Syllabus

Subject	Japanese Economics 2		Credit	2
Instructor	Tomohiro Kinoshita			
Semester	Fall	Class Style	Weekly	
Year	2018	Class Code		
Class Theme	Japan's economy now and its future challenges			
Key Words	Diagnosis, Potential Growth Rate, Aging Population, Demographics, Productivity, Structural Reform, Abenomics, Free Trade			
Class Purpose	Upon completion of this course which plans to run a thorough case study of Japan's economy, students should acquire professional skills to analyze the current conditions of, to identify the long-term challenges of, and to propose structural reform policies for the economy of the student's home country.			
Diploma Policy				
Goal of Class	Goal 1: To be able to make correct diagnosis of the current state of Japan's economy utilizing necessary knowledge and professional skills. Goal 2: To be able to identify structural issues and long-term challenges which Japan's economy is facing and propose realistic policy prescriptions to overcome them. Goal 3: To be able to discuss the economic relationship between the student's home country and Japan.			
Outline	Each class of this course combines lectures by the instructor and a student presentation about the economic relationship between the student's home country and Japan followed by class discussions. The first seven lectures will equip each student with the practical skills for the diagnosis of the current state of Japan's economy by teaching where to find which necessary data and also by instructing how to evaluate and analyze them. The next four lectures will discuss why the potential economic growth rate is declining in Japan as well as what Japan is and should be doing to overcome the challenges. The following three lectures will cover Japan's fiscal deficit problem and trade issues. The last lecture will wrap up the entire course by identifying the short-term issues and long-term challenges for Japan's economy.			
Class Schedule	Lecture 1: Course Introduction, Instructions for Self-studying and a Brief Overview of Japan's Economy Lecture 2: Economic Diagnosis of the Current State Lecture 3: Gross Domestic Product and Real Economy Statistics Lecture 4: BOJ Tankan and Other Survey Data Lecture 5: Prices of General Goods and Services and Asset Price Lecture 6: Balance of Payments Statistics and Foreign Exchange Rates Lecture 7: Private Consumption and Retail Sales Lecture 8: Theories on Economic Growth Lecture 9: Declining Trend in Japan's Economic Growth Rate Lecture 10: Aging Population and Demographics Lecture 11: Productivity and Technological Innovation Lecture 12: Fiscal Policy and Fiscal Deficit Lecture 13: Social Security Expenditures and Ballooning Public Debt			

	Lecture 14: Free Trade
	Lecture 15: Short-term Issues and Long-term Challenges

Preparation for Study

For each new lecture, students are required to spend at least 30 minutes to preview the course materials provided before the class. After each class, students are required to spend at least an hour to thoroughly study and comprehend the contents of the lecture and class discussions. In addition, preparation for the short presentation and the research for and writing of the term paper are expected to require at least ten hours and twenty hours of intensive academic work, respectively.

Related Classes	Japan Program V (Japanese Economics)

Grading Criteria

Course grades will be determined by combining the evaluations for the term paper, for the short presentation and for active class participation after applying the ratio shown below. The instructions for the term paper will be provided during the 1st and 8th lectures. The deadline for the term paper is expected to be set on the day one week after the last class. Students will also be instructed to provide a short, ten-minute presentation which describes and discusses the economic relationship between the student's home country and Japan. Student's active participation in class through questions, comments and discussions is strongly encouraged and will be evaluated.

Attendance and participation	Percentage	Explanation of Grading Criteria
Term paper	40	Whether the student has sufficiently achieved academic goals 1 and 2 shall be evaluated.
Short presentation	40	Whether the student has sufficiently achieved academic goals 1 and 3 shall be evaluated.
Active class participation	20	Whether the student has sufficiently achieved academic goals 2 and 3 shall be evaluated.

Feedback	Feedback and comments for the short presentation and active class participation will be provided by the lecturer during the classes. Evaluations for the term paper are expected to be made available on Web Class.
Textbook	Students are not required to purchase any textbooks.
References	The lecturer will recommend or suggest additional reading materials if necessary.
Attendance Rule	Rule 1: Private conversations and phone usage are strictly prohibited during classes. Rule 2: When you have to leave the class early, inform the lecturer in advance and leave quietly. Rule 3: When you have to be late for classes or have to miss classes, please inform the lecturer in advance. Rules will be explained in detail during the first lecture.
Contact	The office hours of the lecturer are between 10:30 am and 12:00 noon on Wednesday. In order to avoid scheduling conflicts, sending emails to the lecturer in advance for setting appointments is strongly recommended.
Others	The lecturer looks forward to seeing each student (1) conceptualize one's own thoughts and ideas independently on one's own, (2) communicate one's thoughts and explain one's ideas to others using one's own words, and thus (3) influence, enlighten and inspire their way of thinking and their actions.