
INCORPORATIONS

THE INTERACTION OF BODY, CULTURE AND SELF IN CONTEMPORARY JAPAN

He was imposingly built and his red face was framed by a white bread. He bowed to me and said, "You're a Japanese, aren't you? Excuse me for saying so, but I could tell from one glance at your face that you were Japanese, though you also have features resembling those people from west of the Pamirs. My name is Johannes Ranke. I am by profession an anthropologist. It would give me a great pleasure if I might have your photograph."

MORI Ōgai, *Doitsu Nikki* [German Diaries]

Syllabus for the Summer Program in Japanese Culture, University of North Carolina Study Abroad Program, May 16th-June 20th, 2005, Kyoto

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AIM OF THE COURSE. The study of human cultures - Japanese and other - has generally been reducing its scope to social relationships, natural symbols and political ideologies, that is to say, it left the sensuous, physical and gendered appropriation of such categories largely unreflected. This course will use the question of embodiment to think through the relations of the social, material and natural worlds in contemporary Japan. The body is truly a cultural crossroad between such worlds. From various techniques of sleeping to the diverse skills of coping with disease, from mobilizing the physical labor of millions of people to the simple action of moving a finger human bodies play important mediative roles between society and individual, between nature and culture. The mixture of classes and activities will try to show how these categories are intertwined in contemporary Japan, and locate the role of the human body in informing and shaping such connectedness.

OUTLINE. The seminar is divided into four topical components, each with sections intended to focus on the different ways bodies are getting caught up in theories, ideas and practices in contemporary Japan

1. Theorizing and Historicizing Embodiment in Japan
2. The Attunement of the Body, or Learning the Ways to Act Naturally
3. Biopolitics and the Mediation Between Selves, Things and Society
4. The Quest to Overcome the Physical

ACTIVITIES & REQUIREMENTS. Lectures and readings in the class will be supplemented by videos and assigned participant examination of scenarios where embodiment is potentially experienced in the context of everyday life. During the five weeks of the seminar everyone will read the assigned materials daily, which will be then elaborated in a class (or group) discussion. In addition, each day two seminar members will be asked to provide an analytical synopsis (2-3 pages, 10 minutes) of the extra readings assigned for that day: summarizing their principle arguments and offering questions to be addressed in further discussion.

Daily activities will include visits to a school of East Asian medicine, a public bath and Kyoto's wholesale fish market; cultural exchange in an elementary school and two universities - among others. Students will take responsibility for overseeing their assigned fieldwork, including the in-class preparation of narrowly-focused interview questions, taking photos and contribute a short report (2-5 pages handout) for the final exams, in which they summarize the impressions of their assigned reading and fieldwork. The professor and graduate teaching assistant will consult with you to design your project, and will guide you in preparing your final reports, due June 16, 2005 in a form of presentation and a short hand-out.

GOALS FOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT. Acquiring knowledge and extensive experience of the interconnectedness of natural, material and social issues in contemporary Japan; developing and understanding of both culture specific (e.g. *ki*, *amae*, *mi ni tsukeru*) and theoretical (e.g. embodiment, biopolitics, situated learning) concepts. It is intended furthermore that students will improve their skills in organizing data and analyzing the relation between theoretical works and observed phenomena. Finally, the course will offer participants various opportunities of enhancing their ability to argue a point both in discussions and in individual presentations; and to design a small research project on the basis of class work, further readings and participant observation.

Required Book

This book will be available through the program, so be sure to pick up your copy as soon as possible. Everyone is required to read the whole text before the program starts. It is also recommended that you make notes about your impressions and observations, and bring the book to the class (#6) along with your notes.

Spielvogel, Laura. 2003. *Working Out in Japan: Shaping the Female Body in Tokyo Fitness Clubs*. Durham: Duke University Press

Recommended Books

This is a brief list of books which cover different aspects of the seminar topic and provide a glimpse of the manifold approaches to embodied experiences of/in Japanese culture. Excerpts from these texts will form a part of the required readings, and will be included in your reading kit. The whole works, however, will not be discussed in class. For those of you who are interested in learning more about the topic, it is strongly recommended to buy and read them.

