Introduction to Japanese Society (October 2022) Grading Rubric

Using the following points system, all students will receive a raw score out of 100. This determines students' rankings within the class. Grades are then normally distributed (S to C-) according to university guidelines for GPA. All marking is blind. You only write your student number on mini exams and ALHP. This ensures impartiality in marking.

Mini Exams (60%)

There are four mini exams given in weeks 3, 6, 9, and 13. Each mini exam lasts 30 minutes. You write one short essay based on the class materials in the preceding weeks. The essay title is given on the class website. You may prepare in advance what to write. However, the essays are written under exam conditions (i.e. no notes, books, dictionaries, mobile phones etc.).

You must have three or four mini exam scores to pass the course. Your best three mini exam scores will be used to calculate your grade. People who are absent on mini exam days may submit the exam essay as a make-up report of 600 words. However, the maximum score for a make-up report is 12 (because you have had two unfair advantages: more than 30 minutes to write, and access to materials).

Remember that cheating in university exams has **severe** penalties. People found to have cheated in even one exam will most probably fail every class that term as a **minimum** punishment for academic malpractice.

	Fail	C (sub-standard)	B (standard)	A (excellent)
Length	0	1	3	5
Evidence of reading and self study	0	1	3	5
Quality of argument	0	1	3	5
Organization and logic	0	1	3	5

Participation in Class (10%)

The default score for full attendance and good contribution to class is 7. People who have made a particularly noteworthy contribution to class receive 10. Poor participation/attendance earns 4. Five or more absences is an automatic fail for the whole course.

	Fail	C (sub-standard)	B (standard)	A (excellent)
Participation in Class	0	4	7	10

Active Learning Hours Portfolio (30%)

During the course, you will write an Active Learning Hours Portfolio (ALHP). The portfolio comprises short summaries of five academic articles, and commentary on them. The articles you can read are clearly marked in the section "Active Learning Hours Articles" on the class website (on-demand materials pages). You may read any combination of articles from Weeks 1-13.

Submission: Complete the ALHP sheet given to you in Week 1. Submit it during class any time before 16 December (earlier submissions are welcomed/encouraged).

Grading: Points are given for the seven parts of the ALHP. Introduction (about your reading strategy, 5 points), article summaries (4 points x 5), commentary (5 points). Completing the ALHP at the standard level is 21 points.

	Fail	C (sub-standard)	B (standard)	A (excellent)
Introduction	0	1	3	5
Article 1	0	1	3	4
Article 2	0	1	3	4
Article 3	0	1	3	4
Article 4	0	1	3	4
Article 5	0	1	3	4
Commentary	0	1	3	5

Return of Your Mini Exam and ALHP Papers

Your test papers and scores for mini exams will be returned the following week (apart from the final mini exam in Week 13). Your ALHP documents will be returned on 20 January. Keep them for your records until after the grading process has been completed.