

## Seminar: British Culture and Literature II

Mitsutoshi Somura

Credit : 4 | Semester : Fall | Year : 3~4  
Day/Period : Tue 4th and Tue 5th管理 ID :  
1253968  
授業コード :  
A6404

## 【Subject】

Students will compare the society and culture of Britain with that of Japan in order to gain a new perspective of both countries in the contemporary world.

## 【Goal】

The aim of this seminar is to provide a deeper understanding and keener insight into Britain and Japan. The skill students learn will improve employability in sourcing and presenting information.

## 【Course Description】

Britain is socially and culturally a very interesting and influential country in many ways. In addition to English, the ideas of liberty, individualism and capitalism which seem to be prevailing in the world at least partially originated in Britain. Having globalized especially since the Thatcher era, its economy grew from 1992 to 2007, changing its society. At the same time, Britain was on the cutting edge of contemporary culture, a phenomenon sometimes labeled 'Cool Britannia.' People all over the world enjoy British literature, films, rock music, architecture, designs and fashion. By comparing British society and culture with Japan, we will get a clearer and deeper understanding of the changes occurring in Japan that have been taking place during the last thirty years.

## 【Schedule】

No.	Theme	Contents
1	Introduction Social Issues 1	Course overview. Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
2	Social Issues 2	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
3	Social Issues 3	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
4	Art 1	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
5	Art 2	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
6	Art 3	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
7	Literature 1	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
8	Literature 2	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
9	Literature 3	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
10	Film 1	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
11	Film 2	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
12	Film 3	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
13	Music 1	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
14.	Music 2	Students' presentations, inquiries and discussion
15.	Review	Inquiries, discussions and summary

## 【Work to be done outside class (preparation etc.)】

Students are expected to read the textbooks and materials as instructed.

## 【Textbooks】

Textbooks and reading materials will be specified at the beginning of the seminar.

## 【References】

Nicholas Abercrombie and Alan Warde, *Contemporary British Society*, 3rd edn. (Polity Press, 2000).  
Michael Higgins et al.,(eds.),*The Cambridge Companion to Modern British Culture*, (CUP, 2010).  
John Oakland, *British Civilization: An Introduction*, 7th edn.(Routledge, 2011).

## 【Grading Criteria】

Evaluation will be based on class participation and contribution (70%), and a writing assignment (30%). More than two unexcused absences can result in failure of the course.

## 【Changes following previous student comments】

Students will have more time before giving a presentation on the assigned topics.

## 【Prerequisite】

None.