Ashkenazi, Michael and John Clammer eds. 2000. *Consumption and Material Culture in Contemporary Japan*. London: Kegan Paul International

Lock, Margaret. 1993. *Encounters with Aging: Mythologies of Menopause in Japan and North America*. Berkeley: University of California Press

Singleton, John ed. 1998. *Learning in Likely Places. Varieties of Apprenticeship in Japan*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press

IGARASHI Yoshikuni. 2000. *Bodies of Memory. Narratives of War in Postwar Japanese Culture, 1945-1970*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press

Crary, Jonathan and Sanford Kwinter eds. 1992. *Incorporations*. Zone Series vol. 6. New York: Urzone

MURAKAMI Haruki. 1997. *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*. trans. Jay Rubin. New York: Knopf (orig., 1994–5 *Nejimakidori Kuronikuru*. Tokyo: Shincho sha)

Theorizing and Historicizing Embodiment in Japan

INTRO. THE END OF THE BODY: A BEGINNING

→ MAY 19, THUR

Class Readings

※Mauss, Marcel. 1973[1936]. Techniques of the body. *Economy and Society*, 2(1):70-88. Also In *Incorporations* Jonathan Kray & Sanford Kwinter ed., 455-475. New York: Urzone. 1992.

Martin, Emily. 1992. The End of the Body? *American Ethnologist* 19(1):121-140

Recommended

Csordas, Thomas J. 1999. The Body's Career in Anthropology. In *Anthropological Theory Today*. Henrietta L. Moore ed., 172-205. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Lock, Margaret and Nancy Scheper-Hughes. 1987. The Mindful Body: A Prolegomenon to Future Work in Medical Anthropology. *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 1(1):6-41

#1. HISTORICAL TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE BODY IN JAPAN

→ MAY 20, FRI

Class Readings

※IGARASHI Yoshikuni. 2000. The Age of the Body. In *Bodies of Memory. Narratives of War in Postwar Japanese Culture, 1945-1970.*, 47-72. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press

Horne, John. 2000. Understanding sport and body culture in Japan. *Body and Society* 6(2): 73-86

Robertson, Jennifer. 2001. Japan's First Cyborg? Miss Nippon, Eugenics and Wartime Technologies of Beauty, Body and Blood. *Body & Society* 7(1):1-34

Recommended

YAMAGUCHI Masao. 2001. Karakuri ningyo: the Ludic Relationship between Man and Machine in Tokugawa Japan. In *Japan at Play: The Ludic and Logic of Power*. Joy Hendry and Massimo Raven ed., Nissan Institute/Routledge Japanese Studies Series. London: Routledge

Bourdagh, Michael . 1998. The Disease of Nationalism, the Empire of Hygiene. *positions* 6(3): 637-673

Cwierka, Katarzyna. 1998. How Cooking Became a Hobby: Changes in Attitude Toward Cooking in Early Twentieth-Century Japan. In *The Culture of Japan as Seen Through Its Leisure*. Sepp Linhart and Sabine Frühstück. eds., 41-58. New York: SUNY Press

The Attunement of the Body or, Learning the Ways to Act Naturally

#2. NURTURING PRACTICES AND FAMILIAL BODIES

→ MAY 23, MON

Fieldwork Assignments

Jun 15, Wed: visiting the Kuretake School for the Disabled

May 25, Wed: trip to Kurama Onsen

Class Readings

※Caudill, William & David W. Plath. 1974. Who sleeps by whom? Parent-child involvement in urban Japanese families. In *Japanese culture and behavior: Selected readings*. Takie S. Lebra & William P. Lebra eds., 277-312. Honolulu: University Press of Hawaii

Ben-Ari, Eyal. 1996. From mothering to othering: organization, culture, and nap time in a Japanese day care center. *Ethos* 24(1): 136-64

Benedict, Ruth. 1989 [1946]. The circle of human feelings. In *The Chrysanthemum and the Sword: Patterns of Japanese Culture.*, 177-194. Boston: Houghton Mifflin

