**Educational System and Culture in Modern Japan**

**Spring 2021 Thursday 14:00 PM-16:50 PM**

**Online Seminar (tentatively)**

Instructor: Jeehwan PARK (associate professor, cultural anthropologist)

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**Class Description and Objectives**

This seminar aims to understand educational system and cultures in Post-war Japanese society by reviewing historical, anthropological, and sociological literatures. We will first review the development of educational system and then examine main features in each educational stage from elementary to high school. Also, we will explore various topics related to schooling such as the transition from school to adulthood, meritocracy, minority education, school effectiveness, and globalization. In so doing, this seminar will help graduate students to understand what roles schooling plays in shaping students’ career and identity in contemporary Japan.

**Reading Materials**

The class materials include book chapters and journal articles most of which will be uploaded on the ETL. And the next textbook is available on the ebook format.

Kariya, Takehiko, and Jeremy Rappleye. 2020. *Education, Equality, and Meritocracy in a Global Age: The Japanese Approach*. Teachers College Press.

Please use the following link to download the ebook. You need to create your account and login in the homepage of Teachers College Press. <https://www.tcpress.com/education-equality-and-meritocracy-in-a-global-age-9780807778661>

Then you need the free Adobe Digital Editions program to read the ebook. For more details, please refer to the email from the Press.

However, it seems that you can only use the ebook for sixty days after the download link is issued.

However, you should purchase the following book in advance because there is no ebook as well as because we will read the whole book.

知念歩. 2018.『やんちゃな子らのエスノグラフィー：ヤンキーの生活世界を描き出す』. 青弓社.

If you are not good at reading Japanese texts, however, I would urge you to read *Learning to labor* in Korean or English instead of the above Japanese book. This book will help us to compare British and Japanese ‘lads’ from working-class families. You may have to buy this book because the SNU main library does not have enough copies of this book.

Willis, Paul. 1981. Learning to labor: how working class kids get working class jobs. New York : Columbia University Press.

윌리스, 폴. 김찬호, 김영훈 옮김. 2004. 『학교와 계급재생산』. 서울: 이매진.

**Course Requirement and Grading**

This seminar will be conducted as discussion as well as lecture and presentation, in which we are all intensively engaged with readings. Therefore, ALL the members of this seminar including the instructor MUST read ALL the assigned readings in each week and be prepared to participate in discussion.

In order to facilitate your engagement with the readings and your participation in class, you are required to submit a response paper to the instructor by 9 AM on Every Thursday. You can submit your response paper on the form of online text or file attachment on the ETL.

The response paper does not need to be long. One page or less is good enough. It may include two or three paragraphs of questions and/or critiques about main arguments in the readings. In so doing, you would explain why the questions and critiques are relevant to understand the readings rather than just raising some issues.

Grades will be given by evaluating individual response papers, presentations, participation in class discussion and attendance overall.

**Class Format**

Class format may include individual presentation and intensive discussion as well as brief lecture by the instructor. The format will be decided later considering the number of students enrolled in this seminar.

**Class Schedule**

**1st week March 4 Introduction**

**PART ONE Education in Postwar Japan**

**2nd week March 11 Schooling and Society**

Okano, Kaori and Motonori Tsuchiya. 1999. “Analytical Framework: Schooling and Society.” *Education in Contemporary Japan: Inequality and Diversity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Pp. 1-12.

Collins, James. 2009. “Social Reproduction in Classrooms and Schools.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 38: 33-48.

Okano, Kaori. 2017. “Observing Sociology of Education in Japan From an Anglophone Periphery.” *The Journal of Educational Sociology* 100: 70-77.

Kariya, Takehiko, and Jeremy Rappleye. 2020. Chapter 1. *Education, Equality, and Meritocracy in a Global Age: The Japanese Approach*. Teachers College Press.

**3rd week March 18 Postwar Development of Japanese Education (1)**

Kariya, Takehiko, and Jeremy Rappleye. 2020. Chapters 2~5. *Education, Equality, and Meritocracy in a Global Age: The Japanese Approach*. Teachers College Press. Pp. 21-137.

**4th week March 25 Postwar Development of Japanese Education (2)**

Kariya, Takehiko, and Jeremy Rappleye. 2020. Chapters 6~8. *Education, Equality, and Meritocracy in a Global Age: The Japanese Approach*. Teachers College Press. Pp. 138-211.

**PART TWO Variations in Japanese Educational System**

**5th week April 1 Preschool**

Tobin, Joseph, Yeh Hsueh, and Mayumi Karasawa. 2009. “Japan,” “Looking across time and cultures.” Preschool in three cultures revisited: China, Japan, and the United States. University of Chicago Press, 2009. Pp. 95-156 and 224-249.

