

# PLS200 International Politics

1st and 2nd quarters, Sophomore

<b>Instructor</b>	YOKOI MASANOBU
<b>Style of Class</b>	Lecture
<b>Number of Credits</b>	2
<b>Day and Period</b>	Tuesday, period 4

## Course Description

After Japan and Germany were both defeated in World War II, they found themselves facing difficult problems of remilitarization and security in the midst of the Cold War. On the other hand, both of them recovered economically after the war and became major economic powers, reestablishing their positions in the international community. Germany, in particular, has become a central presence in the European Union and has been playing a major role in international politics. Yet, major changes in the international political framework and economic globalization since the 1990s have had major effects on the internal politics of both countries, making it impossible to ignore the linkages between diplomacy and internal politics.

In these lectures, students will learn about the political processes surrounding the problems that have become major political issues in postwar Japan and Germany. The aim is that doing so will help them learn basic knowledge about the ways in which international political issues in both countries developed and changed. Moreover, the examples of Germany and the EU will provide hints for thinking about current circumstances in Japan, which has issues in common, such as the changes in security environment and economic relations in the midst of globalization. By these means, the students will acquire a wide range of basic and specialized knowledge and ability for investigating the characteristics and issues of each country and region from a variety of viewpoints.

## Course Objectives

- (1) A goal of this course is to acquire the basic knowledge for understanding how the Cold War after World War II, its end and the progress of European integration influenced German domestic politics and diplomacy.
- (2) Acquiring the basic knowledge about the circumstances in which Japan has been placed in the international community after World War II, and summarizing one's own concepts of the associated characteristics and problems in terms of comparative politics.

## Expected Outcomes

- (1) Students will acquire a wide range of basic and specialized knowledge for investigation of the characteristics and issues connected with the interrelationships among different countries and regions from a variety of viewpoints.
- (2) Students will learn about the basic analytical frameworks of contemporary international politics and gain the ability to deepen their understanding of international political phenomena.
- (3) Students will gain the critical and theoretical way of thinking that form the basis for understanding the international political problems faced by the East Asian countries, including Japan.

## Prerequisites

Introduction to Global and Community Studies

## Class Materials

- (1) Watanabe Hirotaka (ed.), *Yooroppa kokusai kankei shi* (History of European International Relations), Yuhikaku, 2008.
- (2) Iokibe Makoto, et al., *Sengo Nihon gaikoushi* (History of Postwar Japanese Diplomacy), Yuhikaku, 2014.
- (3) Winkler, H.A., *Jiyuu to touitsu e no nagai michi* (The Long Road to Freedom and Unification), Showado, 2008.
- (4) Nakamura Toshiya, *Doitsu no anzenhoshou seisaku* (Germany's Security Policies), Ichigeisha, 2011.
- (5) Tanaka Soko, et al., *Gendai Yooroppa keizai* (Contemporary European Economics) Yuhikaku, 2014.
- (6) Endo Ken, *Yooroppa tougou shi* (History of European Integration), Nagoya Daigaku Shuppankai, 2008.

- (7) Haba Kumiko, *Yooroppa no bundan to tougou* (European Fragmentation and Integration), Chuo Koron Shinsha, 2016.
- (8) Hara Yoshihisa, *Nichibei kankei no kouzu* (An Outline of Japanese-American Relations), Nihon Hoso Shuppankai, 1991.
- (9) Tanaka Akihiko, *Anzen hoshou* (Security), Yomiuri Shimbunsha, 1997.
- (10) Sotooka, Hidetoshi, *Nichibei doumei hanseiki* (A Half Century of the Japanese-American Alliance), Asahi Shinbunsha, 2001.
- (11) Hatano Sumio, *Nihon no gaikou, dai ni kan* (Japan's Foreign Relations, Volume 2), Iwanami Shoten, 2013.
- (12) Tsuchiyama Jitsuo, *Anzen hoshou no kokusai seijigaku* (The International Political Science of Security), Yuhikaku, 2014.
- (13) Watanabe Hisashi (ed.), *Koritsu to tougou: Nichidoku sengoshi no bunkiten* (Isolation and Integration: The Divergence of Japanese and German Postwar History), Kyoto Daigaku Gakujutsu Shuppankai, 2006.

## Course Method

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This course will be conducted as a lecture course. The lectures will basically proceed along the lines of the textbooks, but in some cases, separate printed handouts will be distributed when we deal with a wider range of problems. In order to solve the problems that are dealt with in the listed reference materials, students should read not only the textbook but also the reference materials. In addition, a wide variety of relevant materials, including videos, will be used as much as possible to deepen students' understanding.

