


View Syllabus Information

Even after classes have commenced, course descriptions and online syllabus information may be subject to change according to the size of each class and the students' comprehension level.

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Course Information

Year	2020	School	School of Political Science and Economics	
Course Title	Intermediate Seminar (Prewar Japanese Fiction in English Translation) [E] 01			
Instructor	JEWEL, Mark			
Term/Day/Period	spring semester Fri.3			
Category	Seminar s : Intermediate Courses	Eligible Year	2nd year and above	Credits 2
Classroom		Campus	waseda	
Course Key	1100001S18	Course Class Code	01	
Main Language	English			
Course Code	ARTT281L			
First Academic disciplines	Art Studies			
Second Academic disciplines	Theatre			
Third Academic disciplines	Others			
Level	Intermediate, developmental and applicative	Types of lesson	Lecture	

Syllabus Information
Latest Update : 2020/05/08 19:02:48

Subtitle	Modern Japanese Fiction in Translation: The Prewar Period
Course Outline	This seminar, paired with a second seminar on postwar Japanese fiction, is devoted to reading and interpreting works by major Japanese writers of the modern (that is, post-Meiji) period in English translation. Japanese literature has won growing recognition as one of the world's great

literatures, and this seminar aims to test that proposition by examining short stories and novels that have won a place in the modern Japanese literary canon. In addition to close readings of the texts, the works will be placed in a variety of contexts: literary, historical, social, cultural, and biographical.

The prewar period spans the years from the Meiji Restoration (1868) to World War II (1941-1945). We will be focusing mostly on shorter works by recognized "major" writers, following the divisions in the *Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Literature* and supplemented by the stories in the Keene anthology as well as by several longer works. In general, classroom discussion will center on the shorter works, while the longer works will serve as paper topics (some variation is possible, depending on student interest and initiative). The syllabus shows the authors whose works will be discussed; a detailed reading list will be provided on the first day of class.

Objectives

Course objectives are the following:

- To be able to identify and discuss the modern Japanese writers and works studied in this course.
- To make considered connections between the works and the various contexts listed in the course description.
- To compare and contrast various aspects of Japanese literature with aspects found in other national literatures.
- To share personal insights and perspectives effectively both orally and in writing.

Course Schedule

- 1: Class 1
Introduction and overview
- 2: Class 2
Kanagaki Robun / Hattori Busho / San'yutei Encho / Tokai Sanshi
- 3: Class 3
Mori Ogai (1) / Futabatei Shimei / Higuchi Ichiyo
- 4: Class 4
Koda Rohan / Nagai Kafu / Ozaki Koyo
- 5: Class 5
Shimazaki Toson / Tayama Katai
- 6: Class 6
Natsume Soseki (1)
- 7: Class 7
Natsume Soseki (2)
- 8: Class 8
Mori Ogai (2)
- 9: Class 9
Izumi Kyoka / Shiga Naoya
- 10: Class 10
Akutagawa Ryunosuke / Kajii Motojiro
- 11: Class 11
Kawabata Yasunari (1) / Kobayashi Takiji
- 12: Class 12
Kawabata Yasunari (2)

13: Class 13
 Tanizaki Jun'ichiro / Dazai Osamu

14: Class 14
 Student-led discussions or, alternatively, Hino Ashihei / Ishikawa Tatsuzo

15: Class 15
 Student-led discussions or, alternatively, Nakajima Atsushi / Uno Chiyo

Textbooks

Two anthologies will serve as the primary sources for class readings:
 The Columbia Anthology of Modern Japanese Literature, edited by J. Thomas Rimer and Van C. Gessel; and Modern Japanese Literature, edited by Donald Keene.

Handouts will be provided for most of the short stories, but students will be expected to obtain their own copies of the assigned novels and may also need to make copies of a small number of stories.

Reference

See the previous item. Other relevant materials will be mentioned in class.

Evaluation

Rate	Evaluation Criteria
Papers: 40%	Two papers on assigned novels. Depending on class size and student interest, the schedule may be adjusted so that a class presentation/discussion may be substituted for one of the papers.
Class Participation: 60%	Diligent attendance and active participation in discussions.

Note / URL

Online management for Spring 2020 will consist mainly of the instructor providing materials and assigning written tasks and Waseda Moodle activities, including both synchronous and asynchronous activities.

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