

COURSE DETAIL

GENDER AND POWER IN JAPAN

Country

Japan

Host Institution

Keio University

Program(s)

Keio University

UCEAP Course Level

Lower Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Women's & Gender Studies Sociology

UCEAP Course Number

50

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

GENDER AND POWER IN JAPAN

UCEAP Transcript Title

GENDER&POWER IN JPN

UCEAP Quarter Units

3.00

UCEAP Semester Units

2.00

Course Description

This course introduces and explores gender and sexuality studies, mainly from a sociological perspective, by examining various issues in recent Japanese society.

In Japan today, we frequently hear terms such as the “gender gap” and “LGBTQ”, some of which may be regarded as “current must-know terms” for university examinations or employment examinations. However, not many people recognize that gender is essentially a matter of power-knowledge. Gender, as power-knowledge, acts as a structural background that goes beyond the good or bad intentions of individuals. This course aims to examine how gender as power-knowledge makes various things unremarkable and socially “natural” (e.g., stay-at-home moms, heterosexual couples) but other things more distinctive (e.g., stay-at-home dads, gay couples).

Based on traditional discussions of power relations between men and women, this course outlines recent discussions focusing on complex relations among women and among men that do not always fit into the monolithic scheme of “male domination of women.” During the first half of the semester (lectures 1-6), the course covers basic ideas and concepts in gender and sexuality studies; in the second half (lectures 7-14), the course examines social issues, mainly in recent Japanese society.

*Topics regarding violence (including rape and hate crimes) will be discussed in multiple sessions of this course. Carefully consider your enrollment in this course if these topics make you uncomfortable; alternative assignments can be provided for these sessions.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

N/A

Host Institution Course Title

GENDER AND POWER IN JAPAN

Host Institution Campus

Keio University

Host Institution Faculty**Host Institution Degree****Host Institution Department**

Humanities and Social Science

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