

Outline of 2012 Ochanomizu Summer Program

Theme I: Contemporary Perspectives on Social Policy, Education, Family and Development

Period: July 23 (Mon) – 27 (Fri), 2012

Venue: Ochanomizu University (Otsuka, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo)

Teaching staff: Dr. Nobuko NAGASE, Professor
Dr. Yuko Nonoyama-TARUMI, Assistant Professor
Dr. Yoichi SAKAKIHARA, Professor
Dr. Mika OMORI, Professor
Dr. Masako ISHII-KUNTZ, Professor

* Lecture capacity for Theme I : 30 eligible students

** If there are more than 30 eligible applicants, they may be subject to a selection process.

Program Summary

This class, taught by an interdisciplinary team of five professors, will present various perspectives on social policy, education, family and child development in contemporary Japan. Each session consists of lectures and discussions. Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions.

Schedule

| Date | Period 1 & 2 (9:00~10:30) | Period 3 & 4 (10:40~12:10) | Period 5 & 6 (13:20~14:50) | Period 7 & 8 (15:00~16:30) |
|---------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| July 23 (Mon) | | | Nobuko Nagase | Nobuko Nagase |
| 24 (Tue) | Yuko Tarumi | Yuko Tarumi | Nobuko Nagase | Yoichi Sakakihara |
| 25 (Wed) | Yuko Tarumi | Yoichi Sakakihara | Yoichi Sakakihara | Omori Mika |
| 26 (Thu) | Omori Mika | Omori Mika | Masako Ishii-Kuntz | Masako Ishii-Kuntz |
| 27 (Fri) | Masako Ishii-Kuntz | Wrap-up session | | |

Lecture summary

“Social Policy and Employment”

Lecturer: Nobuko Nagase (Labor Economics)

I will first focus on Japanese Social Policy, its features in terms of public pension, medication, old age care and infant care as well as various employment protections. After an overview, various studies including my own will be read and discussed from labor economics and social policy point of view. Contents include descriptive analysis of Japanese social protection system concerning work and care. We will also read papers on female promotion and employment at large firms in comparative perspective, also on non-standard employment. Students' active participation in discussions is encouraged throughout the sessions.

“Family Resources and Educational Outcome”

Lecturer: Yuko Nonoyama-Tarumi (Sociology of Education, Comparative Education)

In this section, we will focus on inequity in educational outcome in Japan. The first part will cover basic sociological theories of why educational inequity exist and persist. The second part will review comparative data from Hong Kong, Shanghai and Japan to examine the effects of family resources, such as family background, parental aspiration and parental investment, on student achievement. The third part will be discussion on educational inequity based on these findings.

“Child Abuse in Japan”

Lecturer: Yoichi Sakakihara (Pediatrics, Pediatric Neurology)

Although the incidence of child abuse in Japan is still not very high, reported case number is increasing every year. In this session, I will briefly introduce the current status of child abuse in Japan, and discuss its adverse effects on child health and development. In the end of the lecture, possible intervention measures will be sought among the participating students.

“Sociocultural Influences on Psychological Health”

Lecturer: Mika Omori (Clinical Psychology, Health Psychology)

There is no question at all about the fact that psychological health is a key to make our lives satisfying and productive. This section invites participants to gain better understandings on psychological health/distress and sociocultural influences on the development and maintenance of psychological problems. In particular, the class introduces issues of body image and pathological eating behaviors of young women. Other forms of psychological problems will be also introduced in conjunction with sociocultural aspects of psychological problems. An

additional goal of this section is to discuss the importance of integrating cultural/diversity issues into understanding human behaviors in various settings. These aims will be accomplished through class discussion, group exercises, and film clips as well as lecturing. Active participation is strongly encouraged.

“Gender and Families”

Lecturer: Masako Ishii-Kuntz (Family Sociology)

In this section, I will focus on how Japanese families are gendered in terms of the division of household labor. Various studies including my own will be read and discussed from sociological perspectives. Contents include paternal involvement in child care and housework, mother’s child care stress and career development. Students’ active participation in discussions is encouraged throughout the sessions.