

Dr. Leslie Stewart
Associate Professor of Political Science
Delta State University
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Project Summary

The Japan Studies Institute has provided a wealth of information about Japan's history, culture, institutions, and societies. For my project, I plan to incorporate this vital information into my curriculum, starting with my Comparative politics course. This course covers a diverse set of political systems, geography, and culture for countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, former communist countries, the Middle East, and Western Europe. I plan to use this new knowledge to help my students understand the dynamic nature of the political, economic, and socio-cultural trends that have shaped Japan. This Comparative Politics course will cover various countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, former and current communist countries, the Middle East, and Western Europe. This introductory course is suitable for all students, whether they are pursuing a Social Science Education, Social Justice and Criminology, or an International Business degree. In particular, students will learn more about the changing nature of racial and gender identities and their implications for the future of Japan, topics that often receive little or no attention in most textbooks for this course. This course aims to stimulate interest in Japan, especially when combined with future upper-level courses such as Women and Politics and Comparative Justice Systems that will highlight this fascinating country.