Lecturer: Dr. Amiko Nobori and Dr. Andrea Pressello

Dr. Amiko Nobori
Dr. Amiko Nobori is a diplomatic historian and teaching international relations and Japanese diplomatic history in several universities. Her research interest is in postwar Japanese foreign policy toward Southeast Asia and the U.S.-Japan relations. She has received B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in political science from Keio University. She can be contacted at amiko9292@gmail.com.

Dr. Andrea Pressello
Andrea Pressello received his PhD in International Relations from the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, Tokyo. His research interest is in postwar Japanese diplomatic history and he is currently working on Japan’s post-Vietnam War diplomacy towards Southeast Asia. His latest publications include 「ベトナム戦争後の東南アジア秩序と日本」、宮城大蔵（編集）『戦後アジア秩序の形成と日本』、中央公論新社, 2014 (“Post-Vietnam War Southeast Asia’s Order and Japan,” in Miyagi, Taizo, ed., “The Shaping of Postwar Asia and Japan,” Chuo Koron Shinsha, 2014); “Japanese diplomacy during the Cambodian peace process and Japan’s post-Cold War role in Southeast Asia: the legacy of the Fukuda Doctrine, 1989-1993”, Japan Forum, vol. 26, No. 1, 2014.

Day and Classroom: 13:00-14:30, Wednesday at West School Building 515

Course Description:
This course is a general introduction to postwar Japanese history focusing on foreign and security affairs while also addressing domestic political issues. Classes deal with Japan’s role in the Asia-Pacific region’s international relations, in particular with Japanese relations with the United States, China, the Korean Peninsula, and ASEAN countries. In addition to Japanese foreign policy during the Cold War period, the course also analyses contemporary issues in the post-Cold War era such as the debate over the revision of Japan’s constitution, the "history problem," territorial disputes, and the Japan-US alliance.

Classes will be a combination of lectures, academic readings, videos, presentations by students, and discussions. Visits to thematic historical museums or sites might be organized depending on feasibility and students’ interest in them. Further notice on this will be given during the course.

Students will be given reading assignments in preparation for each class. In the last class, students will participate in a debate on some of the issues discussed during the course.
Textbooks:
Reading materials and a list of reference books will be assigned at the beginning of the course.

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Course Plan:
1. Introduction
2. Japan in the eyes of the world
3. The legacy of defeat and Occupation (Atomic bombings, Tokyo Tribunals, Emperor Hirohito)
4. The Cold War and Japan's return to the international society (Peace Constitution, Japan-US Security Treaty, the "1955 system")
5. Japan’s reconciliation with Asia (reparations to Southeast Asia, normalization with South Korea, relations with China)
6. Japan as an economic power and the “Yoshida line” (Income Doubling Plan, Nixon shocks, reversion of Okinawa, normalization with China, oil-shocks)
7. The “Japan problem” and the search for an international role (Trade frictions, the deepening of the Japan-US alliance, ODA)
8. New Challenges in the Post-Cold War Period – Re-examining Japan’s post-Cold War international role (Gulf War, debate on Japanese Self Defense Forces’ participation in UN peacekeeping operations, Japan in the Cambodian peace process)
10. Japan’s Asia policy in the post-Cold War era (Multilateral frameworks in the Asia-Pacific region, Japan’s regional diplomacy)
11. Japan and the security environment in Northeast Asia (The rise of China and power balance in East Asia, territorial disputes, the North Korean issue)
12. Historical baggage and Reconciliation (Yasukuni shrine issue, "Comfort women" problem, implications on Japan's international relations)
13. Outlook for Japan's foreign policy (Redefinition of Japan’s security role and its implications for the alliance and for the regional security environment, new directions in Japan's foreign policy)
14. Debate
Other Debate

Lecturer's Comments to Students:
This course is designed for those who are interested in Japan, Asia, history issues, security affairs, and international relations. No background knowledge on these issues is required. This course will be conducted in English. Students with limited English ability are also welcome. Students are expected to participate actively in class discussions.
More than two unexcused absences will lower a student’s grade.

**Method of Evaluation:**
Class attendance/participation: 30%
Presentation: 30%
Final essay: 40%

**Questions/Comments:**
Students can contact the lecturers through email:
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pressello@sophia.ac.jp