

Introduction to manga studies

The historical development of the Japanese visual language

Section 1

Instructor/Title 時限	Yamato David
Office/Building	
Office Hours	
Contacts (E-mail)	

【Course Outline / Description】

The course is a survey of the historical and theoretical research on manga from the 19th century to the present time. This course examines the changing relationship between manga and modern and contemporary Japan in 5 areas of academic manga research: manga genres, arts, education, politic, gender, and identity. Following the key research works by manga researchers, Jaqueline Berndt, Yoshimura Kazuma, Miyamoto Hirohito, Ito Go, historian Shimizu Isao, and art critic Ishiko Junzo, Sawaragi Noi, the course will explore manga's cultural impacts on Japanese society and beyond. The course will begin with an introduction to the historical development of the concept of manga, from the introduction of caricature in the 19th century to manga published on SNS today. Followed by the introduction on history and development of manga genres from political cartoons to shoujo manga, shonen manga, educational manga (教育マンガ), Autobiographical comics (エッセイマンガ.) The final part of the course will be the introduction to the political and social relationship between the history of manga and manga genres. After the introduction, students will be asked to reflect and present their personal connection to one of the ablow topics.

Section 2

【Course Objectives/Goals/Learning Outcomes】

←input course objective in Approx. 100-150 words.

The goal of this course is to develop students' critical analysis skills on the interpretation of visual phenomena and to learn to understand the complex social, cultural, and political power structures beneath the visual language of the manga. Subject matter in this course contributes to students' cultural literacy while instructional materials and classroom assignments introduce basic research problems and techniques. By the end of the course, students will acquire the ability to both formulate academic research proposals and present their research in a formal academic setting.

Section 3

【Class Schedule/Class Environment, Literature and Materials】

Students will receive research papers, news articles, or videos that relate to every week's topic, and instruction on the discussion topic during the online seminar. During the seminar, students will be asked to reflect or to connect that week's topic with their own experience and understanding of the topic.

	Subject	Content
Lecture 1	Course Introduction	Reading: syllabus, handout

Lecture 2	The Japanese art of everyday life	Seminar: Group discussion on the difference between Japanese and overseas readers' experiences on manga
Lecture 3	Manga history: Modern and Postwar Japan	An overview of the history of manga from 19 century to the postwar period. Reading: handout
Lecture 4	Manga history: Modern and Postwar Japan	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 5	Manga history: Contemporary Japan	An overview of the history of manga from the 1970s onward. Reading: handout
Lecture 6	Manga history: Contemporary Japan	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 7	Introduction to Manga Studies A	Watch: online lecture by manga researcher Natsume Fusanosuke(https://youtu.be/DiWxaXtLO6I)
Lecture 8	Introduction to Manga Studies A	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 9	Introduction to Manga Studies B	An overview of <i>Manga Studies</i> by Yoshimura Kazuma and Jaqueline Berndt. Reading: handout
Lecture 10	Introduction to Manga Studies B	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 11	Research guidance	Guidance on writing a research proposal. Students will be asked to present their research proposal on manga during the following class.
Lecture 12	Research guidance	Presentation: Students will each give a 15-minute presentation on their research proposal
Lecture 13	Manga as a Visual language	Introduction to Manga hyogenron (表現論) Reading: The Functions of Panels (koma) in Manga: An essay by Natsume Fusanosuke (http://www.japanesestudies.org.uk/ejcs/vol21/iss2/holt_fukuda.html)
Lecture 14	Manga as a Visual language	Seminar: Group discussion

Lecture 15	Artists and their creation	Introduction to the history of Tokiwaso and the postwar manga artists. Reading: handout
Lecture 16	Artists and their creation	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 17	Manga Genre studies	Introduction to the research on educational manga and manga exhibition Reading: handout
Lecture 18	Manga Genre studies	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 19	Manga as an Educational tool	Introduction to the research on educational manga and manga exhibition Reading: handout (research paper)
Lecture 20	Manga as an Educational tool	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 21	Politic, Gender, and Self-identity A	Introduction to the research and debates on the sociopolitical relationship between manga and Japanese society. Reading: handout
Lecture 22	Politic, Gender, and Self-identity A	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 23	Politic, Gender, and Self-identity B	Introduction to the research and debates on the genders and self-representation within manga titles. Reading: handout
Lecture 24	Politic, Gender, and self-identity B	Seminar: Group discussion
Lecture 25	Presentation guidance	Guidance on presentation.
Lecture 26	Presentation guidance	1 on 1 guidance via zoom
Lecture 27	Final Presentation	Student presentation: 20~30minutes plus 20 minutes of discussion
Lecture 28	Final Presentation	Student presentation: 20~30minutes plus 15 minutes of discussion
Lecture 29	Final Presentation	Student presentation: 20~30minutes plus 15 minutes of discussion
Lecture 30	Final Presentation	Student presentation: 20~30minutes plus 15 minutes of discussion

【Textbooks/Reading Materials】

Materials, handouts, slides will be provided by the instructor. While the course will focus on the two books on the suggested reading list, students are not required to purchase these books.

Suggested readings:

- *Understanding Comics: The Invisible Art*, Scott McCloud, William Morrow Paperbacks
ISBN-10: 9780060976255
- 『マンガ・スタディーズ』吉村和真, ジャクリーヌ・ベルント, 人文書院,
ISBN: 9784409001134
- 『図説 漫画の歴史』清水勲, 河出書房新社, ISBN: 4309726119

Recommended resources:

- Crash Course Navigating Digital Information: <https://youtu.be/pLlv2o6UfTU>

Section 4

【Learning Assessments/Grading Rubric】

- Class participation: 30%
- Written response: 30%
- Research proposal: 10%
- Final presentation: 30%

During each asynchronous(video lecture) section, students will be asked to present a 400 words response to the content of the lecture and the assigned reading of the week. The written responses which account for 30% of the total grade, will be used to assess students' participation during the asynchronous section of the course.

During the synchronous (seminar) sessions, students will be asked to apply the information given during the asynchronous section to participate in group discussion and debate on each week's study topic. Students will be evaluated by both their participation and the presentation of their understanding of the study topic during these discussions. The synchronous sessions(class) participation grade will account for 30% of the total grade.

10% of the grade will be the evaluation of the completion of the research proposal and a short presentation of the proposal due on week 12. Building on this proposal and all lessons from the course, during the final presentation, 30% of the total grade will be given and evaluated based on students' mastery of the course content presented in their presentation.

Section 5

【Additional Information】←

The course is divided into one asynchronous lecture and one online seminar via Zoom for the first 26 classes, followed by 4 online classes for the final presentation by the students.

The final presentation will be a 20 to 30 minutes presentation on a topic related to the subject introduced during the course. During lecture 12, students will be asked to present a proposal on the content they wish to present in their final presentation. Lectures 25 and 26 will be guidance courses on the preparation for the final presentation.