

The following information will be published on the Courses page of the <a href="#">Summer Sessions Website</a> :			
<b>Course Title:</b>	CMA 3893 Topics - Japan: Arts, Culture and the Pursuit of Otaku		
<b>Course Number:</b>	CMA 3893	<b>Credit Hours:</b>	3
<b>First Instructor:</b>	Brian DeLevie	<b>First Instructor Email:</b>	brian.delevie@vanderbilt.edu
<b>Second Instructor:</b>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>	<b>Second Instructor Email:</b>	<a href="#">Click here to enter text.</a>
<b>Program start date:</b>	May 7, 2024	<b>Program end date:</b>	May 30, 2024
<b>Program destination(s):</b> (Each city, country - start/end date)	<p>Kyoto: 10 nights – Kyoto Tower Hotel or similar – double occupancy rooms</p> <p>Osaka: 1 nights – Zentis Osaka or something similar – double occupancy rooms</p> <p>Tokyo: 12 nights – Shinjuku Washington Hotel or similar – double occupancy rooms</p>		
<b>Does this course fulfill any AXLE credit? If so, what?</b>	Yes. HCA (Humanities and the Creative Arts)		
<b>What are the academic pre-requisites (if any) for enrolling in this course?</b>	No pre-requisites		
<b>What are some are some conditions or challenges that students will face?</b> (Ex. Hiking long distances, extreme temperatures, rocky terrain, etc.)	City walking short and long distances (hills, stairs), potential humidity and rain		
<b>What is covered in the student budget:</b>	Detailed answers below.		
Lodging (Total nights + included amenities):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25 nights</li> <li>• Shared rooms (2-3 per room)</li> <li>• Wireless internet</li> </ul>		
Meals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total breakfasts: 26, taxes &amp; service charges, and any applicable meal gratuities.</li> <li>• Total lunches: 0</li> <li>• Total dinners: 1 dinner</li> </ul>		
Transportation (Airfare, public transit, etc.):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All transportation: busses, subway, trains, etc.</li> </ul>		
Supplies (Textbooks, gear, etc.):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>		
Excursions (Tour fees, admission fees, etc.):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All excursion fees: tours, entrance, etc.</li> </ul>		
<b>What is <u>not</u> covered in the student budget:</b>	Detailed answers below.		
Lodging (Total nights):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0</li> </ul>		
Meals:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total breakfasts: 0</li> <li>• Total lunches: 25</li> <li>• Total dinners: 24</li> </ul>		

Transportation (international airfare, public transit, etc.):	International airfare
Supplies (Textbooks, gear, personal items, etc.):	Up to the individual students in regards to how they wish to journal (i.e. photos, drawing, writing, video, etc.)
Excursions (Optional activities, tour fees, admission fees, etc.):	Activates they choose to pursue on their free days
<b>Visa needed for US passport holders?</b>	No
<b>Is the cost of the via included in the student fee?</b>	N/A
<b>Does the course have a service-learning component:</b>	No

**Please provide the course description below:**

The history of otaku culture reflects its deep roots in Japanese pop culture and its ongoing adaptation to changing social and technological landscapes. Developed after World War II as Japan underwent a period of rapid economic growth and modernization, Otaku culture originated as a subculture rooted in a mix of various aspects of Japanese culture and history and American pop culture, including comics, movies, and television shows.

Initially, "otaku" referred to someone with an intense interest or obsession, often related to anime, Manga, video games, cosplay, and other forms of Japanese pop culture. Today, otaku culture has created a new space for young people to express themselves and find a sense of community and, with its complex narratives, unique art styles, and themes, continue to globally influence contemporary cinema, video games, television, music and fashion trends and production.

Through the lens of otaku, this Maymester class will explore how Japan's unique history and culture are reflected in its art, architecture, media and everyday life. Specifically, students will spend time in the metropolises of Tokyo and Osaka, renowned as cultural centers for setting trends in fashion, music, art, technology and animation, and Kyoto, the traditional capital of Japan and home to countless temples, shrines, and other historical one-of-a-kind structures and explore a wide range of styles and media, covering cinema, anime, Manga, calligraphy, fine art, design, and landscape architecture. Through these vast and diverse experiences, students will consider and evaluate how the interplay between popular culture, technology, and societal norms manifests within contemporary Japanese culture.

**For more information including class details, financial aid and potential free time activities, please visit:**

<https://vanderbiltjapan.blogspot.com/>.

# COURSE DETAILS

**Dates and Destinations**

- May 6 | International Program Begins - travel to Kyoto
- May 7 - 16 | Kyoto
- May 16 - 18 | Osaka
- May 18 - 29 | Tokyo

May 30 | - Return home

### **What is included**

- Accommodations (students will be sharing rooms)
- Breakfasts
- Ground transportation
- Guides & cultural immersions
- Intra-program train from Kyoto to Tokyo

### **What is NOT included**

- Any applicable processing fees for participants that may require a visa
- International airfare
- Lunch and dinners
- Activities or transportation arranged on your own—any daily inclusions not listed within your itinerary

### **Faculty Lead**

- Brian DeLevie - Associate Director, Center for Teaching, Senior Lecturer, Department of Cinema and Media Studies.
- [brian.delevie@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:brian.delevie@vanderbilt.edu)

## **Planned Cultural Activities**

### **Kyoto**

- Kyoto National Museum
- Rengeoin Sanjusangendo Temple
- Kyoto International Manga Museum
- Nishiki Market
- Niji Castle
- Sannenezaka and Ninezaka Streets
- Gekkeikan Okura Sake Museum
- Gion Area Tour
- Kyomizu-dera Temple
- Zen Meditation at Ryozen Kannon
- Daitokuji Temple
- Kinkaku-ji - Golden Pavilion
- Shunkoin Temple
- **Free afternoon/evenings and THREE free days**

### **OSAKA**

- Dotombori and/or Nipponbashi districts
- Tezuka Osamu Manga Museum

- Art Galleries

## TOKYO

- Tokyo National Museum
- Asakusa Tour including Sens?-ji Temple
- Modern Tokyo Tour including Shibuya, Harajuku, and Akihabara
- Meiji Jingu Shrine
- Yoyogi Park
- Calligraphy Workshop
- Suginami Animation Museum
- Roppongi Hills: Mori Tower, Mori Art Museum, and Tokyo City View and Sky Deck
- teamLab Borderless
- Ad Museum Tokyo
- The Sumida Hokusai Museum
- Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography
- Nakano Broadway
- Tokyo Anime Center in Shibuya
- Waseda University Tsubouchi Memorial Theatre Museum
- **Free afternoon/evenings and THREE free days**