

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 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. 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 suggested reading and a writing assignment based on that. 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;

1. Name representative writers and works of each period of Japanese literary history.
2. Describe how Japanese literature develops with time.
3. Identify the key literary features of Japanese history.
4. Recognize the socio-political background of each period and how it influences literary works.
5. Summarize your 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 Out of class reading: Inaba no Shirosagi
2	3	Nara Period : Kojiki, Nihon Shoki, Manyoshu Out of class reading: Urashima Taro
	4	Heian Period: Genji Monogatari Out of class reading: Chapter 1: Kiritsubo
3	5	Kamakura Period: Heike Monogatari Out of class reading: Dan-no-Ura Gassen
	6	Edo Period: Matsuo Basho Out of class reading (Oku no Hosomichi)

4	7	Edo Period: Chikamatsu Monzaemon Out of class reading: (Sonezaki shinju)
	8	Edo Period: Play by students (Sonezaki) Shinju
5	9	Preparatory guidelines for Mid-term Presentation Out of class reading: Preparation
	10	Mid-term Presentations (Mythology to Edo period) Out of class activity: Summary Submission
6	11	Mid-term Presentations (Mythology to Edo period) Out of class activity: Presentation Feedback ubmission
	12	Modernization: Meiji period Literature: Influence from West Out of class reading : Meiji Restoration
7	13	Modernization: Meiji period I Out of class reading: Natsume Soseki (Botcchan)
	14	Modernization: Meiji period II Out of class reading: Mori Ogai (Maihime)
8	15	Modernization: Taisho period Out of class reading: Rashomon
	16	Modernization: Akutagawa Ryunosuke Out of class reading: Mikan
9	17	Modernization: Taisho period: Taisho Democracy Out of class reading: Izu no Odoriko
	18	Modernization: Kawabata Yasunari Out of class reading: Pomeranate
10	19	Review of Meiji Taisho Literature Out of class reading: Kamen no Kokuhaku
	20	Post war: Mishima Yukio Out of class reading: Kamen no Kokuhaku
11	21	Post war Mishima Yukio Out of class reading: Suna no Onna
	22	Post war: Abe Kobo Out of class reading: Suna no Onna
12	23	Post war literature: Abe Kobo Out of class reading: Norway no Mori
	24	Post war literature: Murakami Haruki Out of class reading: Norway no Mori
13	25	Post war literature: Murakami Haruki Out of class reading: Kitchen
	26	Post war literature: Banana Yoshimoto Out of class reading: Kitchen
14	27	Post war literature: Banana Yoshimoto Out of class activity: Presentation preparation
	28	Final Presentations (Meiji to Showa) Out of class activity: Presentation summary submission
15	29	Final Presentations (Meiji to Showa)

		Out of class activity: Presentation feedback submission
	30	Course review and feedback

【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	20%	(Presentation & short essay)
Midterm Exam	20%	(Presentation & short essay)
Attendance	20%	(Journal and class participation)
Writing assignments	40%	(on weekly reading assignments) (out-of-class)

Mid-term & Final presentations will be assessed as below (20points 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 on the day of Orientation.