Japanese Science Fiction - Robert Matthew 2003-09-02 After the Meiji Restoration of 1868, Japan modernized rapidly, transforming itself perhaps more quickly than any other country in history. However, the change was not without its conflicts, many of them still unresolved as the pleasures of modern society vie with a respect for the traditional Japanese lifestyle. As the literature of change and of the young, science fiction acts as a window to the modern mind and the uneasy alliance of the old and new. This book, filled with detailed reference to numerous stories, traces the origin and development of the genre from the mid-nineteenth century to today, thus exploring unique insights into Japanese attitudes to commercialism, spirituality, the media, war and international relations.

A Reader’s Delight - Noel Perrin 1986 One of America’s finest essayists writes about 40 literary masterpieces that have been wrongfully forgotten or were ignored in the first place.

The Strategic Challenge of Japanese Robotics - Joseph R. D’Cruz 1983

Japanese Numbers Game - T Crump 2012-11-12 An almost obsessionable use of numbers characterizes Japanese popular culture. A wide variety of numerical formulae and strategies provide the means for explaining events and solving problems occurring in everyday life. These include such matters as the choice of the name for a child, ranking in almost any game or sport, the diagnosis and care of illness or the decision to accept a new job. This text provides a general study of the field of Japanese popular numeracy. It introduces the reader to a world of numbers in which fortune-telling, the abacus and games involving numbers, as well as curious numerical names (of both people and places), illustrate the importance of systems of counting, calculation and forecasting. The study explores the cultural roots of attitudes towards numbers and makes suggestions about the contemporary implications of a culture in which mechanical numeracy (and number obsession) is general but the highest levels of academic mathematics still fall short of world standards.

Party Politics and Decentralization in Japan and France - Koichi Nakano 2009-12-04 Decentralization is a curious policy for a central government to pursue. If politics is essentially about the struggle for power, why would anyone want to give away the power that one struggled for and won? This book argues that it is precisely party competition in search of power that propels decentralization. Koichi Nakano develops his core argument through in-depth, qualitative research on the politics of reform in France and Japan. Introducing the concept of oppositional policy, he traces the process through which parties in opposition reinvent their ideologies and policy platforms in an attempt to present themselves as the voice of the governed, broaden popular support through the advocacy of enhanced democratic control of government, and proceed to implement some of these oppositional policies after capturing power. This book, thus, takes the role of political parties in the democratic process seriously - parties take up certain issues and espouse certain solutions actively as weapons in the power struggle both on the electoral front and in the policy process. Party competition is not merely a formal condition of democracy; it is also a mechanism with substantive policy impact on its evolution. Party Politics and Decentralization in Japan and France will be of interest to students of Japanese and French politics and comparative politics in general.

The Japanese-Soviet Neutrality Pact - Boris Slavinsky 2004-03-01 The neutrality pact between Japan and the Soviet Union, signed in April 1941, lasted only nine months before its expiry date of April 1946 when the Soviet Union attacked Japan. Japan’s neutrality had enabled Stalin to move Far Eastern forces to the German front where they contributed significantly to Soviet victories from Moscow to Berlin. Slavinsky suggests that Stalin’s agreement with Churchill and Roosevelt to attack Japan after Germany’s surrender allowed him to keep Japan in the war until he was ready to attack and thus avenge Russia’s defeat in the war of 1904-1905. The Soviet Union’s violation of the pact and the detention of Japanese prisoners for up to ten years after the end of the war created a sense of victimization in Japan to the extent that there is still no formal Peace Treaty between the two countries to this day. Slavinsky draws on recently opened Russian archival material to demonstrate that the Soviet Union was passing information about the Allies to Japan during the Second World War. He also persuasively argues that vengeance and the (re)acquisition of land were the primary motivations for the attack on Japan.

Engineers in Japan and Britain - Kevin McCormick 2013-02-01 Engineers are a key occupational group in the transformation of the modern world. Contrasts between Japan’s economic miracle and Britain’s relative economic decline have often been linked to differences in education, training and employment of engineers. Yet, such views have often rested on little more than colourful anecdotes and selective statistics. Using careful and systematic comparisons, Kevin McCormick locates the differences between rhetoric and reality to dismiss both the inflated claims of the 1980s and the excessive distraction of the 1990s with Japans prolonged recession.