Recommended

Soo-Jin Lee, Sandra. 2000. Disappearing tongues and bodily memories: the aging of first-generation resident Koreans in Japan. *Ethos* 28(2):198-223

Hendry, Joy. 1984. Shoes: The Early Learning of an Important Distinction in Japanese Society. In *Europe Interprets Japan*. Gordon Daniels ed. Tenterden, Kent: Norbury

#3. SPECIAL TOPIC 1: MARTIAL ARTS AND THE WEARING OF *KIMONO*

→ MAY, 24 TUE

Fieldwork Assignments

May 19, Thur: martial arts training at the Ritsumei University

May 20, Fri: participating at *tai-chi* training

Jun 4, Sat: *kimono* wearing practice with members of the Women's Association in Otsu

Class Readings

※INOUE Shun. 1998. The invention of the martial arts: Kano Jigoro and Kodokan judo. In *Mirror Of Modernity: Invented Traditions Of Modern Japan*. Stephen Vlastos ed., 163-173. Berkeley: University of California Press

Goldstein-Gidoni, Ofra. 1999. Kimono and the Construction of Gendered and Cultural Identities. *Ethnology* 38(4):351-370

Chan, Stephen. 2000. The Construction and Export of Culture as Artefact: The Case of Japanese Martial Arts. *Body & Society* 6(1):69-74

Recommended

- Hendry, Joy. 1995. Wrapping of the Body. In *Wrapping Culture. Politeness, Presentation, and Power in Japan and Other Societies.*, 70-97. Oxford Studies in the Anthropology of Cultural Forms. Oxford: Clarendon Press
- Ots, Thomas. 1994. The Silenced Body--the expressive Lieb: On the dialectic of mind and life in Chinese cathartic healing. In *Embodiment and Experience*. Thomas Csordas ed., 116-139. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Chapman, Kris. 2004. Ossu! Sporting masculinities in a Japanese karate dōjō. *Japan Forum* 16(2): 315-35

#4. THE FORCE OF HABIT, OR BODILY LEARNING IN LIKELY PLACES

→ **MAY 25, WED**

Fieldwork Assignments

Jun 12, Sun: *buyō* (Japanese dance) training in Kyoto

Jun 4, Sat: learning to prepare *bento* with members of the Women's Association in Otsu

Class Readings

- ※ Kelly, William W. 1998. Learning to Swing: Oh Sadaharu and the pedagogy and practice of Japanese baseball. In *Learning in Likely Places: Varieties of Apprenticeship in Japan*. John Singleton ed., 265-285. New York and Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
- Kondo, Dorinne K. 1990. Disciplined Selves. In *Crafting Selves. Power, Gender and the Discourses of Identity in a Japanese Workplace.*, 76-118. Chicago and London: University of Chicago Press
- Clark, Scott. 1998. Learning at the public bathhouse. In *Learning in Likely Places. Varieties of Apprenticeship in Japan*. John Singleton ed., 239-252. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press

Recommended

- Madono, Kathryn Ellen. 1998. Craft and regulatory learning in a neighborhood garage. In *Learning in Likely Places. Varieties of Apprenticeship in Japan*. John Singleton ed., 134-53. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press
- Borovoy, Amy. 2001. Recovering From Codependence in Japan. *American Ethnologist* 28(1): 94-118

Biopolitics: the Mediation Between Selves, Things and Society

#5. EMBODIED ETHICS IN SCHOOL, WORK AND RELIGION

→ MAY 30, MON

Fieldwork Assignments

May 30, Mon: visiting the Rakuo Elementary School

Jun 14, Tue: visiting a *mizuko kuyō* temple

May 28, Sat: wedding ceremony at Heian Jingu

Class Readings

- ※Hardacre, Helen. 1997. The Practice of Mizuko Kuyo and the Changing Nature of Abortion. In *Marketing the Menacing Fetus in Japan.*, 55-100. California: University of California Press
- McVeigh, Brian. 2000. Learning to Wear Ideology: School Uniform. In *Wearing Ideology. State, Schooling, and Self-Presentation in Japan.*, 47-103. Dress, Body, and Culture Series. Oxford: Berg Press
- Dasgupta, Romit 2003. Creating corporate warriors: the “salaryman” and masculinity in Japan. In *Asian Masculinities: The Meaning and Practice of Manhood in China and Japan.* Morris Low and Kam Louie eds. 118-136. London: Routledge Curzon

