

History 201m
Silverberg
Wednesdays 3:00-6:00

UCLA
Winter 1991
Bunche 1265

RACE AND CULTURE IN MODERN JAPAN

This seminar will study Japanese conceptions of race, ethnicity, and culture from the late 19th century through the present with an emphasis on formations of conceptions of race and culture under the Japanese empire, as it expanded from the early twentieth century through the 1940s. We will focus on four historical problems: 1) the degree to which Western theories of racism, anti-semitism, and racism under colonialism can be applied to the Japanese case 2) the mobilization of an ideology of "Japaneseness" during the early modern and modern eras 3) the particularities of Japanese cultural essentialism as a racial theory and 4) historical articulations of cultural formulations of Japan's relationship to the West in relationship to state ideology.

This is primarily a reading and discussion seminar. Each week one or two students will give brief presentations on supplementary readings, but the emphasis will be on discussion of close reading of theoretical, secondary, and primary sources. Whenever possible students will be encouraged to read relevant texts in Japanese, Chinese, and Korean for purposes of presentation and discussion and for the ten-fifteen page analytical/historiographical paper which will be due during exam week.

PART ONE: THEORIES OF RACE

- January 9 Introduction: Setting our Agenda
January 16 Theories of Race: Introductory Readings

Readings:

- Goldberg, Ed. Anatomy of Racism
Introduction,
Ch. 1 Appiah, "Racisms"
Ch. 3 Stepan, "Race and Gender: The Role of Analogy in Science"
Ch. 4 Outlaw, "Toward a Critical Theory of 'Race'"
Ch. 6 Hodge, "Equality: Beyond Dualism and Oppression"
Ch. 7 Fanon, "The Fact of Blackness"
Ch. 9 Barthes, "African Grammar"
Ch. 13 Bhabha, "Interrogating Identity: The Postcolonial Prerogative"
Ch. 15 Fitzpatrick, "Racism and the Innocence of Law"
Ch. 17 Balibar, "Paradoxes of Universality"
Ch. 18 Goldberg, "The Social Formation of Racist Discourse"

Report: Prager/Banton Debate on Racism in America (packet)

January 23 Forms of Otherness: Racism, Anti-Semitism, Colonial Discourse

Readings:

Arendt, "Race-Thinking Before Racism" (packet)
Sartre, Anti-Semite and Jew
Nandy, "The Psychology of Colonialism: Sex, Age and
Ideology in British India" (packet)

Report: Fanon, Black Skin, White Masks
Memmi, The Colonizer and the Colonized

January 30 Early Modern Japanese Identity

Readings:

Harootunian, Things Seen and Unseen

Report: Harootunian on Japanese representations of China (packet)
Totman vs. Sakai on Tokugawa ethnicity (packet)

PART TWO: IDEOLOGY, STATE, AND CULTURE

February 6 Theorizing State Ideology

Readings:

Benn and Gaus, "The Liberal Conception of the
Public and the Private" (packet)
Pateman, "Feminist Critiques of the Public/Private
Dichotomy" (packet)
Althusser, "Ideology and Ideological State Apparatuses"
(packet)
Gramsci, "The Intellectuals," "On Education,"
"The Concept of Ideology" (packet)
Hall, "The Hinterland of Science: Ideology and The
"Sociology of Knowledge"
Lefort, "Outline of the Genesis of Ideology in Modern
Societies" (packet)

Report : Mannheim, Ideology and Utopia

February 13 Meiji Ideology

Reading:

Gluck, Japan's Modern Myths

Report: Fujita Shozo on the Emperor-State
Amino Yoshihiko on the Emperor System

February 20 Taisho Culture: Relating Modern Japanese Culture to the West

Reading:

Silverberg, "Mass as Class Culture in Imperial Japan" (packet)
Gumperz, "Conversational Code Switching" (packet)
Williams, "When was Modernism," "Metropolitan Perceptions and
the Emergence of Modernism" (packet)
Seidensticker, Tokyo Rising 1-146

Report: Leslie Pincus on Ruki Shuzo

PART III: THE JAPANESE EMPIRE, STATE, AND CULTURE

February 27 The Education of Empire

Reading:

Arendt, "Race and Bureaucracy" (packet)
Tsurumi, "Colonial Education in Korea and Taiwan" (packet)
Weiner, "Japanese Images of Korea: 1868-1910" (packet)
"From Korea to Chosen: The First Phase of Colonial
Rule" (packet)
Duus, "Introduction: Japan's Informal Empire in China, 1895-
1937" (packet)
Feuerwerker, "Japanese Imperialism in China: A Commentary"
(packet)
Hall, Shushin: The Ethics of a Defeated Nation (purchase)

Report: Korean Textbooks/Japanese language Shushin texts

March 6 Returning to the Principles of Japanese Identity

Reading:

Bhabha, "Narrating the Nation" (packet)
Renan, "What is a Nation" (packet)
Bhabha, "DissemiNation: time, narrative, and the
margins of the modern nation" (packet)
Dower, War Without Mercy : The War In Japanese Eyes
(pp. 203-317)
Kokutai no Hongi (purchase) [in Japanese on reserve]

March 13 The Ideology of the Japanese Subject: Questions of Continuity

Reading: The Way of the Subject (packet) [Shirmin no Michi
in Japanese on reserve]

movie: "Shimon" (on finger-printing of Korean-Japanese in Japan)

Guest speaker/commentator: Professor Lim Chol (Tsuda University,
scholar-in-residence, University of
Chicago)

individual paper reports and party

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- discussion based on close readings
- consultation with professor re paper during office hours during quarter
- 10-15 page analytical/historiographical paper or prospectus
due 3/22 by noon

(Select Bibliography of related readings to be distributed.)

Texts

The following texts are available for purchase at the bookstore or APS:

Dower, John. War Without Mercy.

Gluck, Carol. Japan's Modern Myths.

Goldberg, David Theo, Ed. Anatomy of Racism.

Hall, Robert King. Trans. Kokutai no Hongi [Cardinal Principles of the National Entity of Japan]. (APS)

Hall, Robert King. Trans. Shushin: The Ethics of a Defeated Nation. (APS)

Harootunian, H.D. Things Seen and Unseen: Discourse and Ideology in Tokugawa Nativism

Sartre, Jean-Paul. Anti-Semite and Jew.

Seidensticker, Edward. Tokyo Rising.

The Packet is available for sale at Quinx Copies, 10966 LeConte Ave. Suite A (2nd Floor) 824-1441.