

## Literary Representations of Diverse Eras

**Section 1**

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**【Course Outline / Description】**

This course will facilitate students to discover the beauty of Japanese Literature. Students will analyze the literary works from each period of Japanese history and identify with the distinctive features. The course would be divided into five sections namely, ancient, classical, medieval, modern and post war period. The lectures will focus on key aspects of each period and the representative works followed by in-class discussion.

Students will be given take home readings or asked to explore and analyse the particular topic. Active student engagement and participation is encouraged for critical analysis and understanding of each module. Students will involve in individual, pair or group work. Each week there will be one out-of-class compulsory reading or other suggested readings. Basic knowledge of Japanese society and culture would be an advantage but not a requirement for the course.

**Section 2****【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】**

Students should be able to;

Name representative writers and works of each period of Japanese literary history.

Describe how Japanese literature develops with time.

Identify the key literary features of Japanese history.

Recognize the socio-political background of each period and how it affects individuals and subsequently influence literary works.

Summarize own opinion on the development of Japanese literature.

**Section 3****【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】****Course schedule**

Week	Session	Topic
1	1	Orientation
	2	Early Japan: Mythology
2	3	Nara Period : Kojiki, Nihon Shoki, Manyoshu
	4	Heian Period: Genji Monogatari
3	5	Kamakura Period: Heike Monogatari
	6	Edo Period: Matsuo Basho (Oku no Hosomichi)
4	7	Edo Period: Chikamatsu Monzaemon (Double suicides of Sonezaki)
	8	<b>Edo Period:</b> Play by students (Double suicides of Sonezaki)
5	9	<b>Preparatory session: Mid-term Presentation</b>
	10	<b>Mid-term Presentation</b>

6	11	<b>Mid-term Presentation</b>
	12	Modernization: Meiji period: Natsume Soseki
7	13	Modernization: Meiji period: Mori Ogai
	14	Modernization: Taisho period: Akutagawa Ryunosuke
8	15	Modernization: Taisho period: Akutagawa Ryunosuke
	16	Modernization: Taisho period: Kawabata Yasunari
9	17	Modernization: Taisho period: Kawabata Yasunari
	18	Rise of Militarism: Aftermath
10	19	Review of Meiji Taisho Literature
	20	Post war literature: Mishima Yukio
11	21	Post war literature: Mishima Yukio
	22	Post war literature: Abe Kobo
12	23	Post war literature: Abe Kobo
	24	Post war literature: Murakami Haruki
13	25	Post war literature: Murakami Haruki
	26	<b>Preparatory session: Final Presentation</b>
14	27	<b>Final Presentation</b>
	28	<b>Final Presentation</b>
15	29	<b>Final Presentation</b>
	30	<b>Course review &amp; Feed back</b>

**【Textbooks/Reading Materials】**

Keene, Donald (1994) *Anthology of Japanese Literature*, Grove Press

Keene, Donald (1994) *Modern Japanese Literature: From 1868 to the Present Day*, Grove Press

**Section 4**

**【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】**

Assessment:

Final Exam                      40%              (Presentation & Essay)

Midterm Exam                    40%              (Presentation & Essay)

Class Participation              20%              (Attendance and class participation)

Mid-term & Final presentations will be assessed as below (20 points each);

Content: Presentation shows valuable material and relevance of topic.

Background research: Evidence of Literature review, research methods and analysis of findings.

Organization Well organized and easy to follow slides.

Delivery: Speak clearly, Tone and clarity of words, use of vocabulary,

Interaction: Engaged the audience. Body language and eye contact

**Section 5**

**【Additional Information】**

Study packets for the course will be provided.