

Fall 2020 (4 points each. All course numbers begin with: EAAS OC3993:)

**Ritual practices and daily rituals: an introduction to the anthropology of Japan
(Carmen Săpunaru Tămaş)**

The role of ritual practices in a country that has more than one festival on any given day of the year cannot be denied. It is a highly significant one that has pervaded the everyday life, where many gestures have acquired a ritual meaning, be it social or sacred. The present course aims to offer an overview of contemporary Japanese society with a focus on sacred rituals (related to religious practices) and profane rituals, those daily practices that have gained ritual characteristics: cyclic repetition in a pre-determined space, with pre-determined participants, roles, and activities.