## Evaluation/Assessment

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Evaluation and assessment will be based mostly on the final exam, but on some occasions, students will be directed to summarize what they have learned in a response paper about one page in length, which they will hand in at the beginning of the next class session. In addition, students will be questioned about the content of the response papers during the class sessions.

## Grading

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10%	Response papers
10%	Participation in Q&A session during class
80%	Final exam

## Course Schedule

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### Week 1: Orientation, World War II and America's objectives in the war

An orientation to the entire course, along with a description of Germany's unique position in European history and the objectives that the United States pursued during World War II, which exerted a major influence in the postwar period.

### Week 2: The Occupations of Japan and Germany after World War II

Students will systematically learn the Occupations that both Japan and Germany underwent after losing the war, as well as the similarities and differences between the two Occupations.

### Week 3: The beginning of the Cold War and its effects on Japan and Germany

Students will learn about the effects of the start of the Cold War on the reconstruction of Germany and the story behind the East-West division of Germany, as well as a comparison of Germany's status with the position that Japan was placed in around the time of the San Francisco Peace Treaty.

### Week 4: The construction of security frameworks in Japan and Germany

Students will receive an overview of the establishment of a stable democratic political system and a security framework in West Germany in the 1950s and 1960s, as well as a comparison of that framework with Japan's security framework whose foundation is the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty.

### Week 5: The progress of European integration and Japan's period of rapid economic growth

This lecture will trace the history of European integration, from the formation of the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), the European Economic Community (EEC), and through the European Community (EC) of 1960s, and compare these European developments with Japan's period of high economic growth.

**Week 6: Multipolarity and changes in security frameworks in the era of detente**

Students will learn how the international political situation changed for Japan and West Germany during the era of multipolarity and East-West detente from the late 1960s to the early 1970s and the effects on the security frameworks in both countries during that era.

**Week 7: Multipolarity and changes in the economic policy environment in the era of detente**

Students will learn how multipolarity in particular and detente as well influenced and changed the Japanese and West German economies and the progress of European integration and look at the influence these factors had on security frameworks in both countries.

**Week 8: From detente to a new Cold War**

Students will learn about the so-called “new Cold War,” which took place from the late 1970s to the early 1980s, especially the heightened tensions between East and West as seen in Reagan’s military buildup, and we will consider its effect on the foreign policies of Japan and Germany while comparing the circumstances of the two countries.

**Week 9: The fall of Eastern European socialist systems and the end of the Cold War**

We will consider the sudden relaxation and end of the tensions of the new Cold War in the latter half of the 1980s and the ways in which the end of the Cold War affected the policy environments of Japan and Germany.

**Week 10: German reunification seen in terms of international politics**

We will trace the political process by which the 1990 reunification of Germany occurred in conjunction with the end of the Cold War and consider the significance of German reunification for international politics in Europe.

**Week 11: Redefining the U.S.-Japan Security Framework after the end of the Cold War**

This lecture will provide an overview of the arguments about the redefinition of the U.S.-Japan Security Framework, which arose amidst the major changes in the international political situation after the end of the Cold War. Then we will look at the new roles Japan is being asked to play in the area of security and the problems associated with it.

**Week 12: Changes in European security frameworks after the end of the Cold War**

Students will learn about the significance of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) after the end of the Cold War and the arguments over the new role of Germany as a member of NATO. These developments will be compared with the redefinition of the U.S.-Japan Security Framework in Japan.

**Week 13: Germany’s industrial location problems and the stagnation of the Japanese economy**

Students will learn about the launch of the European Union, the intensification of European integration with the beginning of currency integration, as well as the “industrial location problems” that the globalization of the economy brought to Germany after the unification. These circumstances will be compared with the economic stagnation that occurred in Japan after the collapse of the bubble economy.

**Week 14: United Germany and the expansion of its political-economic role**

We will look at Germany, which overcame its economic stagnation in the early years of the twenty-first century and increased its dominance of the European politics and economics, and what changes it may bring to European international politics. Then we will compare the ways in which those circumstances are different from and similar to those of Japan.

**Week 15: Germany and Japan in the international community: summary of the course**

We will review the problems discussed in this class, and each student will summarize his or her views of the situation of Germany in contemporary Europe and the international community, and, in comparison, Japan’s circumstances and positions.

**Week 16: Final exam****Preparation and Follow-up**

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Before each class meeting, carefully read the appropriate sections in the textbooks and reference materials, and prepare any questions you may have to ask the instructor when you come to class. When assigned a response paper, it must be submitted at the start of the next class meeting. Also, be prepared to answer any questions the instructor may have about your response paper.