



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

JPNS 327-01

MODERN JAPANESE LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION

Fall 2022

Tuesday and Thursday Synchronous Online Course

Schedule Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Sonomi Iwata-Consul

OFFICE HOURS: Flexible Office hours on Zoom by appointment

E-MAIL: consuls@mcmaster.ca *I will respond to e-mails within 24 hrs during weekdays*

TELEPHONE NUMBER: Please use the email above

DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Get ready to travel the Japanese literature! In this course you will be “traveling” to Japan crossing wide variety of writers, genres, and styles from the Showa era to present as we explore Japanese poems and novels in translation. Focus is exclusively on Japan’s masterpiece literature written during prewar (1926–1945), postwar era (1945–1989), and lost 30 years (1990-present). We examine these works in the larger political, social, religious, and cultural trends of the time. We explore the mechanism of adaptation as well as the cultural history of Japan seen through the prism of the selected novels. Also, barriers to translation will be discussed.

OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. extend knowledge of Japanese literature
2. define major thematic concepts
3. summarize key ideas of texts in their reflective writing
4. understand barriers to translation
5. contextualized these works within the sociocultural and political history of postwar Japan



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

The following four novels will be read entirety and must be purchased (paperback, eBook, audio book or digital book) . All other required and recommended readings will be provided on D2L.

1. Dazai, Osamu. **No Longer Human**. Translated by Donald Keene. New Directions Publishing Corporation, 1973.
2. Mishima, Yukio. **Confessions of a Mask**. Translated by Meredith Weatherby. New Directions 1958
3. Murakami, Haruki. **Norwegian Forest**. 2000. Translated by Jay Rubin. Vintage Intl. 2000.
4. Mori, Eto. **Colorful A Novel**. Translated by Jocelyne Allen. Counterpoint, 2021.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

Students need access to the following equipment, in order to take this class online:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external), or headset with microphone
- Stable internet connection capable of streaming online video

COURSE NOTES

Weekly Class Schedule

Week	Topics	Assignments Start Dates	Quizzes Start Dates
Week 1 9/6, 8	Course Introduction Overview of Japanese Literature		
Week 2 9/13,15	Pre-War: Japanese Short Stories Akutagawa, Ryunosuke “The Spider’s Thread”		
Week 3 9/20, 22	Pre-War Novel Miyazawa, Kenji Night on the Milky Way Train		
Week 4 9/27, 29	Barriers to Translation Kawabata, Yasunari “Snow Country” (Audio book)	Response Paper #1 9/29	
Week 5 10/4, 6	Dazai, Osamu “No Longer Human”		Pre-War Novel 10/4



Faculty of Arts

Week 6 10/11, 13	Post-War LGBT Novel Mishima, Yukio "Confessions of a Mask"		
Week 7 10/18, 20	Post-War LGBT Novel Mishima, Yukio "Confessions of a Mask"	Response Paper #2 10/20	
Week 8 10/25, 27	Mystery Guest Speaker Mimi Okabe		Post-War Novel 10/27
Week 9 11/1, 3	Lost 30 Years Novel Murakami, Haruki "Norwegian Wood 1"		
11/6-12	Reading Week No Class		
Week 10 11/15, 17	Lost 30 Years Novel Murakami, Haruki "Norwegian Wood 2"	Response Paper #3 11/17	
Week 11 11/22, 24	Lost 30 Years Novel Mori, Eto "Colorful"	Final Essay Proposal 11/24	
Week 12 11/29, 12/1	Lost 30 Years Novel Mori, Eto "Colorful"		Lost 30 Years Novel 12/1
Week 13 12/6	Last Class Wrap-up Discussion		



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

- This course consists of online synchronous lecture and discussion. Lecture will be offered on Tuesday, and discussion will be taken place on Thursday. This course will not be recorded. Students who did not participate in the class has to learn by slides posted on D2L. We will have a guest speaker online.
- Class discussion sections will take place via Zoom on Thursday. These will not be formal lectures and are instead intended for clarifying and discussing key points. Students should plan to attend lectures on Tuesday and complete the readings prior to participating in discussion.
- No prior knowledge of Japanese language or culture is necessary to take this course.
- All readings, discussions, and lectures will take place in English.
- The students will be asked to write 3 response papers, 3 quizzes, 1 final essay proposal. The assignments can be submitted to the D2L drop box.
- All class meetings and assignment due dates will follow Calgary Mountain Time.
- All course materials and assignments will be posted and completed via D2L. You are expected to check the course website regularly. Please make sure the email address registered with U of C is one you check frequently, or you may miss out on class announcements.
- Students should be prepared to complete assigned literature reading per week.
- Students who do not read the novels will have a difficult time catching up this class.
- There will be no registrar scheduled final examination for this course
- When possible, students should enable video or, at the very least, microphone audio over Zoom during class meetings.

WARNING(!)

Some of our course texts and lecture topics may contain potentially disturbing content such as grotesque scenes, sexual violence, and acts of racism. If you will be too uncomfortable to read these materials or take part in these academic discussions, you should not take this course). Should any issues or concerns arise before or during the course, please contact the instructor.

Assessment

1	Response Papers	45%	3 X 15%; one on each era's novel
2	Quizzes	30%	3 X 10%; one on each era.
3	Final Essay Proposal	25%	1 X 25% Final Essay Proposal



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

As a general rule, late or make-up work will not be accepted. Students requesting make-up work or other concessions should discuss their individual circumstances with the instructor directly.

Response Papers

Write your response for 3 literary works after reading entire story and classroom discussion, approximately 250 words in length. Submit on D2L by the due date. **The due date is one week after the start date. It will be evaluated according to the rubric.**

Quizzes

There are 3 multiple choice and True and False quizzes on what you learned in the class. **They will be open for a week window during which you will have timed access once you start.**

Each quiz is from periods of pre-war, post-war, and lost 30 years. Completed on D2L by the due date.

Final Essay Proposal

You will submit a written proposal of approximately 1,000 words in length based on a topic you want to pursue for your final essay. It should include: 1.) a title, 2.) a strong thesis that develops the proposed topic in a logical, coherent, and insightful manner, 3.) three pieces of evidence (quotes) to support your thesis, 4.) your introductory paragraph.

It will be evaluated according to the rubric. Submit on D2L Dropbox by December 6th.

GRADING SCALE

A+ 90–100 A 85–89 A– 80–84

B+ 76–79 B 72–75 B– 68–71

C+ 64–67 C 60–63 C– 55–59

D+ 55–59 D 50–54 Fail ≤49



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

Academic misconduct

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconductpolicy>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://lawslois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy

- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.