

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DD3025 (DD8009)
Course Title	Japanese Art: Edo to Contemporary
Pre-requisites	NIL
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 hours

Course Aims

This survey course will introduce you to developments in Japanese art from the Edo period (17th century) to contemporary. You will examine a broad range of visual materials, from Japanese woodblock prints to contemporary art, photography, architecture and design, in order to identify and understand major themes and critical issues in Japanese art. This course will complement courses in other Asian art histories and Japanese literature. It will also provide a basis for further in-depth studies in Japanese art, history and culture.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Discuss the chronological overview of modern and contemporary Japanese art history, including historical contexts to key art movements
2. Recognize and explain importance of selected Japanese artists and important artworks
3. Apply techniques of visual analysis and art historical research with support of bibliographic and archival materials
4. Present research on Japanese Art and culture in a clear and cohesive manner.
5. Contribute to the learning environment by participating positively to class discussion, critiques and activities related to Japanese Art and culture.

Course Content

Historical Context to Japanese Art

Gaining an overview of major periods in Japan's history: Heian, Edo, Meiji and Contemporary and how Japan's geography factors into its art history

Japanese Art Historical Periods

Introduction to the Edo, Meiji and Contemporary eras and the cultural milieu(s) of those periods, notably in Tokyo and Kyoto

Artists, Styles and Artworks

Introduction to key Japanese artists, styles, key movements, significant artworks and architectural works

Key Concepts and Special Issues in Japanese art

Understanding key concepts such as *wabi-sabi*, *otaku*, *SuperFlat* and their relationship to Japanese art

Class assignments

Class exercises, assignments, quizzes and discussions designed in a progressive sequence leading to an 8-10-page final research paper. Assignments include producing fieldnotes and/or writing reviews of films, books and exhibitions.