

# SYLLABUS

Special Topics 491

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Special Topics 491. **Examining and Recording Traditional Arts in Japan**

(3 cr.) Lecture/Studio: Prerequisites: None.

## I. Course Description

An Introductory lecture/studio course for non-art majors and art majors. It is comprised of lectures covering major traditional Japanese art forms and includes their documentation *via* drawings in black and white as well as color.

The **slide lectures** range through traditional Japanese architecture, painting, sculpture, prints, ceramics and gardens from the Jomon through the Edo periods.

The **studio** experience involves an introduction to basic drawing. Drawing skill is helpful but not necessary. The final project will involve a pictorial "essay" with subject matter chosen by the student with approval of the faculty.

**Field trips** will be made to various important museums and architectural sites in the Kansai area to experience the works of art "first hand" and to provide students with access to the architectural monuments, themselves.

## II. Course objectives

The **studio sessions** will give students the skills necessary to depict objects and buildings they see while in Japan. It is expected that each student will produce a body of work which can be used in an exhibition and/or in a Power-Point type lecture at the end of the semester... as well as upon returning to the United States.

The **slide lectures** will lay the groundwork for an understanding of the major traditional art forms of Japan. They will provide a sufficient variety of art categories from which to choose their final project.

**III. Text:** None (There might, on occasion, be reading assignments as homework to augment special interest topics on the part of specific students. The JCMU library has helpful material on its shelves.

## IV. Art Materials:

Students will be furnished basic art materials on the second day of class. If an individual wishes to use more elaborate materials in his/her final project, it may be necessary to purchase them from personal funds.

## V. Policies

Attendance

Attendance at studio sessions is required. Because of the nature of studio activity (such as special setups with distinct directions, special lighting and trips made to specific museums and monuments, it is virtually impossible to "make up" missed sessions. The same is true of slide lectures. Absence from class activities requires a doctor's excuse.

## **VI. Grading**

The grade in the course is based, about equally, upon the studio and the lecture components.

Studio grading is primarily determined by the student's understanding of the skill, or skills, being developed in each specific project. A final portfolio will be due at the end of the semester. Evaluations are continuously available upon request during the course of the semester as well as being integrated throughout in the form of group critiques.

A mid-term test will be given covering the lecture contents to date,

A final written exam will be given at the end of the semester.

Other factors that affect the grade are:

Completion of all projects.

Attendance and punctuality.

Class participation in discussions.

## **VII. Office Hours:**

You will be informed of the time and place of office hours.