

Course Code	Course Name	Year/Semester	Theory	Practice	Credits	ECTS
IAED 4158	JAPANESE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR DESIGN	2025-2026 Spring	3	0	3	4

Level of Course: Undergraduate

Course Type: Elective Course

Language of Instruction: English

Course time: Wednesday | 13.30-16.30

Course classroom: BB-36

Mode of Delivery: Class Teaching, Presentations, Assignments

Prerequisites and Co-requisites: None

Course Coordinator: Asst. Prof. Dr. Buket ŞENOĞLU

Name of Lecturer(s): Asst. Prof. Dr. Buket ŞENOĞLU

Course Teaching Assistant:

Course Objectives: The course introduces Japanese interior design and garden design philosophy, aesthetic and principles, and explains how we can adapt the essence of its concept to contemporary projects as it is getting more and more popular in the design community nowadays.

Course Description: Japan embodies the fascinating cross-section of a country endowed with a rich and varied culture, firmly imbued with traditional knowledge, skill and experience. The course deals with every aspect of traditional Japanese architecture (interior and exterior), from its general plan and major structural features to such ceremonial and traditional appointments as the tatami mats, lamps, hibachi (braziers), fusuma and shoji screens, candlesticks, and tokonoma (places where art objects or flowers displayed). It covers details of both construction and architectural ornamentation, and it points out the many ways in which the traditional Japanese house achieved the almost ideal blend of art and nature, decoration, and stark simplicity that is its hallmark. It shows in detail such things as how natural irregularities (such as in logs) are used to advantage, how partitions change the shape of the interior, and how the garden with its bridges, lanterns, and natural forms (sometimes artfully wrought) complements the severity of the house itself.

Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of the course, students will

1. Get knowledge about a traditional yet popular culture's design philosophy
2. Develop new design concepts for their projects
3. Be able to apply new and different ideas in practice
4. Be able to create new approaches in their designs and answer the needs of today's market.

Language: The lecture, discussions, presentations and assignments will be in English. Developing your verbal and reading language skills will be very important in acquiring the disciplinary terminology as well as daily communication at the class.

**Recommended Text
Books:**

1. *Japanese Interior Design*, by Michelle Galindo
2. *Japan Style: Architecture Interiors Design*, by Geeta Mehta, Kimie Tada
3. *Japanese House: Architecture and Interiors*, Alexandra Black and Noboru Murata
4. *The Art of Japanese Gardens: David Young, Michiko Young*

**Planned Learning
Activities and Teaching
Method:**

Learning/Teaching Method: *This is a lecture-based course in which students will learn about Japanese style interior and garden design by getting involved in different actual and abstract case studies. The course will be supported by lectures and student presentations as well as individual reports.*

Assignments: *Assignments are in the form of presentations for different topics as well as an analyzing report of a given space in terms of Japanese interior and exterior design. Students are required to submit a final project for the final evaluation of the course.*

Class Participation: *Regular attendance of all enrolled classes is expected. Do not be late for the class. Attendance will be taken through your signature within the first quarter of the class; if you come later you will be considered half-attended. At the end of the Semester, your attendance will be reported on the UBS. Attendance is compulsory and in case of absenteeism of more than 30%, the system will automatically grade you "FX". If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to 'make up' all work, including items discussed in class. The class contribution will be measured in terms of quality, not quantity. If you need to leave early, you should notify your professor at the commencement of the session.*

Academic integrity & plagiarism: *Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity based on the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Practicing academic integrity means never plagiarizing or cheating, never misrepresenting yourself, never falsifying information, never deceiving or compromising the work of others. Basically, this means, either intentionally or unintentionally, using the words or ideas of someone else without giving credit, it's strictly forbidden.*

Course Textbooks: *There is no specific textbook for this course. Students are required to actively participate in the lectures and study the recommended reading textbooks and also do researches on the variety of architectural presentation techniques. Selected class handouts will be provided by the instructor when needed.*

Key Works: *Lectures and assignments in this course mainly focus on acquiring the ability of recognizing basic concepts, features (spatial and cultural), functions, and materials used in Japanese interiors and gardens.*

Specific Rules:

