

Course Number	Course Title Japanese Rites of Passage 日本人の通過儀礼	Credits 2	Instructor(s) Yu Ming Hwang
Keywords	Rites, Japanese culture		
Course Description (including Goal and Objectives)	<p>This course will give a lecture about the Japanese rites of passage which includes the obi-tying ceremony, the ceremony for new-born baby, the seven day ceremony &amp; naming ceremony for new born babies, the Shrinevisit of a new born baby, the first feeding ceremony for new born baby, 7-5-3 year old children’s ceremony, coming of age ceremony, Wedding ceremony, the ceremony for unlucky age, the ceremony for long life, funeral ceremony.</p> <p>Since the depopulation and aging of this society is a serious concern in Japan, the way of rites of passage had been transformed. Under the background of Japanese society, this lecture will discuss the changing procedures of the rites of passage in both of Japanese cities and villages based on the results of a field survey trip. In addition, social problems will also be examined and discussed.</p>		
Course Schedule	1	Introduction	
	2	The theory of the rites of passage,	
	3	The role and the purpose of the rites of passage	
	4	The main reason for the weakening of the rites of passage	
	5	The ceremony for new-born-baby	
	6	7-5-3 year old children’s ceremony	
	7	Coming of age ceremony	
	8	Wedding ceremony	
	9	The ceremony for unlucky age	
	10	The ceremony for long life	
	11	Funeral ceremony	
	12	Field survey	
	13	Case study 1	
	14	Case study 2	
	15	Presentation	
Textbook(s)	Handouts will be provided.		
Reference(s)	Arnold van Gennep ”The Rites of Passages” University of Chicago Press, 1960.		
Grading Method	Final report	30%	
	Attendance	30%	
	Class participation	20%	
	Presentation	20%	
Message to Students			
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