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<b>Instructor: Masato Kamikubo</b>	<b>2 Or 4 Credits</b>
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Semester:

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## Outline:

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The objective of this course is to give students an overview of the contemporary Japanese policy-making process at the state level. To understand policy-making process this course will provide foundational knowledge of Japanese politics: (1) the bureaucracy; (2) the party system; (3) the parliamentary system; (4) interest groups; (5) trade unions; and (6) relationships among politicians, bureaucrats, and business executives. As part of this course's objective, I will utilise the "Koizumi Structural Reform in the 2000s" and the "Hatoyama's politician-led policy-making" as case studies. In the process of reform, we can better comprehend complex relationships between the 'reformer' prime minister, his allies, young reformer politicians and bureaucrats, resistance forces (*zoku giin* and bureaucrats), and interest groups. Also, we can examine several networks between politicians, bureaucrats, and industry, and the methods for decision-making in Japanese policy-making process, such as *nemawashi* (prior consultation) and *chousei* (reconciliation). In line with the objectives laid out in this course, students are expected to understand Japanese style organisations and human behaviour in them.

## Schedule:

(Please describe abstract schedule in 15 classes or 30 classes)

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1. Introductory Session
2. Party System
3. Special Lecture (1)
4. Special Lecture (2)
5. Electoral System
6. National Diet
7. Cabinet (Cabinet Secretariat + Cabinet Office)
8. Bureaucracy (1): Bureaucratic Behaviour in Policy-making Process
9. Bureaucracy (2): Personnel system (seniority system, *amakudari*, and

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- Shukko*) in Japanese bureaucracy
10. Bureaucracy (3): Ministry of Finance (MOF) and networks within the political arena, financial institutions, other government agencies and the central bank
  11. Policy-making Process (1): Policy-making in Bureaucracy
  12. Policy-making Process (2): Preliminary Review of Policies in Ruling Party on Bills
  13. Policy-making Process (3): Cabinet and Diet Session
  14. Budget making process (1): Budgetary Requests
  15. Budget making process (2): Restoration Negotiations, Cabinet decision, Diet session
  16. Administrative Reform: Nakasone Reform and Hashimoto Reform (1) Central Government Reform
  17. Administrative Reform: Hashimoto Reform (2) MOF Organisational Reform
  18. Administrative Reform: Hashimoto Reform (3) Fiscal Reform
  19. Administrative Reform: Hashimoto Reform (4) Financial System Reform: Liberalisation and Deregulation (Financial Big Bang)
  20. Koizumi Structural Reform (1): Koizumi's Political Technique
  21. Fiscal Structure Reform and Settlement of Nonperforming Loan Problem
  22. Koizumi Structural Reform (2): Privatisation of Japan Highway Corporation and Public Corporation Reform
  23. Koizumi Structural Reform (3): Trinity Reform and Decentralisation
  24. Koizumi Structural Reform (4): Health Care Reform and Pension Reform
  25. Koizumi Structural Reform (5): Privatisation of Postal Service
  26. Koizumi Structural Reform (6): Koizumi Diplomacy
  27. Koizumi Structural Reform (7): Structural Reform Group versus Fiscal Reform Group in the LDP  
(Question and Answer Session for Writing Essay)
  28. Abe, Fukuda and Aso Governments: "Twisted Diet"
  29. Hatoyama Government (Concluding session)

**Language:** English

## **Readings:**

**Textbooks**

**Suggested Readings**

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- Textbooks:

Kamikubo, Masato (2006), *Bureaucratic Behaviour and Policy Change: Reforming the Role of Japan's Ministry of Finance*. PhD Dissertation, University of Warwick.

(Lecturer will give the students further information in the introductory session).

- Suggested Readings:

Amyx, Jennifer A. (2004), *Japan's Financial Crisis: Institutional Rigidity and Reluctant Change*. Princeton and Oxford: Princeton University Press).

Aoki, Masahiko (1988) *Information, Incentives, and Bargaining in the Japanese Economy*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Campbell, John C. (1977) *Contemporary Japanese Budget Politics*. Berkeley: University of Calif. Press.

Kohno, Masaru (1997), *Japan's Postwar Party Politics*, Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Pempel, T. J. ed. (1977), *Policy Making in Contemporary Japan*. Ithaca, NY. Cornell University Press.

Reed, Steven ed. (2003), *Japanese Electoral Politics: Creating a New Party System*. Routledge Curzon.

Richardson, Bradley (1997), *Japanese Democracy: Power, Coordination and Performance*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press.

Samuels, Richard J. (1994) *Rich Nation, Strong Army: National Security and the Technical Transformation of Japan*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.

Shinoda, Tomohito (2007), *Koizumi Diplomacy: Japan's Kantei Approach to Foreign and Defense Affairs*. Washington DC: University of Washington Press.

Silbarman, Bernard S. (1993) *Cages of Reason: The Rise of the Rational State in France, Japan, the United States, and Great Britain*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Wright, Maurice (2002) *Japan's Fiscal Crisis: The Ministry of Finance and the Politics of Public Spending, 1975-2000*. New York: Oxford University Press.

**Grading criteria: Attendance/Assignment/Examination/Paper**

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Attendance 30%, 2 Assignments (2 Reports) 35%+35%,

**Requirements:**

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Consistent attendance is required. Students have to read political news pages in newspapers every day.

**URL:**

