JPW 4131   Japanese Texts and Contexts   Syllabus

Instructor: Christopher Smith
Office: Pugh 325
Phone: (352) 294-3938
Email: csmith2@ufl.edu
Student Hours: MWF Period 6 (12:50-1:40pm) or by appointment

Course Description

JPW 4131 is a reading course designed for advanced students of Japanese. The theme this semester is
日本文学名作のマンガ版, or manga versions of famous works of Japanese literature. We will read in
Japanese several famous novels and authors that have been adapted into manga formats. The goal is for
students to gain access to works of literature with complex themes in a format that is a little easier to
approach linguistically. The primary goal of the course is for students to learn to read non-textbook
Japanese texts that appear "in the wild." Therefore, most of the course will focus on close, collaborative
readings of the Japanese texts to decipher their meaning. There will additionally be some discussion of
theme and commentary. The class will be conducted mostly in Japanese, with some English thrown in as
well.

Class Philosophy

If you don't fail several times in this course, you're doing it wrong! It can be embarrassing to get a
reading wrong in front of your classmates, but only by failing like this can we constructively and
collaboratively work backwards to discover the source of a misunderstanding and correct it for next
time. So our philosophy here is: we support failure!

Required Textbooks

There are six required textbooks, all available in the UF bookstore:

Hokibekakon v. 1+2
Za Chēnji v. 1+2
Manga Kanikōsen
Yumei Sugiru Bungaku Sakuhin O Daitai 10 Pēi no Manga de Yomu

Additional materials will be distributed in class or uploaded to the Canvas site.

Class Policies

Absences

There will be <u>no makeups</u> for missed exams or quizzes without a valid, documented excuse (e.g., a doctor's note, jury summons, etc.). You are allowed three unexcused absences without question. After that, each additional unexcused absence will result in a 1% drop in your final grade. An unexcused absence will, of course, result in a zero for your participation grade for that day.

Late Work

Translations are due at the assigned time and date. Late assignments will be marked down 10% for every 24 hours late (i.e., if a translation is due at 10:00 on Monday, submissions between 10:01 Monday and 10:00 Tuesday will be marked down 10%, submissions between 10:01 Tuesday and 10:00 Wednesday will be marked down 20%, and so on).

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty, either in the form of cheating or plagiarism, will not be tolerated. Any proven instances may result in an <u>automatic grade of "E" for the entire course</u> and WILL result in <u>referral to the Dean of Students Office</u>.

Examine the UF honor code at: <u>https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/</u> particularly the following:

> On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied:
>
> "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."
>
> VIOLATIONS OF THE STUDENT HONOR CODE.
>
> (a) Plagiarism. A student shall not represent as the student's own work all or any portion of the work of another. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:
>
> 1. Quoting oral or written materials including but not limited to those found on the internet, whether published or unpublished, without proper attribution.
>
> 2. Submitting a document or assignment which in whole or in part is identical or substantially identical to a document or assignment not authored by the student.

Translations of some of these texts exist, but your homework and written translations should be your own work. <u>Collaboration</u> with classmates is OK (even encouraged), but the end result should be substantially your own work.

Accommodations

Students who need accommodations in class or on exams are warmly encouraged to contact the Dean of Students Office. See https://drc.dso.ufl.edu/ for more info. You are welcome to visit me during office hours to discuss your needs, but note that I need authorization from the DSO to make accommodations.

Technology Policy

This class is "tech friendly," but devices are expected to be used to read PDFs, take notes, or look up words. Non-class-related activities, especially those that distract your classmates, like texting, checking social media, or playing games will result in a zero for your class participation grade that day.

Grading

Grades will be calculated with the following weights. See below for details.

Class Participation: (including preparedness)	15%
Quizzes:	15%
Midterm Exam:	15%
Final Exam:	20%
Harn Collaboration Project:	15%
Independent Translation Project:	20%

Assignments

Class Participation

To get full class participation credit you should come to class prepared, which means you have looked up and taken note of all new words, and have attempted to read/translate the day's text. (You don't have to have it 100% right, but you need to have attempted it. See the Class Philosophy.) You also need to participate fully in the course, which includes conferring with classmates in group discussions and presenting your readings and interpretations when called on.

Quizzes

There will be a quiz every Monday on the material covered in the previous week's classes (if Monday is a holiday, the quiz will be on Wednesday). You will be tested on vocab, grammar, and reading comprehension. You should be able to *sight read* the material we have gone over together in class. Quizzes will be marked but not corrected, and you can correct your mistakes and resubmit quizzes to

regain half the missed points. Quizzes will be administered at the beginning of class, and there will be no extra time for students who come in late. The lowest quiz grade will be dropped from the final grade.

Exams

There will be a midterm and a final exam, both taken in class, closed book, closed notes. Exams will be similar to quizzes, but in addition to texts we have already read in class there will be texts that are new (but which use similar vocab/grammar) in order to test your reading comprehension skills.

Harn Collaboration Project

The Harn Museum of Art has several items with Japanese texts that need to be translated into English for presentation. In groups of 2 or 3, you will select a piece (they will give us a limited selection of things they need translated to choose from) and translate it. This is a collaborative project and there will be at least one workshop day in class where you can discuss your translations with myself and your classmates. Everyone in the group receives the same grade.

The museum *may* use your translations in a future exhibit, although this is not guaranteed and will depend on their scheduling.

(By participating in this course, you release the Harn to use your translations at their discretion)

Independent Translation Project

This will be an independent translation of a piece of Japanese manga that you select for yourself. There will be some workshop days in class designed to let you consult with your classmates about your translations.

Resources

If you have access to a specialized electronic dictionary, they can be very helpful for this course. If you do not, there are lots of free resources available:

Jim Breen's WWWJDIC

http://www.edrdg.org/cgi-bin/wwwjdic/wwwjdic?1C

A free J<->E dictionary with word search, kanji lookup by radical, and kanji look up by handwriting. Probably the most useful single resource.

Weblio

http://ejje.weblio.jp/

A free Japanese J<->E dictionary with word search. More detailed entries than above.

Japan Knowledge

http://japanknowledge.com

A commercial service accessible through the library; must be on campus or access through the VPN. A service that allows you to search dozens of dictionaries and encyclopedias at once, including pay J<->E dictionaries and encyclopedias, as well as Japanese-only dictionaries. Great for obscure terms you can't find elsewhere. (click on 法人契約で利用 then ログインする)

Installing Japanese IMEs

https://www.tofugu.com/japanese/how-to-install-japanese-keyboard/

If you haven't already done so, you should install the Japanese IME (input method editor) for your system. This allows you to type Japanese so that you can use dictionaries. Some IMEs even have a built-in kanji handwriting recognition system.