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Imagining Japan workshop, Chicago (Sept 15-17)

This bibliography is part of my preparations to propose an interdisciplinary upper level undergraduate seminar on ‘Asian Culture and Nation-Building’.

Abstract:
After long periods of colonization, Asian nations have struggled to construct national identities that unite diverse cultures divided by religion, geography and language. This course emphasizes that citizens are not born but are made and examines how everyday cultural practices and material culture are employed in the service of the nation with the intention of creating a sense of solidarity and common identity among citizens. We will examine a variety of nation-building strategies which have sought to create a sense of national identity including education, sports and leisure, arts, dance, cultural policy, National Day parades, architecture and theme parks. The course will focus on example from Japan, China, Singapore, and Indonesia.

Bibliography:


