Course Title 科目名	Japanese Society through Manga and Anime B			Instructor 担当者	IKEZAWA, Meiko 池澤　明子		
Semester 学期	SPRING 2027	Course Level 履修年次	N/A	Credits 単位	2	hrs/wks 時間数/週	2

【Course Objectives: 授業の到達目標】

After successfully completing this course, students will acquire basic knowledge on various social, cultural and historical issues of Japan. They will also acquire basic skills to analyze and understand the social, cultural and historical issues addressed in manga and anime. This course emphasizes learning through research, analysis and presentation.

【Course Summary: 授業の概要】

Students taking this course will read all 23 volumes of Koyoharu Gotouge's "Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba." This work has gained a large readership and audience in Japan and around the world, and is highly acclaimed. At the same time, it is an excellent manga and anime resource for learning about Japanese society, culture, and history. After reading every volume, students will write a short essay about the work. Students will then conduct research on several themes of their choice and present their findings (the number and duration of presentations will depend on the number of students in the class). First, they will conduct research and present on themes related to the setting of the work. Next, they will conduct research and present on analyzing the work in relation to modern society. Students will form groups with others who have similar themes and collaborate with each other. The instructor will also recruit Japanese students to participate, and if there are applicants, students can collaborate on research and presentations with them. Of course, there will be question-and-answer sessions and discussions after each presentation, and students will learn a great deal not only from their own activity but also from other students. In this course, students will deepen their knowledge, broaden their perspective, and increase their understanding of the relationship between Japanese society, culture, history, and manga/anime.

【Study Required outside Class (Preparation etc.): 事前・事後学習】

At the beginning of the semester, students will read all 23 volumes of Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba in English translation or in Japanese in the library. After reading, students will write a short essay expressing their thoughts and what they learned. A minimum of one hour should be spent for the essay. They will also choose several research topics. Each student will prepare for some presentations during the semester. A minimum of four hours should be spent for the preparation of one presentation.

【Class Outline: 授業計画（各回の授業内容）】

Session 1	Orientation, Manga/anime and society
Session 2	The relationship between the protagonists of shonen battle manga and Japanese society, and their changing.
Session 3	Submission of an after reading essay, research topic and schedule plan
Session 4	Presentation 1: e.g. What is *Demon* through Japanese folklore, history and *Kimetsu no Yaiba*
Session 5	Presentation 2: e.g. History around and during the Taisho era
Session 6	Presentation 3: e.g. Traditional Japanese items: costume, sword, masks, Kagura, Karate, etc.
Session 7	Presentation 4: e.g. Traditional Japanese items: Temari, Sensu, Tsudumi, Biwa, Koodoo, etc.
Session 8	Presentation 5: e.g. Meaning of each flower and plant, etc.
Session 9	Presentation 6: e.g. Life and death, crime and punishment through religion and philosophy
Session 10	Presentation 7: e.g. Character analysis and their speech styles, linguistics issues, communication, etc.
Session 11	Presentation 8: e.g. Manga art expressions and metaphors
Session 12	Presentation 9: e.g. Gender, sexuality and family
Session 13	Presentation 10: e.g. Politics and diversity, manga/ anime industry
Session 14	Semester summary and reflection: The message of Demon Slayer and its significance in modern society

【Textbooks, Course Materials: 教科書、参考書等】

Demon Slayer: Kimetsu no Yaiba volume 1-23. Koyoharu Gotouge, Shuuei-sha, 2016-2020. (Students can read them in English translation and also in Japanese in the university library.) Handouts will be provided by the teacher.

【Grading Criteria: 成績評価の方法】

◆After reading essay (20%) ◆Presentations 80% (references 30%, presentations 50%) ◆Participation -10% per missed class, lateness -1% per 10 minutes, inappropriate behavior -5% per notice. ◆Mark schemes may change slightly regarding class conditions. ◆Evaluation will be made according to students' levels of comprehension and content. ◆A minimum of 80% attendance is required for the credit. ◆Presentations are mandatory for the credit.

【Note: 履修上の注意】

◆This course covers the same content in both the fall and spring semesters. This course limits students' number and the students who take this course in the fall semester cannot take it in the spring semester. ◆This course is not an introduction to manga and anime. This course is for students with previous knowledge and skills of reading manga, who read manga on a regular basis. ◆Students must read manga required for the course. ◆Manga and anime well-known and acknowledged as major works in Japan will be mentioned in class as common knowledge. e.g. Naruto, Attack on Titan, Jujutsu Kaisen, Chainsaw Man, films of Studio Ghibli and Makoto Shinkai, etc. ◆Students will participate in all activities of the course in English and give presentations in English. ◆More detailed information about the course and the evaluation will be provided in class. ◆Course content may change regarding class conditions.