

JASP2600: Japanese Management

Instructor: Isaac Gagne

Venue: ERB405

Time: Tuesdays 10:30-13:15

Language: English



COURSE DESCRIPTION

Japanese economic growth has been one of the most remarkable success stories of the past century. What makes Japanese businesses distinct? What are the characteristics of Japanese capitalism? In what ways do labor relations, gender relations, and social practices shape Japanese businesses and economic conditions? And how are Japanese corporations responding to the processes of globalization and neoliberalization?

In tackling these questions, this class will examine these issues through historical, theoretical, and practical perspectives, and through various case studies. Specifically, we will analyze the issues of industrialization, globalization, and neoliberalism as well as a broad range of topics, including those related to labor, industrial organization, the theory of the firm, management, gender, and economic reforms in Japanese society. Finally, by examining the inside of the Japanese corporate world, we also learn some of the “techniques” that Japan had/has invented and introduced to the world. Ultimately, this course challenges us to think about the meaning of work and management in Japan, and the complex development and continued transformation of Japanese capitalism.