Recommended

- Reader, Ian. 1994. Japanese Religions. In *Rites of Passage.* Jean Holm and John Bowker. eds., 169-184. New York: Pinter Publishers
- MATSUNAGA Kazuto. 1998. The importance of the left hand in two types of ritual activity in Japanese villages. In *Interpreting Japanese Society: Anthropological Approaches.* Joy Hendry ed., 182-94. 2nd edition. London & New York: Routledge
- Allison, Anne. 1996. Japanese mothers and *obentōs*: the lunch box as ideological state apparatus. In *Permitted and Prohibited Desires: Mothers, Comics, and Censorship in Japan.*, 81-104. Berkeley: University of California Press

#6. SPECIAL TOPIC 2: SPORT, AEROBICS AND THE FEMALE BODY

→ JUN 2, THUR

Fieldwork Assignment

Jun 2, Thur: visiting the Fitness Club Healthpia 21 and the Health Center in it

Class Reading

- ※Spielvogel, Laura. 2003. *Working Out in Japan: Shaping the Female Body in Tokyo Fitness Clubs.* Durham: Duke University Press

Recommended

Manzenreiter, Wolfram. 2004. Her place in the 'House of Football': globalisation, sexism and women's football in East Asian societies. In *Football Goes East. Business, Culture and the People's Game in East Asia*. Wolfram Manzenreiter and John Horne eds., 197-221. London/New York: Routledge

#7. SPECIAL TOPIC 3: KAMPŌ AND THE FOOD-MEDICINE NEXUS

→ **JUN 3, FRI**

Fieldwork Assignments

Jun 13, Mon: visit and lecture in the Butsugen School of Acupuncture

Class Readings

※Lock, Margaret. 1980. The East Asian Medical System in Urban Japan: *Kanpō*. In *East Asian Medicine in Urban Japan: Varieties of Medical Experience.*, 109-144. Berkeley: University of California Press

※Ashkenazi, Michael and Jeanne Jacob. 2003. Diet and Health. In *Food Culture in Japan.*, 171-176. London: Greenwood Press

Breslau, Joshua. 2001. Pathways through the Border of Biomedicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine: A Meeting of Medical Systems in a Japanese Psychiatry Department. *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 25(3): 251-275

KURIYAMA Shigehisa. 1992. Between Mind and Eye: Japanese Anatomy in the Eighteenth Century. In *Paths to Asian Medical Knowledge*. Charles Leslie and Allan Young, eds., 21-43. Berkeley: University of California Press

Recommended

Ohnuki-Tierney, Emiko. 1984. Kanpō: Traditional Japanese Medicine of Chinese Origin. In *Illness and Culture in Contemporary Japan. An Anthropological View.*, 89-121. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Picone, Mary. 1986. The Ghost in the Machine: Religious Healing and Representations of the Body in Japan. In *Fragments for a History of the Human Body, Part Two*. Michael Feher et al. ed., 466-489. New York: Zone Publications

Adams, Glyn. 2000. *Shiatsu* in Britain and Japan: personhood, holism and embodied aesthetics. *Anthropology & Medicine* 9(3): 245-265.

The Quest to Overcome the Physical

#8. SPECIAL TOPIC 4: GLOBAL CORPOREALITIES: *SUSHI AND MANGA*

→ JUN 13, MON

Fieldwork Assignments

May 23, Mon: visiting Manga Shop 'Mandarake'

May 24, Tue: tour in the Kyoto Central Wholesale Fish Market

Class Readings

✂Bestor, Theodore C. 1999. Constructing Sushi: Food Culture, Trade, and Commodification in a Japanese Market. In *Lives in Motion*. S.O. Long ed., 151-90. Cornell East Asia Series 106.

