



One-Offs, Islands, & Nomads
Experimental Japan

Taubman College Spring Travel Studio 2018

INVESTIGATE THE CREATIVE FORCES SHAPING JAPAN
Architecture / Design / Art / Culture
THROUGH THE LENS OF FILMMAKING

with Peter Halquist

INFO SESSIONS

In January (stay tuned)
or by request
to receive updates email
halquist@umich.edu

Participation from
across the University of
Michigan is welcome

TOKYO / NAOSHIMA / TESHIMA / HOKKAIDO

MAY 14TH - JUNE 7TH*

*documentary filmmaking workshop at Michigan prior



FUJI

1578

Experimental Japan

Architecture / Design / Art / Culture

dates of travel

MAY 14TH - JUNE 7TH*

*workshop in Ann Arbor

Course Description

Peter Halquist
Spring Travel Studio 2018

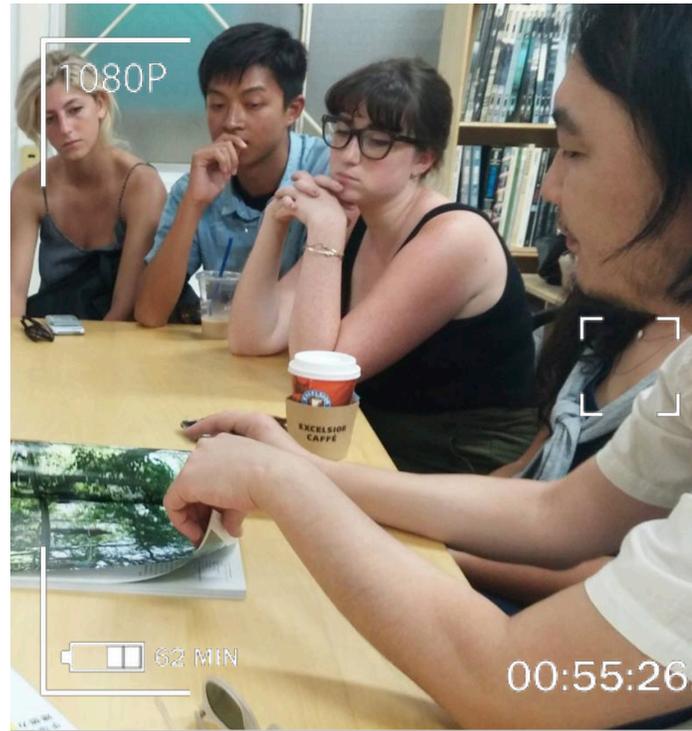
INTRODUCTION

Experimental Japan focuses an interdisciplinary lens on the world's largest city, Tokyo. This course asks, what are the creative forces shaping Japan?

Utilizing the modalities of architecture, urbanism, design, art, music, and curatorial practice, this course examines individuals and entities who are pursuing new approaches to cultural creation.

Participants in this course will seek out, engage with, and create filmic narratives about those who are actively contributing to Tokyo's art, architecture, and design scene.

In tandem with a series of group site visits, individual meetings with the studio leader, dialogues, and readings, participants will structure their time in Tokyo around their filmmaking activities.



At Tetsuo Kondō Architects, 2017

EXCURSIONS

Naoshima and Teshima

In order to create direct contrast to the dense urban experiences of Tokyo, participants will travel south via high speed rail to the island towns of Naoshima and Teshima. Collectively this group of islands is known as Japan's "art islands", where major architectural works by Tadao Ando, Sanaa, Sou Fujimoto, and Ryue Nishizawa play host to major works by artists Yayoi Kusama, James Turrell, Li Ufan, and others.

Hokkaido

Additionally, the course will venture to the dramatic landscape and smaller towns of Japan's northernmost island, Hokkaido. Flying from Tokyo to Sapporo, students will initiate their own travel experiences and organize their own site visits.

FUJI

157

Experimental Japan

Architecture / Design / Art / Culture



PREPARATION / WORKSHOP

Before traveling to Japan students will work closely with an experienced international documentary filmmaker to learn the techniques specific to this medium. The workshop itself will take place during the Winter 2018 Semester. It is open to participants in Taubman College outside the travel course.

The 3-day workshop will focus on the fundamental techniques of videography, creating compelling narratives through film, how to record a live video, and digital editing processes. The end product of the workshop will be short (3-Minute) films.

EQUIPMENT

To capture footage participants will use hand-held video devices such as SLR cameras and smart phones. Footage will be processed via laptop using video editing software.

Students are required to purchase an inexpensive tripod stabilizer compatible with their video recording device.

Arrangements will be made for students who do not have access to a suitable camera or laptop, enabling them to borrow such equipment for the duration of their time in Japan.

PROJECT

Prior to committing to the development of a single project, each participant in the course will examine two or more possible focus areas related to architecture, design, art, or other areas of cultural production. Participants have the option of engaging in group work or working individually. Participants working on individual projects are encouraged to assist one another in the film making process.

ONE: Weekend Workshop Film Teaser
3 minutes in length

TWO: First Contact
3 exploratory interviews
w/ creative practitioners

THREE PT. 1 (Project)
7 minute promo film compilation
Will be presented at a screening in Tokyo

THREE PT. 2 (Project - final)
Completed version of Pt. 1. due after
conclusion of travel at the end of
Spring Term