

HUM200 Cultural Resources

3rd and 4th quarters, Sophomore

Instructor	HIGASHIMURA JUNKO
Style of Class	Lecture
Number of Credits	2
Day and Period	Wednesday, period 2

Course Description

In this course, students will learn about research methodologies applicable to regional cultural resources and the present state of—as well as challenges involved in—preservation activities. They will deepen their understanding of techniques and possibilities relating to the creation of culture that leverages cultural resources in regional areas distinguished by an integration between the public administration and residents. Students will tackle from an academic perspective the challenge of preserving, passing on from generation to generation, as well as leveraging regional cultural resources that have been cultivated over a long period of time, in a modern society characterized by the advance of globalization. In this way, they will make proposals about administration-driven measures to leverage cultural assets and related management methodologies, and discover the value and utility of resources shared by residents of regional areas.

Course Objectives

The objective of the course is to gain an understanding of the concept of cultural resources, and learn the processes involved in researching, leveraging, and publically promoting various types of regional cultural resources. Students will also deepen their understanding of the significance of cultural resources in our modern society, which is characterized by the rise of information solutions.

Prerequisites

Introduction to Archeology (Common General Ed. Courses)

Class Materials

Reference books:

Ogino Masahiro (ed.) *Bunka isan no shakaigaku* (Sociology of Cultural Heritage), Shinyosha.
Nishino Yoshiaki *Mobairu myujiamu kodo suru hakubutsukan* (Mobile Museum), Heibonsha.

Course Method

The instructor will conduct the lectures and give assignments to the students on a regular basis. If deemed necessary, small-group discussions will be held with an emphasis on interactivity. Field trips will also be conducted as necessary.

Evaluation/Assessment

Students will be expected to write and submit short reports on topics addressed in the lectures, and group discussions will also be actively held.

Grading

30%	Regular short reports
20%	Degree of participation in in-class discussions
50%	Final exam

Course Schedule

Week 1: Definition of cultural resources

This lecture will introduce the legal and administrative definitions of cultural assets, cultural heritage and cultural resources, and look at international trends.

Week 2: Cultural resources and community education facilities

Introduce the concept of community education, and reflect on the state of facilities such as museums, libraries, and archives.

Week 3: Present state of cultural resources theory (1) Overseas

Survey the present state of cultural resources management overseas.

Week 4: Present state of cultural resources theory (2) Japan

Survey the present state of cultural resources management in Japan.

Week 5: Gathering of cultural resources

Introduce various aspects involved in gathering cultural resources, and clarify related problems.

Week 6: Organizing cultural resources

Introduce various aspects involved in organizing cultural resources, and clarify problems related to database creation.

Week 7: Research into cultural resources / cultural resources and academic materials

Introduce various aspects involved in researching cultural resources, and clarify challenges and correlations related to academic materials concepts.

Week 8: Handling of cultural resources

Introduce various aspects involved in handling cultural resources, and also discuss the significance of the shift to multilingual information.

Week 9: Publication of information about cultural resources

Introduce various aspects involved in publishing information about cultural resources, and also cover how the Internet can be used in this respect.

Week 10: Leveraging cultural resources (1)

Examine how cultural resources (chiefly, museums and archives) can be leveraged, while also introducing the concept of a mobile museum.

Week 11: Leveraging cultural resources (2)

Examine how regional areas can be leveraged as cultural resources, while also introducing the concepts of geoparks and ecomuseums.

Week 12: Modern society and cultural resources (1) Various problems in Japan

Introduce various Japanese case studies related to problems surrounding cultural resources in modern society.

Week 13: Modern society and cultural resources (2) Various international problems

Introduce various overseas case studies related to problems surrounding cultural resources in modern society.

Week 14: Cultural resources and disasters

Survey how cultural resources are preserved during times of disaster.

Week 15: Passing on cultural resources across generations and understanding human society

Summarize the foregoing topics, and reflect on the significance of cultural resources with a view to sustainable development of society.

Preparation and Follow-up

- (1) Students will be expected to read through the reference literature listed above. The lecturer will distribute preparatory materials during the classes, and students will need to read through these before the next class (about 1 hour).
- (2) Students will be expected to review the lecture contents and distributed materials to deepen their understanding of the subject matter. They will also need to summarize reports on their participation in cultural resources excavation research fieldtrips, and reports for other assignments received during class (about 1 to 2 hours).