

BIOL N230-I
Biology, Design and History of Japanese Gardens
Summer 2017

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Course Description:

This course will introduce students to the different styles of Japanese gardens including dry landscape gardens, pond gardens, stroll gardens, tea gardens, and courtyard gardens. The course will emphasize the growth and maintenance of plants in a controlled environment and the interplay of the plants with the non-living elements of the garden. Selected gardens in Kyoto, Uji, and Nara, Japan will serve as examples of the various types of gardens, the periods of history that they represent and the design influences exhibited by these gardens. Importantly, the gardens will be experienced first hand allowing the students to form their own impressions and feelings for the gardens. This class will be intensive and will involve walking to and through the gardens.

Course Objectives:

To observe, study, and understand the biology, history, and design of Japanese gardens. The essence of Japanese gardens can be traced to pre-Buddhist Shinto belief systems, where stones, animals, plants, and water features become living, animate forms that embody sacred ideals. The course thus serves as an introduction to Japanese culture through the art and science of horticulture including the study of the growth and development of angiosperms, gymnosperms, pteridophytes, and bryophytes. Also animals such as koi, turtles, cranes and other animals common to gardens will be studied as to their growth and maintenance in the garden setting. This study will provide an opportunity for students to not only learn and understand gardens on site, but also provide an opportunity to apply their knowledge in a culminating group proposal for a garden design on the IUPUI campus.

Course Textbooks:

Michiko Young, David Young and Tan Hong Yew. *The Art of the Japanese Garden*. Tuttle Publishing, 2011. (required)

Lonely Planet and Chris Rowthorn. *Lonely Planet Kyoto* (Travel Guide). Lonely Planet, 2015. (required)

Course Components:

Pre-Trip Orientation (120 pts.): There will be six on campus, classroom sessions as a pre-orientation to the gardens of Kyoto and to the culture and lifestyle of Japan. *Attendance to all of these sessions is required.*

Daily Orientation (60 pts.): Each morning an orientation to the gardens and activities of the day will be given prior to departure. These will include general information on the gardens and travel logistics for the day. *Attendance to all of these sessions is required.*

Evening De-Briefing (60 pts.): Each evening a review of the day's events will be held. This will include recollection and reflection on the day's events. *Attendance to all of these sessions is required.*

Journal (80 pts.): Each student will be required to maintain a daily journal. This journal should be an accurate and personal account of each day. It may consist of any or all of the following items; narrative or other prose, photo/video, and drawings/sketches. The journal will be inspected periodically during the visit to Japan and will be fully evaluated on return to campus. This journal will become the basis for the reflective paper.

Reflective Paper (100): The reflective paper will be the culmination of the international experience. The paper should be a personal account of the visit to Japan and the gardens visited keeping in mind the objectives of the course. The paper may focus on any living component(s) of the gardens visited and the historic and cultural significance.

Garden Design (40): The students will work in groups of 4-5 to design a garden for a specific location on the IUPUI campus. The project will be evaluated on authenticity of the design, proposed use and placement of local plants and rocks, and aesthetic.

Grading Summary:

Pre-Orientation Classes	120
Daily Orientation	60
Evening De-Briefing	60
Journal	90
Reflective Paper	120
Garden Design (group)	<u>50</u>
	500

The grading scale for is basically 90-80-70%. That means you will need close to **450 points for an A**, 400 for a B, 350 for a C, and so on. I post grades as quickly as possible so that you can determine where you stand in class.

Student Responsibilities and Expectations:

Be prepared

Be on time

Be considerate

Please note that professional conduct is required of all students at all times for the duration of the program. Respect for Japanese culture and the people of Kyoto is expected at all times.

Be honest: Academic Misconduct (cheating, plagiarism, etc) is a **serious** offense, and I **will** follow university procedures for handling academic dishonesty. The Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct (<http://www.life.iupui.edu/help/code.asp>) includes but are not limited to the following penalties:

- (a) The student may be given a lower grade than the student would otherwise have received for any assignment, course work, examination, or paper involved in the act of misconduct.
- (b) The student may be given a failing grade for any assignment, course work, examination, or paper involved in the act of misconduct.
- (c) The student may be required to repeat or resubmit any assignment, course work, examination, or paper involved in the act of misconduct.
- (d) The student may be required to complete some additional assignment, course work, examination, or paper as a substitute for any assignment, course work, examination, or paper involved in the act of misconduct.
- (e) The student may be required to withdraw from the course with an appropriate grade of W or F, in the faculty member's discretion.
- (f) Disciplinary probation for a specified period of time;
- (g) Suspension from the university for a specified period of time; or
- (h) Expulsion from the University