I. Important Dates

“Restoration” of Meiji Emperor 1868
End of Daimyo independence 1869
Iwakura Mission 1871-73
Satsuma Rebellion 1877
Promulgation of Meiji Constitution 1889
Sino-Japanese War 1894-95
Russo-Japanese War 1905

II. Important THEMES

1. Social and Economic Changes in the Meiji Era

Westernization (cf. Fukuzawa Yukichi, 1835-1901)

Education

Social Hierarchies:
- Removal of formal legal discrimination
- End of legal and symbolic privileges of the samurai
- Attempts to change family life and the position of women in society
- Industrial development and lower classes of Japanese society

Industrialization and the “Catch Up Vision”

2. Continuities and Breaks with the Tokugawa Era

3. Class, Gender and Nation

Ambiguities toward Westernization

Nationalism From Above
- Class and Nation
- Gender and Nation

4. Nationalism: What does the Japan “case-study” tell us about nationalism?