

**NOVA COLLEGE-WIDE COURSE CONTENT SUMMARY
HIS 256 – HISTORY OF JAPANESE CULTURE AND INSTITUTIONS (3 CR.)**

Course Description

Examines traditional Japanese social, political, economic, and military institutions. Also examines major literary, artistic and intellectual achievements from pre-historic times to the present. Lecture 3 hours a week.

General Course Purpose

This course surveys the general history of Japan from approximately 14,500 BCE to the present. Students will learn about Japan's historical development through the changes overtime in politics, culture, society, and economy.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

Course Objectives

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a) Establish the historical timeline of events from the ancient through modern period in Japan
- b) Describe the significance of the influence of Japan's neighbors, namely China and Korea, and interaction among them from Japan's early formation through the modern period
- c) Identify and analyze the economic, social, cultural, religious, and geopolitical forces that shaped Japan
- d) Analyze and critically read primary and secondary sources

Major Topics to be Included

- a) State formation in pre-modern Japan
- b) Historical connections among China, Korea, and Japan
- c) Establishment of a warrior society
- d) Japanese Buddhism and its developments
- e) Tokugawa Japan
- f) The Meiji Restoration
- g) Imperial Japan
- h) Japan's modernity
- i) World War II
- j) Post-war and contemporary Japan