1. *Be punctual. Punctuality is a sign of respect toward yourself and the others.*
2. *Show respect for all the people and property around you.*
3. *Be responsible for your actions and meet all expectations.*
4. *Follow directions the first time they are given.*
5. *Students should raise their hand to signal a question or to answer a question.*
6. *Students should use the Internet at school for academic purposes only.*
7. *It is forbidden to record classes with any type of device.*

Communication : *If you have any question about the syllabus, your responsibilities in the course and assessment procedures please ask your instructor without any delay. Students are encouraged to visit the professor during their Office Hours. If you cannot make it to announced office hours, please make individual arrangements via e-mail. However, do not expect the professor and the research assistant to respond at length via e-mail to questions of content, the definition of terms, grading questions, etc. If you have a question that requires a substantive response, please set up an appointment to speak with your instructor.*

Date	Week	Chapter Topic	Take-home exercise
11.02.26	1	<i>Introduction to Japanese design philosophy and principles</i>	N/A
18.02.26	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Culture and Design in Japanese concept</i> - <i>Nature-Human Relationship in Japanese Context</i> - <i>Religion and Culture</i> - <i>Aesthetics and Culture</i> 	Assignment 1
25.02.26	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Interior Design in Japanese Context</i> - <i>Traditional basic elements and materials of the interior</i> 	N/A
04.03.26	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Japanese architecture types</i> - <i>What is Japanese about a Japanese house?</i> - <i>Western influences on Japanese interior design</i> 	Assignment 2
11.03.26	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>A tea master's house</i> - <i>Summer style in a Kyoto Machiya</i> - <i>Exuberant Spontaneity in an interior in Osaka</i> 	N/A
18.03.26	6	<i>Introduction to Japanese gardens</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>House of Ikebana</i> - <i>A Kaga-style Teahouse to Sooth the soul</i> - <i>A celebration of lacquer craft</i> - <i>Old Machiya</i> 	Assignment 3
25.03.26	7	<i>Analysis of a Japanese movie</i>	<i>Preparation for the midterm submission</i>
	8	MIDTERM SUBMISSION	
8.04.26	9	<i>Student Presentations</i>	N/A
15.04.26	10	<i>Traditional Japanese Gardens</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The hill and pond garden</i> - <i>The dry-landscape garden</i> - <i>The tea garden</i> - <i>The courtyard garden</i> 	N/A
22.04.26	11	<i>Analysis of a Japanese movie/anime/manga</i> <i>The Elements of a Japanese Garden</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Plants</i> - <i>Rocks</i> 	Assignment 4

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water - Sand - Paths and stepping stones - Bridges - Stone lanterns - Pergolas - Fences - Borrowed vistas (Shakkei) 	
29.04.26	12	<p>Analysis of a Japanese movie/anime/manga</p> <p>Characteristic Plants in a Japanese Garden</p>	Assignment 5
6.05.26	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The evolution of modern home - A room for viewing light and shadows - A tribute to masters of modernism 	N/A
13.05.26	14	Student Presentations	
20.05.26	15	Critiques on the final project	Preparation for final submission
2025-2026		FINAL SUBMISSION	

*PLEASE NOTE: Details of the syllabus and course schedule are subject to minor changes that will be announced in class.

Grading: Midterm and final exam responses will be evaluated for accuracy, thoughtfulness, and clarity. Assignments will be evaluated for content, quality of ideas and clarity of presentation (including all necessary materials).

Assessment Methods and Criteria:

METHODS	EFFECTS ON GRADING
Assignments/Presentations	30%
Midterm submission	30%
Final submission	40%

ECTS Workload Table:

ACTIVITIES	NUMBER	HOUR	WORKLOAD
Course Teaching Hours	14	3	42
Assignments	5	5	25
Presentations	5	3	15
Midterm Submission	1	9	9
Final Submission	1	12	12
Total workload			103

Total workload/25	103/25
ECTS	4

GRADING AND EVALUATION

The students' progress will be evaluated throughout the semester. If total assessment grade is lower than 50, student needs to repeat the course.

Grade Scale:

GRADE	MARKS	VALUE	GRADE	MARKS	VALUE
A+	-		C+	60-64	2.40
A	95-100	4.00	C	55-59	2.20
A-	85-94	3.7	C-	50-54	1.70
B+	80-84	3.3	D+	45-49	1.30
B	75-79	3.00	D	40-44	1.00
B-	65-74	2.7	F	0-39	0.00