

KC3023 Contemporary Global Issues A (*set with B)

- Modern Japanese Cultural Modernity in Historical Context. -

Yokohama
CHANG Chia-ning
Mon 2

【Course Description】

This course explores modern Japanese cultural imagination by first examining Japan's interactions with the West after Meiji, its psychological novels, and the rise of "naturalist literature" since the turn of the century. It will examine Japan's interactions with ideologies, and its multi-faceted experiments with interwar liberalism. We will assess resistance against fascist totalitarianism in war years and the political culture of Japanese colonialism. The study continues with Japan's postwar conditions through the Korean and Vietnam wars until Mishima Yukio's suicide in 1970.

【Class Goals】

From transnational perspectives, this course is designed to achieve a critical and broad-ranging understanding of the essential elements embodied within, and characteristic of, Japanese literary and cultural modernity from the end of the Edo period in the mid-nineteenth century through the first part of the twentieth century, the interwar and war years, before going into the postwar decades.

【Course Schedule】

- 【第1回】 Course introduction; Explanation of course outline and grading criteria
- 【第2回】 Early Meiji translations from Adam Smith to Henry Wheaton
- 【第3回】 Lecture: Natsume Soseki and the Modern Japanese Psychological Novel
- 【第4回】 Lecture: Tanizaki Junichiro and Taisho Urban Culture
- 【第5回】 (Hiroshima Trip)
- 【第6回】 Lecture: Akutagawa Ryunosuke and the Taisho Generation
- 【第7回】 Lecture: Shiga Naoya and Nagai Kafu
- 【第8回】 Lecture: Yamaguchi Yoshiko and Wartime Japanese Film
- 【第9回】 Video Screening: Ichikawa Kon's Fires on the Plain
- 【第10回】 Lecture: Postwar Literature: From Wasteland to Democratic Literature
- 【第11回】 Video Screening: Kumai Kei based on Endo Shusaku's Sea and Poison
- 【第12回】 Lecture: Postwar Writer Abe Kobo
- 【第13回】 Class Presentation: Abe Kobo's Woman in the Dunes
- 【第14回】 Video Screening: Mishima Yukio's The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the Sea
- 【第15回】 Review session①

【Preparation for Class】

Students will be required to critically examine the required texts including some ten major Japanese novels and short stories. They will be required to make class presentations based on their readings.

【Review of Class】

Students will be required to present critical evaluations of the required texts based partly on suggestions provided them by the instructor. Written assignment, midterm and final examinations are required.

【Remarks for Class】

Students are required to register for Contemporary Global Issues A & Contemporary Global Issues B.

Students are very strongly encouraged to participate actively in class discussions. Attendance and punctuality are crucial and absences are not allowed except under compelling circumstances.

【Texts】

UC students are required to purchase the required texts consisting of translations of major Japanese literary works before their departure from the U.S. Japanese students are to purchase the original texts from bookstores in Japan.

【Reference Books】

Kato Shuichi, A History of Japanese Literature, Book #3 (Kodansha, U.S.A., 1991) will be put in library reserve.

【Evaluation Criteria】

Midterm exam 25%

Final exam 25%

Attendance, presentation, and participation 25%

Written Assignment 25%

【Notes】

KC3024 Contemporary Global Issues B (*set with A)

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【Course Schedule】

【第1回】 Lecture: Edo society, culture, and literature; Rangaku, Kokugaku, coming of the West

【第2回】 Class Presentation: Mori Ogai's "Dancing Girl"

【第3回】 Class presentation: Natsume Soseki's Kokoro and Sorekara

【第4回】 Class Presentation: Tanizaki Junichiro's Naomi

【第5回】 Class Presentation: Tanizaki's Diary of a Mad Old Man

【第6回】 Class Presentation: Akutagawa Ryunosuke's Kappa and "In a Grove"

【第7回】 Class Presentation: Shiga Naoya and Nagai Kafu's Short Stories

【第8回】 Lecture: Politics and Literature in Wartime Japan

【第9回】 Class Presentation: Ooka Shohei's Fires on the Plain

【第10回】 Class Presentation: Dazai Osamu's No Longer Human

【第11回】 Class Presentation: Endo Shusaku's Sea and Poison

【第12回】 Video Screening: Teshigahara Hiroshi's Woman in the Dunes

【第13回】 Lecture: Mishima Yukio and video screening "Warrior Writer"

【第14回】 Final Presentation

【第15回】 Review Session②

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