

## Course Information

[New Search](#)

Course Information	Course details	Class schedule
<b>Last updated</b>	2024/05/29	
<b>Course description</b>	<p>The March 2011 ("3.11") earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear disaster in Japan provide an unexpected opportunity to examine literary, cultural, and humanitarian responses to both natural and nuclear disaster in Japan, as well as previous responses to the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In addition to exposing students to historical and contemporary Japanese literature, visual culture (manga, film, and anime), and the scholarship of disaster, this course will also provide a uniquely Japanese Canadian perspective of the disaster and life in contemporary Japan through Ruth Ozeki's novel <i>A Tale for the Time Being</i>, which will be woven throughout the course.</p> <p>This cross-disciplinary course, which draws from Global Studies, Japanese and Japanese Canadian Literature, History, Popular Culture, Cinema, and Environmental and Sustainability Studies, will allow students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To acquire historical and contemporary awareness of the impact of catastrophic global events on local cultures through literature and popular culture</li> <li>• To develop an ability to critically "read" and analyze global events from a variety of perspectives and media, including scholarly research, literary forms such as novels, short stories, memoirs, and poetry, as well as popular forms such as film, manga, anime, visual arts, and oral history</li> <li>• To negotiate silences, ambiguities, and the complexity of literary, cultural, and humanitarian responses to global events through writing, discussion, presentation, and action through service</li> <li>• To recognize the diverse ways in which traumatic events are portrayed through scholarly, literary, popular, and humanitarian forms.</li> <li>• To prepare for a creative and productive citizenship in a challenging global environment</li> <li>• To gain a personal sense of growth and accomplishment through participating in global events through literature</li> <li>• To create a spirit of teamwork, inclusivity, and trust among students, instructors, local community and global partners through hands on experience and learning in the disaster zone.</li> </ul>	
<b>Objectives</b>		
<b>AILA Elements</b>	<p>Focusing on literary techniques that allow students to hone skills of interpretation of Japanese Literature, this course also includes many intersections with other disciplines, such as history, global studies, film, visual studies, and environmental/sustainability studies. Rooted in the Humanities and Japanese Studies, this course will allow students to develop further leadership skills in guiding discussion, while also encouraging them to develop empathetic approaches to literature and life through large and small group discussions, teacher and student-led activities and discussions. Reading literature is presented as a lifelong skill that brings greater awareness of the human condition on personal, local, and global scales, while interpretation is encouraged as a practical tool that can be used on a daily basis as students become readers of their own and others' environments, interpersonal relationships, and social and political realities.</p>	
<b>AILA Activities &amp; Projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily In-Class Writing (35%): We will begin each class with in-class writing from prompts given by the instructor, which will serve as our launch into discussion. (Some of these will be provided by students leading the class discussion that day.)</li> <li>• Class Discussion Leaders (25%): Students will work in pairs to create prompts and lead class discussions based on the text we are currently reading.</li> <li>• Final Poster Presentation (30%): Students will work individually or in pairs to create produce a poster discussing their learning about the 3.11 disaster and the lives of survivors in the affected areas 12 years after the disaster.</li> <li>• Attendance (10%): Students are expected to attend each class and to participate actively.</li> </ul>	
<b>Textbook(s) Author/Title/Publisher/ISBN</b>	<p>Ruth Ozeki / <i>A Tale for the Time Being</i> / Canongate Canons; Main - Canons edition (June 2, 2022) / 1838856250</p> <p>Keiji Nakazawa / <i>Barefoot Gen vol. 1: A Cartoon Story of Hiroshima</i> / Last Gasp of San Francisco (October 15, 2016) / 9780867198317</p>	
<b>Reference / Other study materials / Author, Title, Publisher, ISBN:</b>	<p>The instructor will provide these materials and others through the class:</p> <p>March was Made of Yarn: Reflections on the Japanese Earthquake Tsunami, and Nuclear Meltdown, edited by Elmer Luke and David Karashima (short selections provided by instructor)</p> <p>Hiroshima: Three Witnesses, edited by Earl Minear (short selections provided by instructor)</p> <p>The Earth Writes: The Great Earthquake and the Novel in Post-3/11 Japan by Koichi Haga (short selections provided by instructor)</p>	

**Assessment**

- Daily In-Class Writing (35%): We will begin each class with in-class writing from prompts given by the instructor, which will serve as our launch into discussion. (Some of these will be provided by students leading the class discussion that day.)
- Class Discussion Leaders (25%): Students will work in pairs to create prompts and lead class discussions based on the text we are currently reading.
- Final Poster Presentation (30%): Students will work individually or in pairs to create produce a poster discussing their learning about the 3.11 disaster and the lives of survivors in the affected areas 12 years after the disaster.
- Attendance (10%): Students are expected to attend each class and to participate actively.

**Expected academic background** Students should have completed Comp 1 as well as ENG 101 (Academic Reading); ENG 150 (Comp 2 is also recommended.)

**URL of other information** Not Applicable

**Attachments** Not Applicable

Classroom Management

Attendance

Attendance is very important! Students must attend 90% of all class meetings. Only personal OR family emergencies and medical care are recognized as legitimate absences; otherwise, students are expected to attend classes. Students who miss a class due to personal or family emergencies, serious illness, accidents, or hospital care may request an excused absence. Medical absences can only be excused with a receipt of payment (ryoshusho) from a recognized clinic or hospital. Students should NOT request a formal letter of medical explanation (shindansho) from their doctors except in cases of extended illness. If a student cannot get a receipt from a clinic for any reason, he or she must explain this to the instructor at the time of the missed class. Missed classes must be excused within one week of the absence. Final decisions for accepting excused absences are at the discretion of the instructor.

**Policies & remarks**

Lateness or tardiness

English Language Foundation courses require students' participation in every class. Therefore, late arrivals are not tolerated. Neither quizzes nor in-class activities may be made up. Students will not be excused for absences due to personal or club-related activities unless the absence is officially requested and authorized at the University administrative level. Students who have received an excused absence will not be penalized for major assignments on the day specified; however, these assignments must be submitted. It is the student's responsibility to complete all required work regarding assignments due for the next class period.

For all the courses, the limit is 3 absences. This includes excused and unexcused absences. Students who miss 4 classes lose one letter grade. Students who miss 5 classes lose two letter grades, and students who miss 6 classes lose three letter grades.

**Notes**

**Field Trips, expenses other than textbooks, and so on.** Not Applicable

AIU Academic Dishonesty Policy ( Undergraduate )

In accordance with AIU policies and good practices in higher education, acts of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating, forgery (on a paper, examination, test, or other assignment) may result in the failure of the course.

An act of academic dishonesty during the final examination, or assignment in lieu of the final examination, may result in failure of all courses registered in the relevant academic term.

Cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Records for relevant action.

**AIU Academic Dishonesty Policy**

AIU Academic Dishonesty Policy ( Graduate )

Acts of Academic Dishonesty: In accordance with AIU policies and good practices in higher education, acts of academic dishonesty such as plagiarism, cheating, forgery (on a paper, examination, test, or other assignment) will result in the failure of the course at a minimum.

An act of academic dishonesty during the final examination or assignment in lieu of the final examination will result in failure of all courses registered in the relevant academic term.

Cases of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Dean of Academic Affairs for relevant action.