay writing 				
The course will introduce students to the history, aesthetic principles and work ethics underpinning Japanese design culture.				

Course schedule, learning process:

1. week

MUJI or manga? Cultural mirrors (lecture)

2. week

Japanese aesthetics – introduction (lecture)

3. week

Kawaii Kandy-Kolored Tangerine-Flake cuteness (lecture)
group assignment consultation

4. week

Nature and garden – interventions (lecture)
group assignment presentation

5. week

The spirituality of everyday – silence (lecture)
group assignment presentations

6. week

Living traditions (lecture)
group assignment presentations

7. week

Why are there no buttons on a kimono? (lecture)

8. week

Japanese aesthetics – advanced (lecture)

9. week

Student presentations

10. week

Movie morning

11. week

1st May National Holiday

12. week

Why do we (not) love Japan? (lecture)

Students' tasks and responsibilities:

The course is structured around lectures, hands-on workshop and student group-work . Students are required to actively participate in class, do research and work in small groups as well as submit a final essay.

Learning environment:

Classroom as main environment
Studio for the workshop and film viewing

Off-campus location if possible

1st May national holiday

How the grade is calculated:

class participation: 10%

group work, presentation: 40%

individual assignment (essay): 50%

91–100 %: 5

76–90 %: 4

61–75 %: 3

51–60 %: 2

0–50 %: 1

Required literature:

Sakaida Kakiemon: The Art of Emptiness 2019 (MOME könyvtár)

Shimura Fuki: The music of color 2019 (MOME könyvtár)

William Gibson: Modern boys and mobile girls (article)

Kenji Ekuan: Electronics and the Japanese Soul (article)

further links and articles provided during the semester via Google Classroom

Recommended literature:

Kenya Hara: White

Kenya Hara: Designing Design

Yanagi, Soetsu: The unknown craftsman

Naoto Fukasawa (Phaidon)

Jun'ichiro Tanizaki: In Praise of Shadows

Kakuzo Okakura: The Book of Tea

Takeshi Nakadawa: The Japanese House In Space, Memory, and Language

Azby Brown: Just Enough

Alex Kerr: Dogs and Demons

Nitschke, Günter: Japanese gardens: Right angle and natural form (article)

Recommended movies:

Tampopo (director Itami Juzo) 1985

Rikyu (director Teshigahara Hiroshi) 1989

Lost in Translation (director Sofia Coppola) 2003

Departures (Okuribito) (director Takita Yōjirō) 2018

Miyazaki Hayao animations

Tokyo Story (director Ozu Yasujirō) 1953

Rashomon (director Kurosawa Akira) 1950

Sanctuary (Netflix)

Hell Dogs (Netflix)

Recommended documentaries:

Jiro Dreams of Sushi (Netflix)

The Birth of Saké

Other information:

necessary equipment: online research tools

The course is taught by Judit Várhelyi, architect, design expert and ikebana artist. Judit has lived and worked in Japan for over 20 years. Her mission is to channel Japanese aesthetics and design values into European design practice.

webpage: www.ikebanaontheroad.com

Facebook, Instagram: @ikebanaontheroad

Recognition of knowledge acquired elsewhere/previously/validation principle:

No exemption from attending and completing the course.

Out-of-class consultation times and location:

e-mail, Google Classroom, face to face consultation at pre-arranged time and location

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