This course examines the social, economic, and cultural aspects of the Japanese colonial empire in Asia (1869–1945). The history of the Japanese empire, which began with the annexation of Hokkaidō in 1869 and continued expanding into Okinawa, Taiwan, Korea, North China, Manchuria, and Southeast Asia by the end of Asia-Pacific War (1931–1945), reveals the complex mechanisms of colonial power. This course aims to revisit the history of Japanese colonialism not simply as military domination and economic exploitation, but more profoundly as a complex web of power-knowledge relationships that normalize the dominance of one nation over another.

Proposed assignments:

- Regular class attendance and active participation (15%)
- Two book review essays (each essay 10%)
- A historiographical essay (25%)
- Midterm & Final Exams (essay questions, each exam 20%, total 40%)

Proposed reading list: