

## JPT 3500 JAPANESE CULTURE

Fall 2018 - MWF 6th period, 12:50 – 1:40 pm, MAT 0114

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Instructor: Matthieu Felt ([mfelt@ufl.edu](mailto:mfelt@ufl.edu))

Office Hours: MW 2-4, Pugh 322

Introduction to Japanese culture with emphasis on tracing the origin and development of important aspects of Japanese literature, art, religion and society. All readings in English. (H and N) (WR) Gen Ed: Humanities, International. Writing: 4000. 3 Credits.

### Written Assignments

This is a Writing Requirement 4000 class (Gordon Rule) requiring 4000 words of writing over the course of the semester. This is divided into three assignments:

#### ① Critical Review Essay (1500 words, due September 24)

During the course, six of the essays from *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Japanese Culture* will be assigned. For the first writing assignment, choose an essay **EXCEPTING** the six we read for class (Religious, Music, Housing, Work, Family, Manga) and do a critical review. The review should summarize the primary argument from the essay, the methodology the author employed, the sources they drew from, and any assumptions they made (stated or unstated). You should also provide criticism of these points, noting the strengths and weaknesses of the article. An example of a critical review by Ann Wehmeyer (UF) is provided in the “Additional Materials” folder on the course website. Submissions will be graded on their accuracy, economy, soundness of criticism, and coherence.

#### ② Miscellany (1000 words, due October 29)

Three of the works this semester, *The Pillow Book*, *An Account of My Hut* and *Essays in Idleness*, are counted as the “Three Great Miscellanies” of Japanese literature. For Assignment ②, produce a miscellany(ies) of your own, in the spirit of any of these works. You may divide the assignment into several shorter essays as suits you. If you choose to include lists, please keep in mind that you must satisfy the word requirement of 1000. Submissions will be graded on their novelty, wit, economy, and coherence.

#### ③ Literature Essay (1500 words, due December 05)

For this paper, choose one of the following and complete the additional reading. For *Tale of Genji*, *Tales of the Heike*, and *Life of an Amorous Woman*, see the PDFs in the “Additional Materials” folder on the course website. For *Some Prefer Nettles* and *Shanghai*, finish the remainder of the book. For the assignment, write a *persuasive* essay arguing your interpretation regarding a major theme(s) or issue(s) in the work selected. The claim should not be obvious and should reflect a deeper reading of the material. Submissions will be graded on the structure of the paper (beginning, middle, end), the novelty and insight of

the argument, appropriate use of supporting material for the argument, and their coherence and organization.

- ✧ Word counts do not include headers, titles, footnotes, and references. An essay meets the word requirement if its count is between 90% and 110% of the target.
- ✧ Each paper should be uploaded (PDF) to the “Assignments” section of the course website AND turned in in hard copy in class on the due date.
- ✧ Sources cited or referred to should be listed in a separate “Works Cited” or “Bibliography” page that provides full bibliographic information. Either Chicago, MLA, or APA style citations are acceptable as long as one format is used consistently.
- ✧ Late submissions will be penalized with a 10% reduction in grade for the first 24 hours. A subsequent deduction of 10% will be assessed each additional day until the assignment is turned in. Extenuating circumstances must be discussed with the instructor **IN ADVANCE** of the deadline.

### Exams

The midterm and final examinations are October 15 and December 13, respectively. The exams will be composed of keyword identification and short answer questions based on the content of lectures and readings.

### Readings

The required texts below are available at the campus bookstore. All other readings will be provided via PDF on the course website. Students are expected to complete the reading assignment for each class **BEFORE** the class begins.

Required Texts:

- *The Cambridge Companion to Modern Japanese Culture* (Cambridge; New York: Cambridge University Press, 2009).
- Yokomitsu Riichi, *Shanghai: A Novel by Yokomitsu Riichi* (Ann Arbor, MI: Center for Japanese Studies, The University of Michigan, 2001).
- Tanizaki Junichirō, *Some Prefer Nettles* (New York : Vintage, 1995).

### Quizzes

There will be ten pop quizzes on the assigned reading on randomly selected days at the beginning of class. Your eight best scores will be counted towards the final grade. No make-up if you are absent from class.

## **Grading**

Graded assignments are weighted as follows and the final grade will be assigned according to the scale below.

Critical Review Essay	18%
Miscellany	12%
Literature Essay	18%
Midterm Exam	16%
Final Exam	20%
Pop Quizzes	16%

A	93% and above	A-	90% and above		
B+	87% and above	B	83% and above	B-	80% and above
C+	77% and above	C	73% and above	C-	70% and above
D	67% and above	D	63% and above	D-	60% and above
F	Less than 60%				

## **Academic Honesty**

Please familiarize yourself with the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>

Material copied verbatim should be placed in quotation marks and cited appropriately, but this also applies to material that has been paraphrased or summarized. **You** are responsible for familiarizing yourself with what constitutes plagiarism.

## **Special Accommodations, Sports, etc.**

Please notify the instructor about any concerns regarding submission of assignments. Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office.

## **GEN ED Gordon Rule**

This course satisfies Gordon Rule 4 (4000 words) for writing requirements by means of three essays. The total words in all papers should amount to 4000 words. You must get C or higher for each essay in order to receive a writing credit. b. This course counts as Humanities (H) and International (N).

## **Pronunciation**

Japanese vowels are pronounced like Italian (mamma mia, tutti frutti, espresso). Long vowels are notated with a bar or circumflex (ōsaka: large hill, osaka: small hill).

