



Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

JPNS 314-01

INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE LITERATURE

Mon / Wed / Fri
10:00 – 10:50 AM
SCIENCE A (SA) #245

FALL 2017

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Ben Whaley

OFFICE LOCATION: Craigie Hall D #425

OFFICE HOURS: Wednesdays, 13:00–15:00, or by appointment

TELEPHONE: (403) 220–3482

E-Mail: benjamin.whaley@ucalgary.ca

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This class introduces modern and contemporary Japanese literary works from a wide variety of writers and genres. We will focus exclusively on literature from Japan's postwar era (1945–present), locating these works in the larger political, social, and cultural trends of the time. This term the focus will be on the representation of otherness in Japanese literature, and we will trace this theme through four main units. First, we will examine conflicts with otherness through literature about the Pacific War (1942–45), its aftermath, and the Allied Occupation (1945–52). We will read works by Okinawan writers as well as literature of the atomic bomb. Next, we will turn our attention to otherness within Japan. Students will be introduced to literature by and about minority groups in Japan, including *burakumin* (descendants of Japan's outcast group), *zainichi* (resident) Koreans, as well as foreigners and disaffected youth. Our third unit will trace the emergence of a new generation of women writers from the 1960s–80s who portray the female body as other through their prose. We will conclude by considering whether popular visual media such as manga (print comics) and anime (animation) constitute an "other literature." The goal of this course is to use literary texts as a point of entry to understand Japan's relationship with ethno-racial, societal, and gendered otherness during its journey from defeat in the Pacific War to the remarkable prosperity of the bubble years and beyond.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students will have:

- Been exposed to a wide variety of writers working in many different genres and styles
- Contextualized these works within the sociocultural and political history of postwar Japan
- Learned key aspects of narratology and how to read and analyze a text
- Practiced this literary analysis through several short response papers
- Completed a single analytical essay of exceptional quality, having designed their own argument, gathered appropriate evidence, and drafted and revised their writing.



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DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Attendance	5%
Participation	10%
2 Response Papers	20%
3 Reading Quizzes	30%
Final Paper	35%

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 50–54	Fail ≤49	

REQUIRED TEXTS

Murakami, Haruki. *A Wild Sheep Chase*. Trans. Alfred Birnbaum. New York: Vintage International, 2002. Available at the U of C Bookstore. All other required and optional readings will be provided on D2L.

COURSE NOTES

Regular attendance and in-class participation is expected for this course.

- This term course materials will be taught in translation, so no prior knowledge of Japanese is required.
- Students are naturally expected to come to each class having already read all the **required readings** and prepared to discuss them.
- **Attendance** will be taken daily via a sign-in sheet and lateness and absences will negatively impact grades.
- Readings, lecture notes, the syllabus, and announcements will be posted on **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!

WARNING(!)

Some of the literary works we will read 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 discussions, you should not take this course.** Please contact the instructor with any questions or concerns.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:
 - a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
 - b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
 - c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
 - d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.



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2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. Students with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre should contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Students also required to discuss their needs with the instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- 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 Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca

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 <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks 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.



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SAFEWALK

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

STUDENT UNION INFORMATION

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office

(<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.