

Course title: **Modern Japanese Philosophy**

Course code (ELTE): xn9337 (xxxn9337)

Teacher: Katsumori Makoto, Akita University, Japan

Course language: English

Schedule: The block format course is taught in the first two weeks of November (3-13), Mondays to Thursdays. Classes are from 4pm to 6pm, possibly followed by discussion.

Venue: 1117 Budapest, Pázmány P. sétány 1/A and 1/C

- November 3 and 10 (Mondays): Northern Building (1/A) room -1.62
- November 4 and 11 (Tuesdays): Northern Building (1/A) room 0.87
- November 5 and 12 (Wednesdays): Southern Building (1/C) room 2-502
- November 6 and 13 (Thursdays): Southern Building (1/C) room 1-820

Description:

This course will survey and explore the philosophical thought that has been developed in modern Japan, stretching from the late nineteenth century to the present. We will situate modern Japanese philosophy in its close connection with the newly introduced Western philosophy as well as non-Western philosophical traditions, specifically Buddhism, and also examine the social and political implications of philosophical thought. The focus of our discussion will be on the work of the following philosophers and thinkers:

- (1) Late 19th-century social thinker Fukuzawa Yukichi and his role in the process of Japan's modernization and imperialist expansion;
- (2) Early to middle 20th-century philosophers Nishida Kitaro and Watsuji Tetsuro, with reference to their positions in the context of war and nationalism;
- (3) Late 20th-century philosopher Hiromatsu Wataru, specifically with his new approach to Marxism as well as to the philosophy of modern physical science; and
- (4) Contemporary philosophers and thinkers, including Karatani Kojin and Takahashi Tetsuya, in connection with current social and political issues in Japan and the world.