## LECTURES AND READINGS

DATE	LECTURE	READING
<b>WEEK 1: BEGINNINGS</b>		
Aug. 22	Course Orientation	---
Aug. 24	Japanese Beginnings (1)	---
<b>WEEK 2: FROM WA TO NIHON</b>		
Aug. 28	Japanese Beginnings (2)	Sannai-Maruyama Pamphlet (16 pgs.) <i>A Brief History 1</i> (3-8)
Aug. 30	Himiko and the Horseriders	Japan in the Chinese Dynastic Histories (5-9) <i>A Brief History 2</i> (9-17)
Sep. 01	Yamato and not-Yamato	Yamato Takeru (89-97) Song of the Goddess of the Waters (99-107)
<b>WEEK 3: A DYNASTY EMERGES</b>		
Sep. 05	Story for a State	<i>Kojiki</i> (21-44) <i>A Brief History 3</i> (26-32)
Sep. 07	Religion and Language	Sugimoto (147-165) <i>A Brief History 4</i> (18-26)
<b>WEEK 4: NARA TO KYOTO</b>		
Sep. 10	Religion in Nara Japan	Man'yōshū selections (88-109) <i>A Brief History 5</i> (33-46)
Sep. 12	Music and Poetry	Sugimoto (261-280) <i>A Brief History 6</i> (49-56)
Sep. 14	Curses and Disease	<i>Tale of Genji</i> (310-313, 330-346, 376-381)
<b>WEEK 5: A GOLDEN AGE?</b>		
Sep. 17	The Heian Court	<i>Pillow Book</i> (excerpts, 22 pgs.) <i>A Brief History 7</i> (61-77)
Sep. 19	More Buddhisms	<i>An Account of My Hut</i> (623-635) <i>Brief History 8</i> (56-61, 86-100)
Sep. 21	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Write your first papers!</b>
<b>WEEK 6: OX CARTS TO HORSES</b>		
Sep. 24	Warrior Culture	<i>Tales of the Heike</i> (706-719, 736-741, 744-756)

Sep. 26          The End of the World          *Collections of Tales of Times Now Past* (529-530, 542-560)  
*A Brief History 9* (78-86)

Sep. 28          A New Shogunate          *Essays in Idleness* (820-843)  
*A Brief History 10* (100-107)

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**WEEK 7: GEOGRAPHIES OF POWER**

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Oct. 01          Demons and Monsters          *Lazy Tarō* (1100-1112), *The Demon Shuten Dōji* (1123-1138)

Oct. 03          Japanese Dramatic Forms          *Lady Aoi* (925-936), *Atsumori* (980-991), *Busu* (1044-1053)  
*A Brief History 11* (107-109)

Oct. 05          Architecture and Housing          Sugimoto 281-299

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**WEEK 8: AGE OF THE COUNTRY AT WAR**

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Oct. 08          Knock Knock          *They Came to Japan* (37-71)

Oct. 10          The Christian Century          *Deus Destroyed* (259-291)  
*A Brief History 12* (122-130)

Oct. 12          Age of the Country at War          *A Brief History 13* (131-141)

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Oct. 15          **MIDTERM EXAMINATION**          ---

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**WEEK 9: THE LAST SHOGUNATE**

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Oct. 17          Kamigata to Edo          *Life of a Sensuous Man* (45-57), *Tale of Seijuro from Himeji* (55-75), *A Brief History 14* (143-151)

Oct. 19          Tokugawa Society          *Laws Governing the Military Households* (3 pgs.), *Narrow Road to the Deep North* (178-181, 209-232)  
*A Brief History 15* (151-166)

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**WEEK 10: EDO AT THE END**

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Oct. 22          Gender and Education          *Greater Learning for Women* (33-46), Sugimoto (92-112)

Oct. 24          Desire and Discipline          *Musui's Story* (1-8, 71-108)

Oct. 26          Encounters          *Diary of Matthew Perry* (180-194), "Kume Kunitake" (168-183), *Autobiography of Fukuzawa Yukichi* (102-123)  
*A Brief History 16* (168-182)

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**WEEK 11: THE MEIJI REVOLUSTORATION**

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Oct. 29	Meanings of Modernity	<i>Maihime</i> (16 pgs.) <i>A Brief History</i> 17 (183-189)
Oct. 31	Citizen-subjects	<i>A Discourse by Three Drunkards on Government</i> (excerpts, 47-60, 92-105, 132-137)
<b>WEEK 12: URBAN CULTURE</b>		
Nov. 05	Food and Sports Culture	"The Beefeater" 31-33), Sugimoto (300-316, 317-335)
Nov. 07	Imperial Democracy	<i>Some Prefer Nettles</i> (1-40)
Nov. 09	Cinema	<i>Some Prefer Nettles</i> (41-92)
<b>WEEK 13: EMPIRE TO WAR</b>		
Nov. 14	Imperialisms	<i>Shanghai</i> (3-49)
Nov. 16	Asian War to Pacific War	<i>Shanghai</i> (50-108)
<b>WEEK 14: OCCUPATION</b>		
Nov. 19	Life under SCAP	<i>American School</i> (120-144)
<b>WEEK 15: POSTWAR BOOM AND BUST</b>		
Nov. 26	Olympics, Riots, and Rebuilding	<i>Tokyo Story</i> (136 min.)
Nov. 28	Manga and Anime	Sazae-san (32 pgs.), Sugimoto (236-260)
Nov. 30	Work and Family	Sugimoto (113-129, 76-91)
<b>WEEK 16: JAPAN'S FUTURE</b>		
Dec. 03	The Japanese Diaspora	<i>Farewell to Manzanar</i> (3-61)
Dec. 05	Life after 3/11	"Building the Next Fukushimas"(230-239)
<b>FINAL EXAMINATION: 12/13/2018 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM</b>		