OHNUKI-Tierney, Emiko. 1997. McDonald's in Japan: Changing Manners and Etiquette. In *Golden Arches East: McDonald's in East Asia*. J.L. Watson ed., 161-182. California: Stanford University Press

Bolton, Christopher A. 2002. From Wooden Cyborgs to Celluloid Souls: Mechanical Bodies in Anime and Japanese Puppet Theater. *positions: east asia cultures critique* 10(3):729-771

Recommended

Cwiertka, Katarzyna J. 2002. Eating the homeland: Japanese expatriates in The Netherlands. In *Asian Food: The Global and the Local*. Katarzyna Cwiertka and Boudewijn Walraven eds., 133-152. Consumasian Book Series. Richmond, Surrey: Curzon

Grigsby, Mary. 1998. Sailormoon: Manga (Comics) and Anime (Cartoon) Superheroine Meets Barbie: Global Entertainment Commodity Comes to the United States. *Journal of Popular Culture* 32(1): 59-80

Anne Allison. 1996. Public Veilings and Public Surveillance: Obscenity Laws and Obscene Fantasies in Japan. In *Permitted and Prohibited Desires: Mothers, Comics, and Censorship in Japan.*, 147-176. Berkeley: University of California Press

#9. FROM THE FETISH OF FLESH TO THE COMMODIFICATION OF BODIES

→ JUN 14, TUE

Fieldwork Assignment

May 31, Tue: attending a baseball game at Koshien Stadium in Osaka

Any time: - TV commercials (on video reserve)

Class Readings

✂Kelsky, Karen. 2001. Capital and the Fetish of the White Man. In *Women on the Verge: Japanese Women, Western Dreams.*, 133-201. Duke University Press

Ozawa-de Silva C. 2002. Beyond the Body/Mind? Japanese Contemporary Thinkers on Alternative Sociologies of the Body. *Body & Society* 8(2):21-38

Clammer, John. 1997. Consuming Bodies: Media and the Construction and Representation of the Body. In *Contemporary Urban Japan: A Sociology of Consumption.*, 110-134. London: Blackwell Publishing

Recommended

Miller, Laura. 2000. Media typifications and *hip bijin*. *US-Japan Women's Journal* 19:176-205

Frühstück, Sabine 2000. Treating the Body as Commodity: 'Body Projects' in Contemporary Japan. In *Consumption and Material Culture in Contemporary Japan*. Michael Ashkenazi and John Clammer eds., 139-157. London: Kegan Paul International

#10. SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

→ JUN 15, WED

Fieldwork Assignments

Jun 15, Wed: visiting the Kuretake School for the Disabled

Jun 2, Thur: visiting the Fitness Club Healthpia 21 and the Health Center in it

Class Readings

※Lock, Margaret. 2004. Living Cadavers and the Calculation of Death. *Body & Society* 10(2-3):135-152

YODA Hiroe. 2002. New Views on Disabilities and the Challenge to Social Welfare in Japan. *Social Science Japan Journal* 5(1):1-15

ITO Mizuko and OKABE Daisuke (*forthcoming*). Technosocial Situations: Emergent Structurings of Mobile Email Use. In *Personal, Portable Intimate: Mobile Phones in Japanese Life*. Ito Mizuko, Matsuda Misa and Okabe Daisuke eds. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2005

Recommended

Miller, Elizabeth. 2002. What's In a Condom? – HIV and Sexual Politics in Japan. *Culture, Medicine and Psychiatry* 26(1):1-32

Cullinane, Joanne. 2002. "Net" - Working on the Web: Links Between Japanese HIV Patients in Cyberspace. In *Japanese Cybercultures*. Gottlieb, N., M. McLelland eds., 126-140. New York, London: RoutledgeCurzon

Low, Morris; NAKAYAMA Shigeru, YOSHIOKA Hitoshi. 1999. The patient versus the doctor: changes in -medical care and attitudes to the body. *Science, Technology and Society in Contemporary Japan.*, 178-188. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

→ JUN 16-18, THUR-SAT