Globalizing Japan - Harumi Befu 2003-09-02 Globalizing Japan explores the social and cultural dimensions of Japan’s global presence. Japan’s expansion and presence as an economic giant is witnessed on an everyday basis. Both consciously and unconsciously, we regularly come into contact with Japan’s industrial and cultural globalization, from cameras and automobiles to judo, cuisine or animation. Japan’s presence in the popular imagination is heavily influenced both by the country’s historical past and its global present. This book will appeal to students and scholars of Japanese Studies, Anthropology and Cultural Studies.

Historical Dictionary of Science Fiction Literature - Brian M. Stabileford 2004 This reference tracks the development of speculative fiction influenced by the advancement of science and the idea of progress from the eighteenth century to the present day. The major authors and publications of the genre and significant subgenres are covered. Additionally there are entries on fields of science and technology which have been particularly prolific in provoking such speculation. The list of acronyms and abbreviations, the chronology covering the literature from the 1700s through the present, the introductory essay, and the dictionary entries provide science fiction novices and enthusiasts as well as serious writers and critics with a wonderful foundation for understanding the realm of science fiction.
Labor Migration from China to Japan-Gracia Liu-Farrer 2011-05-24 Chinese students are the largest international student population in the world, and Japan attracts more of them than any other country. Since the mid-1980s when China opened its doors to citizens of Japan, they began to let more foreigners in, over 300 thousand Chinese have arrived in Japan as students. The majority of them enter Japan’s labor market and many have stayed on indefinitely. This book investigates this educationally channelled labor migration from China to Japan giving a comprehensive portrayal of an often neglected group of international migrants in a society that for decades has been considered a non-immigrant country. It examines the labor market outcomes of international student migration and explores how these outcomes contribute to our understanding of international migration and international education in an age of globalization.

Policy Entrepreneurship and Elections in Japan-Takashi Oka 2011-04-22 Ozawa Ichiro is one of the most important figures in Japanese politics, having held the positions of Chief Secretary of the Liberal Democrat Party and, after defection from the LDP, President of the Democratic Party of Japan. Ozawa has distinctive ideas that set him apart from the other Japanese politician, he believes in the concept of the independence of the individual, as opposed to the importance of the group, and as a policy entrepreneur he has had a huge impact on political change not only advocating but precipitating institutional change in a key political area – the election system. Using extensive interview data from key players in the political arena, this book examines Ozawa’s struggle to normalize the alternation in office between political parties – a particularly significant given the results of the 2009 election which handed over power to the Democratic Party of Japan – and how he has used his entrepreneurial talents to precipitate and carry out institutional change. Not only a political biography, but also an in-depth analysis of the Japanese political and electoral systems, this book will be of huge interest to anyone interested in Japanese politics and electoral systems.

Neighborhood Associations and Local Governance in Japan-Robert J. Pekkanen 2014-06-20 Although local neighborhood associations are found in many countries, Japan’s are distinguished by their ubiquity, scope of activities, and very high participation rates, making them important for the study of society and politics. Most Japanese belong to one local neighborhood association or another, making them Japan’s most numerous civil society organization, and one that powerfully shapes governance outcomes in the country. And, they also often blur the state-society boundary, making them theoretically intriguing. Neighborhood Associations and Local Governance in Japan draws on a unique and novel body of empirical data derived from the first national survey of neighborhood associations carried out in 2007 and provides a multifaceted empirical portrait of Japan’s neighborhood associations. It examines how local associations structure the quality of life for Japan’s citizens and residents, and illuminates the way in which these ambiguous associations can help us refine civil society theory and show how they contribute to governance. As well as outlining the key features of neighborhood associations, the book goes on to examine in detail the way in which neighborhood associations contribute to governance, in terms of social capital, networks with other community organizations, social service provision, cooperation with local governments and political participation. This book will be welcomed by students and scholars of Japanese politics, Japanese society, anthropology, urban studies as well as those interested in social capital and civil society.

