

The History Issue in East Asia

Assessment Criteria

Grades

Using the following points system, all students will receive a raw score out of 100. This determines the student's rank within the class. Grades are then distributed according to university guidelines for GPA. However, the absolute level of achievement by each individual student will also be taken into account when deciding final grades.

If you would like to know the raw score you received, or get verbal feedback on your Active Learning Report and/or End of Term Report, request an appointment via email.

Participation in Class (50%)

There are six debates held every other week during the course. Students are graded using the following criteria:

Quality of Argument: The level of preparation for class debates (as judged by the student's knowledge of the issues) and the student's use of logical reasoning and argument.

Active Participation: The level of positive contribution to class, particularly during class debates.

	F	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+	S
Quality of Argument	<10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
Active Participation	<10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Active Learning (25%)

Active learning is two classes' worth of educational activity directly related to the course content. It is equivalent to 2 x 90-minute classes (2 x 1.5 hours) + 2 weeks' worth of homework (2 x 4.5 hours). *In other words, active learning should be 10-12 hours of self-study.* Active Learning comprises two parts:

The Activity: This should be an activity of 3-6 hours' duration.

The Report: There is no fixed length or format of the report, but it must clearly indicate how the 3-6 hours of active learning was used and the educational outcomes. A bibliography and in-text citations are not required.

In this course there are three accepted types of active learning. Choose one of the below:

- 1) **Fieldwork report:** Visit a historical site related to World War II and write a fieldwork report stating what you did and what you learned. Possible sites of fieldwork include war museums or memorial sites (e.g. Yasukuni Shrine, Showakan). The fieldwork report should include at least one photo of you at the site doing the fieldwork. Fieldwork may be done together in a group with your classmates, but your reports are individual pieces of work.
- 2) **Book review:** Read a book relating to World War II in Asia and the Pacific. Write a book review of about 800 words. The review should contain both a summary of the book's content and your critical evaluation.
- 3) **Film review:** Watch six hours' worth of audiovisual material relating to World War II (i.e. 2-3 films, a drama series, or 5-6 documentaries) and write a review of about 800 words. The review should contain a summary of your viewing and an explanation of what you learned.

The submission deadline is Week 10 (17 June). Print out your report and bring it to class on that day. Late submissions incur a penalty.

	F	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+	S
Evidence of 3-6 hours of AL	0					5					10
Report	<5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

End-of term Report (25%)

The end-of-term report is an original essay that discusses one of the first five debate topics. The possible titles, therefore, are:

- 1) "Japan had no choice but to go to war in 1941 against the US and Britain". Discuss.
- 2) "Japan has not paid sufficient compensation for its actions during the Asia-Pacific War." Discuss.
- 3) "The Japanese Prime Minister should worship at Yasukuni Shrine on 15 August every year." Discuss.
- 4) "The A-bombs did not force Japan to surrender." Discuss.
- 5) "The Senkaku Islands, Takeshima, and the Northern Territories are Japanese territory." Discuss.

The essay must follow academic conventions in both structure (title, introduction, main argument, conclusions) and citations (in-text citations, bibliography). No instruction will be given in class on how to write academic essays. If you are unsure, see the video series "Writing Academic Essays at University" for instructions (click the link in the class homepage).

Format:

- 1) **Word count:** The length of the end-of-term report is **1500 to 2000 words in English**. Essays shorter than 1000 words and longer than 2500 words incur a penalty. The bibliography is not included in the word count. Write clearly the word count at the end of your essay.
- 2) **References:** For an essay of this length it is expected that there will be at least 6-8 sources listed in the bibliography. While non-academic sources (e.g. newspaper articles, websites) may be used, there must be evidence of engagement with academic sources in the bibliography.
- 3) **Citation Style:** The in-text citations and bibliography must be formatted according to one of the recognized citation styles in the humanities and social sciences, e.g. Harvard, Chicago, APA etc.

The submission deadline is Week 13 (8 July). Print out your report and bring it to class on that day. Late submissions incur a penalty.

	F	C-	C	C+	B-	B	B+	A-	A	A+	S
Quality of Argument	<5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Reading and References	0		4				7				10