


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

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|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|------------------|
| Year | 2020 | School | School of Political Science and Economics | |
| Course Title | Intermediate Seminar (The Tale of Genji and The Tale of the Heike) [E] 01 | | | |
| Instructor | JEWEL, Mark | | | |
| Term/Day/Period | spring semester Mon.3 | | | |
| Category | Seminar s : Intermediate Courses | Eligible Year | 2nd year and above | Credits 2 |
| Classroom | | Campus | waseda | |
| Course Key | 1100001S19 | 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 | |

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| Subtitle | Aristocrats and Warriors: The Tale of Genji and The Tale of the Heike |
| Course Outline | <i>The Tale of Genji</i> and <i>The Tale of the Heike</i> are without question the most important prose works of premodern Japan. The former, composed during the Heian period (794-1185), is frequently called the world's first novel. The latter, which took shape during the early Kamakura |

period (1185-1333), gives archetypal expression to the theme that those who prosper must inevitably fail. Fully representative of their times, *The Tale of Genji* reflects the interests and values of an aristocratic society centered on the imperial court, while *The Tale of the Heike* stands at a point of confluence between the rise of a dominant warrior class and the dissemination of popular Buddhism. This seminar will focus on readings from both of these works, with the aim of encouraging students to explore the distinctive literary and cultural contexts of the classical Japanese tradition.

Objectives

- To learn how to approach and interpret two major works of classical Japanese prose.
- To compare contemporary expectations about the meaning and function of literature with expectations that original audiences might have had.
- To compare and contrast various aspects of traditional Japanese literature with aspects found in other national traditions.
- To share personal insights and perspectives effectively both orally and in writing.

Course Schedule

- 1: Class 1
General introduction to the literature of the Heian and Kamakura periods and to relevant literary terms and concepts.
- 2: Class 2
The Tale of Genji. Overview; historical, social, and cultural background; translators' introductions.
- 3: Class 3
The Tale of Genji. Selected passages from the first third of the tale (1).
- 4: Class 4
The Tale of Genji. Selected passages from the first third of the tale (2).
- 5: Class 5
The Tale of Genji. Selected passages from the second third of the tale (1).
- 6: Class 6
The Tale of Genji. Selected passages from the second third of the tale (2).
- 7: Class 7
General discussion and paper preparation.
- 8: Class 8
The Tale of the Heike: Overview; historical, social, and cultural background; translators' introductions.
- 9: Class 9
The Tale of the Heike: Selected passages from the first third of the tale.
- 10: Class 10
The Tale of the Heike: Selected passages from the second third of the tale.
- 11: Class 11
The Tale of the Heike: Selected passages from the final third of the tale.
- 12: Class 12
The Tale of the Heike: General discussion and discussion preparation.
- 13: Class 13
Student-led class discussion.
- 14: Class 14

Student-led class discussion.

15: Class 15

Student-led class discussion.

Textbooks

Primary readings will be distributed in the form of handouts. These will include background readings as well as lengthy passages from the source texts.

Reference

Relevant materials will be introduced in class.

Evaluation

| Rate | Evaluation Criteria |
|------|---|
| | Papers: 20% A written paper on The Tale of Genji. |
| | Class Participation: 60% Diligent attendance and active participation in discussions. |
| | Others: 20% One session leading a class discussion on The Tale of the Heike. |

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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