An Emerging Non-Regualr Labour Force in Japan-Huiyan Fu 2013-03-01 Like many industrialised nations, the current employment trend in Japan centres on diversification of the labour market with an increased use of temporary labour. Among a wide range of non-regular labour arrangements, haken are a newly legalised category of non-regular workers who are typically employed by the employment agency while working at the facilities of and being under the authority of the client firm. They have recently expanded exponentially under the state’s deregulation policy and assumed considerable significance in political debate, especially with regard to the nation’s ‘widening gaps’ known as kakkus. This is the first anthropological study of haken and temporary agency work (TAW) in Japan which combines both macro- and micro-level analyses. At the macro level, haken are explored from a historical perspective with a view to showing the changing state policy and public perception of haken. At the micro level, how TAW is experienced by real people in concrete situations is extremely varied and complex, often depending on intersecting structural variables including gender, age and class. The book therefore provides insight into the gap between powerful discourses and everyday life, as well as a better understanding of pessimism in Japan’s shifting landscape of employment. This book will be of interest to students and scholars of Japanese Studies, Japanese Business, Asian Business and Asian Anthropology.

The Asian Cinema Experience-Stephen Teo 2013-05-07 This book explores the range and dynamism of contemporary Asian cinemas, covering East Asia (China, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan), Southeast Asia (Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia), South Asia (Bollywood), and West Asia (Iran), in order to discover what is common about them and to engender a theory or concept of “Asian Cinema”. It goes beyond existing work which provides a field survey of Asian cinema, probing more deeply into the field of Asian Cinema, arguing that Asian Cinema constitutes a separate pedagogical subject, and putting forward an alternative cinematic paradigm. The book covers “styles”, including the works of classical Asian Cinema masters, and specific genres such as horror films, and Bollywood and Anime, two very popular modes of Asian Cinema; “spaces”, including artistic use of space and perspective in Chinese cinema, geographic and personal space in Iranian cinema, the private “erotic space” of films from South Korea and Thailand, and the persistence of the family unit in the urban spaces of Asian big cities in many Asian films; and “concepts” such as Pan-Asianism, Orientalism, Nationalism and Third Cinema. The rise of Asian nations on the world stage has been coupled with a growing interest, both inside and outside Asia, of Asian culture, of which film is increasingly an indispensable component - this book provides a rich, insightful overview of what exactly constitutes Asian Cinema.

Public Policy and Economic Competition in Japan-Michael L. Beeman 2003-08-29 Viewed historically as the lapdog of business, bureaucratic and political interests, Japan’s Fair Trade Commission has had mixed success in promoting its agenda for stronger antimonopoly policy since the early 1970s. Dr. Beeman unravels antimonopoly politics in Japan through an analysis of the diverse interests of industry, government, and other parties to reveal how and why antimonopoly policy has made important inroads yet ultimately failed to gain deep acceptance in Japan. Employing extensive use of primary research materials and numerous interviews, Dr. Beeman finds predictable patterns of change as well as themes of continuity in the development of Japan’s antimonopoly policy. By addressing a broad array of industry sectors and policy issues, the book provides fresh insight into an agency and a policy that have often been criticized from within Japan as too stringent and from outside Japan as too lax.

A Companion to Science Fiction-David Seed 2008-04-15 A Companion to Science Fiction assembles essays by an international range of scholars who discuss the contexts, themes and methods used by science fiction writers. Addressing general topics, such as the history and origins of the genre, its engagement with science and technology, and nationalevariations of science fiction around the English-speakingworld. Maps out connections between science fiction, television, the cinema, virtual reality technology, and other aspects of the culture. Includes a section focusing on major figures, such as H.G.Wells, Arthur C. Clarke, and Ursula Le Guin. Offers close readings of particular novels, from Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein to Margaret Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale.

The Japanese Enterprise System-W. Mark Fruin 1992 This volume merges four streams of inquiry and interpretation in a study of the evolution and emergence of Japan’s leading industrial firms during the twentieth century. First, it is a historical study of how the industrial institutions of modern Japan appeared and matured. Second, it is an organizational study of the basic forms of social and economic interaction in Japan. Third, it is a development study of how circumstances of rapid technical and economic change have shaped the Japanese business system. It is also a strategy study of how Japanese managers have responded to and shaped these circumstances. Finally, it is an analysis of Japan’s unique strategy of economic development under conditions of late economic development and private initiative that fails somewhere between a capitalist development state and a free market economy. Business policy rather than industrial policy is accentuated, revealing aet of robust institutions and a dynamic to activate and interrelate them.