**6th week April 8 Elementary School**

Cave, Peter. 2007. “Groups and individuals at primary school,” “Stories of the self,” “Learning gender” and “Ceremonial creations.” *Primary school in Japan: Self, individuality and learning in elementary education*. Routledge, 2007. Pp. 52-110 and 152-193.

**7th week April 15 Junior High School**

Cave, Peter. 2016. “Reshaping Reform,” “Classes, Clubs and Control,” “Mass Games and Dreams of Youth,” and “To Graduation and Beyond: High School Entrance and Juku.” *Schooling selves: Autonomy, interdependence, and reform in Japanese junior high education*. University of Chicago Press, 2016. Pp. 40-122 and 191-219.

**8th week April 22 High School (1):**

知念歩. 2018.『やんちゃな子らのエスノグラフィー：ヤンキーの生活世界を描き出す』. 青弓社. Pp. 9-110.

Or

Willis, Paul. 1981. Part I. *Learning to labor*. New York : Columbia University Press.

**9th week April 29 High School (2)**

知念歩. 2018.『やんちゃな子らのエスノグラフィー：ヤンキーの生活世界を描き出す』. 青弓社. Pp. 111-245.

Or

Willis, Paul. 1981. Part II. *Learning to labor*. New York : Columbia University Press.

**PART THREE Issues and Topics in Japanese Education**

**10th week May 6 Gender and Education**

McVeigh, Brian. 1996. “Cultivating femininity and internationalism: Rituals and routine at a Japanese women’s junior college.” *Ethos* 24(2): 314-349.

McVeigh, Brian. 1997. “Micro-rituals that Ritualize Bodies: Learning to be Ladylike at a Japanese Women’s College.” *Journal of Ritual Studies* 11(1): 1-13.

Kasai, Makiko. 2017. “Sexual and Gender Minorities and Bullying Japan.” Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Schooling: The Nexus of Research, Practice, and Policy. Oxford University Press. Pp. 185-193.

**11th week May 13 Transition to Adulthood: Young Women**

Okano, Kaori H. 2009. “Initial entry into the wider adult world,” “Paid employment,” “Forming relationships,” “Marriage and divorce in their 20s,” and “Decisions and their consequences in path to adulthood.” *Young women in Japan: Transitions to adulthood*. Routledge. Pp. 127-270.

**12th week May 20 Meritocracy**

Amano, Ikuo. 2011. “Japanese Structure in Education and Selection.” The Origin of Japanese Credentialism. Trans Pacific Press. Pp.

Kariya, Takehiko, and Ronald Dore. 2006. “Japan at the meritocracy frontier: From here, where?.” *The Political Quarterly* 77: 134-156.

Choi, Jamyung. 2018. “The Hegemony of Tokyo Imperial University and the Paradox of Meritocracy in Modern Japan.” *The Journal of Japanese Studies* 44(1): 89-116.

Okada, Akito. 2001. “Japan as a Prototype of the Degreeocracy Society?.” *Educational Review*53(3): 303-312.

**13th week May 27 Effective and Empowering School**

Edmonds, Ronald. 1979. Effective Schools for the Urban Poor. *Educational Leadership* 37: 15-24.

Shimizu, Kokichi. 2007. “Schools that Overcome the Disparities of Academic Achievements among Children: Searching for Japanese Effective Schools.” *Educational Studies in Japan: International Yearbook* 2: 107-124.

Sakai, Akira. 2010. “Educational Selection, Career Decisions, and School Support.” June A. Gordon, Hidenori Fujita, Takehiko Kariya and Gerald LeTendre (eds.), *Challenges to Japanese Education*. New York: Teachers College Press. Pp. 87-106.

박지환. 2016. “현대 일본에서의 학교-직장 이행기의 변동: 학교-공익단체 연계형 진로지원활동의 의미.” 『민주주의와 인권』 16(1): 127-164.

**14th week June 3 Minority Education**

Ryang, Sonia. 1996. “Do words stand for faith? Linguistic life of North Korean children in Japan.” *Critique of anthropology* 16(3): 281-301.

Boocock, Sarane Spence. 2011. “The Schooling of Buraku Children: Overcoming the Legacy of Stereotyping and Discrimination.” *Minorities and Education in Multicultural Japan*. London: Routledge. Pp. 44-76.

Noiri, Naomi. 2011. “Schooling and identity in Okinawa.” *Minorities and education in multicultural Japan*. Pp. 77-99.

Shimizu, Mutsumi. 2011. “Schools, communities, and ‘newcomer’children: A case study of a public housing complex.” *Minorities and education in multicultural Japan*. Pp. 185-202.

**15th week June 10 Globalization of Japanese Education**

Mock, John, Kawamura, Hiroaki, Naganuma, Naeko eds. 2016. The Impact of Internationalization on Japanese Higher Education: Is Japanese Education Really Changing?. Brill. Pp. 19-51, 91-105, 123-131, and 191-206.