

## **Component 3, Part 5**

# **Japan in World History: Teaching and Learning—Japan's Path to World Leadership (1945 TO THE PRESENT)**

In order to gain a foundation for understanding postwar Japanese history, a good place for students to begin is through doing a classroom reading and discussion on the [US Occupation](http://www.columbia.edu/itc/eacp/japanworks/japan/japanworkbook/modernhist/occupation.html) (<http://www.columbia.edu/itc/eacp/japanworks/japan/japanworkbook/modernhist/occupation.html>). Teachers and students can also view an excellent [photograph collection](http://library.osu.edu/sites/rarebooks/japan/) (<http://library.osu.edu/sites/rarebooks/japan/>) of occupied Japan. Japan's postwar economic rise is, to date, one of the most significant developments in the countries' postwar history. Instructors and students can gain a basic understanding of [The Japanese economic "miracle"](http://spice.stanford.edu/docs/122#1) (<http://spice.stanford.edu/docs/122#1>) through reading and discussing a short document designed for high school classes.

There is much Web content relating to contemporary Japanese culture, education, politics, and society. [Contemporary Japan: Culture and Society](http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/at_japan_soc/) ([http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/at\\_japan\\_soc/](http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/at_japan_soc/)), is an appropriate classroom introduction to the subject. It provides students with short video clips on a wide variety of Japan-related topics including pop culture, family and gender issues, education, and modern urban life. Instructors and students often are interested in a variety of post-war Japan topics. Stanford Universities' [JGUIDE](http://jguide.stanford.edu) (<http://jguide.stanford.edu>) is a "virtual library" on Japan. There are twelve major categories on the site ranging from Business and Economics to Travel and Daily Living. Although there is historical content at this site, contemporary Japan is the primary focus. In addition to the major topics, interested students and teachers will find numerous excellent links, including ones to English language editions of major Japanese newspapers.

### **References**

#### **Part 5 Web sites**

**TITLE:** A Select Classroom Bibliography of Resources for Teaching About Japan

**URL:** <http://www.uchicago.edu/>

**TITLE:** Asia for Educators (AFE)

**URL:** <http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/>

**TITLE:** Learning from the Japanese Economy

**URL:** <http://spice.stanford.edu/digests/Japan/digest15/php>

**TITLE:** JGUIDE

**URL:** <http://jguide.stanford.edu/>

**TITLE:** John W. Bennett's Photos of Occupied Japan

**URL:** <http://library.osu.edu/sites/rarebooks/japan/>

## **Part 5 Recommended Sources**

**The following sources are far from inclusive but do provide educators and students interested in this particular part of Japanese history with additional information.**

### **Books**

Dower, John W. *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II*. New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1999.

Gordon, Andrew. *A Modern History of Japan: From Tokugawa Times to the Present*. New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2003.

Huffman, James L. *Modern Japan: A History in Documents*. Oxford University Press, USA, 2004.

Jansen, Marius B. *The Making of Modern Japan*. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, New Ed edition, 2002.

Shirokauer, Conrad. *A Brief History of Chinese and Japanese Civilizations*. Wadsworth Publishing, 3rd edition, 2005.

### **Journal**

*Education About Asia*

The Association for Asian Studies, Inc.

1021 East Huron St.

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

[www.asian-studies.org/ea](http://www.asian-studies.org/ea)

### **Videos**

Asian Educational Media Service: Center for East Asian & Pacific Studies

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

805 West Pennsylvania Avenue MC-025

Urbana, Illinois 61801

<http://www.aems.uiuc.edu/>