Japanese Electoral Politics-Steven Reed 2004-03-01 The Old Japanese single-party system collapsed in 1993, but a new system has not yet fully evolved. Following the most significant party reform in Japanese history,
Japanese-Soviet/Russian Relations since 1945-Kimie Haru 2003-09-02
An original book that reviews the problems of political rapprochement in terms of foreign policy decision-making between Japan and Russia since 1945, including the infamous ‘Northern Territories’ dispute. Uses four bilateral summits as case studies to explore patterns, changes and tendencies in the decision-making process. Concludes that much of the Cold War system of relations between the two states still remains in place at the end of the twentieth century.

Japan: Beyond the End of History-David Williams 2002-09-11 In this analysis of Japan’s policy-making, David Williams places his argument within the debates about Japanese political economy in the United States and Britain, debates previously polarised between ‘market’ and ‘ministry’ views. He presents Japanese-style nationalist development as a serious challenge to Western values and theory.

The Palgrave Handbook of Cold War Literature-Andrew Hammond 2020-09-04 This book offers a comprehensive guide to global literary engagement with the Cold War. Eschewing the common focus on national cultures, the collection defines Cold War literature as an international current focused on the military and ideological conflicts of the age and characterised by styles and approaches that transcended national borders. Drawing on specialists from across the world, the volume analyses the period’s fiction, poetry, drama and autobiographical writings in three sections: dominant concerns (socialism, decolonisation, nuclearism, propaganda, censorship, espionage), common genres (postmodernism, socialism realism, dystopianism, migrant poetry, science fiction, testimonial writing) and regional cultures (Asia, Africa, Oceania, Europe and the Americas). In doing so, the volume forms a landmark contribution to Cold War literary studies which will appeal to all those working on literature of the 1945-1989 period, including specialists in comparative literature, postcolonial literature, contemporary literature and regional literature.

Japan, Internationalism and the UN-R.P. Dore 2002-11 Japan Internationalism and the UN provides a unique insight into Japan’s foreign policy and its related domestic politics. It is the product of a wealth of study and discussion with the Japanese themselves about their place in the world.

Japanese Studies from Pre-History to 1990-Richard Perren 1992
Understanding Japanese Society-Joy Hendry 2003 This is a welcome new edition of this bestselling textbook. It provides a clear, accessible and readable introduction to Japanese society which does not require any previous knowledge of the country. Fully updated, revised and expanded, the 3rd edition contains new material on: the effects of the Asian crisis and recession in Japan: the emergence of the millennial cults such as the Aum Shinrikyo: major advances in sport and leisure such as the 2002 World Cup and the amazing global cultural success of Pokemon and Japanese animation and computer games: the tumultuous changes of the Japanese ruling elite: the Aizu and other Japanese minorities: debates about the future of the Japanese constitution and the resurgence of nationalism and militarism.

The Fantastic in Modern Japanese Literature-Susan Nipjier 2005-07-22 Modern Japan's repressed anxiety, fears and hopes come to the surface in the fantastic. A close analysis of fantasy fiction, film and comics reveals the ambivalence felt by many Japanese towards the success story of the nation in the twentieth century. The Fantastic in Modern Japanese Literature explores the dark side to Japanese literature and Japanese society. It takes in the nightmarish future, depicted in the animated film masterpiece, Akira, and the pastoral dream worlds created by Japan's Nobel Prize winning author Oe Kenzaburo. A wide range of fantasists, many discussed here in English for the first time, form the basis for a ground-breaking analysis of utopias, dystopias, the disturbing relationship between women, sexuality and modernity, and the role of the alien in the fantastic.

Asian Popular Culture-John A. Lent 2013 Asian Popular Culture: New, Hybrid, and Alternate Media, edited by John A. Lent and Lorna Fitzsimmons, is an interdisciplinary study of popular culture practices in Asia, including regional and national studies of Japan, China, South Korea, and Australia. The contributors explore the evolution and intersection of popular forms (gaming, manga, anime, film, music, fiction, YouTube videos) and explicate the changing cultural meanings of these media in historical and contemporary contexts. At this study’s core are the roles popular culture plays in the construction of national and regional identity. Common themes in this text include the impact of new information technology, whether it be on gaming in East Asia, music in 1960s Japan, or candlelight vigils in South Korea, the reworking of old and new forms of transnational youth, and the game Weigf, of online and hand-held gaming in South Korea and Japan that developed localized expressions, or of United States culture transplanted to Japan in post-World War II, leading to the current otaku (fan boy) culture; and the roles that nationalism and grassroots and alternative media of expression play in contemporary Asian popular culture. This is an essential study in understanding the rise of popular culture in Asia's national and regional identity.

Technology and Industrial Growth in Pre-War Japan: The Mitsubishi-Nagasaki Shipyard 1884-1934-Yukiko Fukasaka 2005-07-22 This book aims to discredit the myth that has the ‘unique cultural traits’ of the Japanese as the key to the country’s success, arguing that the more realisable foundation of long-term investment in training and research is responsible. The book looks at the development of Japan in the pre-War period. Yukiko Fukasaka sees the achievements of this period as central to the present competitiveness of the country's industrial technology. She uses the Mitsubishi Nagasaki shipyard as a case study, looking at technological innovation and training as the keys to long-term stability and economic success. The book has implications for industrial development worldwide. Japan’s starting point over a century ago was similar to the present conditions of many developing countries and the book’s emphasis on the acquisition of better skills as a key to development is as relevant to Europe and America as it is to the Third World.

Japanese Culture and Communication-Ray T. Donahue 1998 A textbook for students in Japanese, communication, or international studies, assuming no previous background in Japanese language or culture. Donahue (Japanese studies, Nagoya Gakuin U., Japan) first surveys the perceptual barriers to communicating between Japan and North America, then examines the Japanese communication style, differences in discourse, and images of the Japanese in the mass media. Annotation copyrighted by Book News, Inc., Portland, OR

Contemporary Japanese Architecture-James Steele 2017-03-16 Contemporary Japanese Architecture presents a clear and comprehensive overview of the historical and cultural framework that informs the work of all Japanese architects, as an introduction to in-depth investigation. It sets the challenges now occupying the contemporary designers who will be the leaders of the next generation. It separates out the young generation of Japanese architects from the crowded, distinguished, multi-generational field they seek to join, and investigates the topics that absorb them, and the critical issues they face within the new economic reality of Japan and a shifting global order. Salient points in the text are illustrated by beautiful, descriptive images provided by the architects and from the extensive collection of the author. By combining illustrations with timelines and graphics to explain complex ideas, the book is accessible to any student seeking to understand contemporary Japanese architecture.
Natural Disaster and Nuclear Crisis in Japan-Jeff Kingston 2012-03-12
The March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan plunged the country into a state of crisis. As the nation struggled to recover from a record breaking magnitude 9 earthquake and a tsunami that was as high as thirty-eight meters in some places, news trickled out that Fukushima had experienced meltdowns in three reactors. These tragic catastrophes claimed some 20,000 lives, internally displacing some 500,000 people and overwhelming Japan’s formidable disaster preparedness. This book brings together the analysis and insights of a group of distinguished experts on Japan to examine what happened, how various institutions and actors responded and what lessons can be drawn from Japan’s disaster. The contributors, many of whom experienced the disaster first hand, assess the wide-ranging repercussions of this catastrophe and how it is already reshaping Japanese culture, politics, energy policy, and urban planning.

Japanese Visual Culture-Mark W. MacWilliams 2014-12-18
Born of Japan’s cultural encounter with Western entertainment media, manga (comic books or graphic novels) and anime (animated films) are two of the most universally recognized forms of contemporary mass culture. Because they tell stories through visual imagery, they vault over language barriers. Well suited to electronic transmission and distributed by Japan’s globalized culture industry, they have become a powerful force in both the mediascape and the marketplace. This volume brings together an international group of scholars from many specialties to probe the richness and subtleties of these deceptively simple cultural forms. The contributors explore the historical, cultural, sociological, and religious dimensions of manga and anime, and examine specific sub-genres, artists, and stylistics. The book also addresses such topics as spirituality, the use of visual culture by Japanese new religious movements, Japanese Goth, “kawaii” (cute) subculture and comics for girls, and more. With illustrations throughout, it is a rich source for all scholars and fans of manga and anime as well as students of contemporary mass culture or Japanese culture and civilization.

The Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Literature-Thomas Rimer 2011-11-15
Featuring choice selections from the core anthologies The Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Literature: From Restoration to Occupation, 1868–1945, and The Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Literature: From 1945 to the Present, this collection offers a concise yet remarkably rich introduction to the fiction, poetry, drama, and essays of Japan’s modern encounter with the West. Spanning a period of exceptional innovation and transition, this volume is not only a critical companion to courses on Japanese literary and intellectual development but also an essential reference for scholarship on Japanese history, culture, and interactions with the East and West. The first half covers the three major styles of literary expression that informed Japanese writing and performance in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries: classical Japanese fiction and drama, Chinese poetry, and Western literary representation and cultural critique. Their juxtaposition brilliantly captures the social, intellectual, and political challenges shaping Japan during this period, particularly the rise of nationalism, the complex interaction between traditional and modern forces, and the encroachment of Western ideas and writing. The second half conveys the changes that have transformed Japan since the end of the Pacific War, such as the heady transition from poverty to prosperity, the friction between conflicting ideologies and political beliefs, and the growing influence of popular culture on the country’s artistic and intellectual traditions. Featuring sensitive translations of works by Nagai Kafu, Natsume Soseki, Osamu Dazai, Kawabata Yasunari, Mishima Yukio, and many others, this anthology relates an essential portrait of Japan’s dynamic modernization.

Science/Fiction Collections-Lee Ash 2013-08-21
Science/Fiction Collections offers different views and attitudes toward Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature and descriptions of a variety of collections. Written during a time when Science Fiction and Fantasy writings had just gained widespread popularity, it offers suggestions and considerations for approaching any special collection dealing with a relatively new field.

Configurations of Family in Contemporary Japan-Tomoko Aoyama 2014-09-15
The middle-class nuclear family model has long dominated discourses on family in Japan. Yet there have always been multiple configurations of family and kinship, which, in the context of significant socio-economic and demographic shifts since the 1990s, have become increasingly visible in public discourse. This book explores the meanings and practices of “family” in Japan, and brings together research by scholars of literature, gender studies, media and cultural studies, sociology and anthropology. While the primary focus is the “Japanese” family, it also examines the experience and practice of family beyond the borders of Japan, in such settings as Brazil, Australia, and Bali. The chapters explore key issues such as ageing, single households, non-heterosexual living arrangements and parenting. Moreover, many of the issues addressed, such as the growing diversity of family, the increase in single-person households, and the implications of an ageing society, are applicable to other mature, late-industrial societies. Employing both multi- and inter-disciplinary approaches, this book combines textual analysis of contemporary television, film, literature, manga, anime and other media with empirical and ethnographic studies of families in Japan and in transnational spaces. As such, it will be of great interest to students and scholars working across a number of fields including Japanese culture and society, sociology of family, gender studies, film and media studies, literature and cultural studies, and gerontology.

Democracy in Post-War Japan-Rikki Kersten 2013-06-17
Democracy in Post-War Japan assesses the development of democracy through the writings of the brilliant political thinker Maruyama Masao. The author explores the significance of Maruyama’s notion of personal and social autonomy and its impact on the development of a distinctively Japanese democratic ideal. This book, based on contemporary documents and interviews with Maruyama, is the only full-scale analysis of his work and thought to be published in English.

The (Un)Certain Future of Empathy in Posthumanism, Cyberculture and Science Fiction-Elsa Bouet 2019-01-04

Men and Masculinities in Contemporary Japan-James E. Roberson 2005-06-29
This book is the first comprehensive account of the changing role of men and the construction of masculinity in contemporary Japan. The book moves beyond the stereotype of the Japanese white-collar businessman to explore the diversity of identities and experiences that may be found among men in contemporary Japan, including those versions of masculinity which are marginalized and subversive. The book makes a significant contribution to our understanding of contemporary Japanese society and identity.