



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

JPNS 201-01
INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE POPULAR CULTURE
Fall 2019
Tuesdays and Thursdays
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM
Science Theatres (ST) #140

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Ben Whaley

OFFICE LOCATION: Craigie Hall D 425

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 15:30-16:30, or by email appointment

OFFICE PHONE: (403) 220-3482

E-MAIL: benjamin.whaley@ucalgary.ca

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Masako Shimada (office hours by appointment; masako.shimada@ucalgary.ca)

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This course seeks to broadly introduce students to major forms of popular culture from Japan in the 20th and 21st centuries: namely, manga (print comics) and anime (animation), and their related subcultures, modern Japanese literature, works of Japanese cinema, and contemporary videogames. The goal of this course is to sufficiently acquaint students with these topics and introduce methods for analyzing these cultural forms so that they may later take standalone course offerings in each of these areas (JPNS 317.02, 323, 325, 327). As this is a 200-level course, assignments will focus on core skills (reading, writing, presenting) needed for humanities study and success in one's university career, and personal and professional life, more broadly.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- Identify the thesis statement and main argument structure of an academic article
- Write their own thesis statement and intro paragraph for an academic essay
- Synthesize and present their original research in the form of a video blog
- Understand the history of Japanese pop culture and possess tools to analyze it

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Reading Response	20%
Thesis Statement	20%
Video Presentation	30%
Final Essay Plan	30%

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	



Faculty of Arts
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RECOMMENDED TEXTS

- Tagame, Gengoroh. *My Brother's Husband*, Volume 1. Translated by Anne Ishii. Pantheon, 2017.
- Tsutsui, William M. *Japanese Popular Culture and Globalization*. Association for Asian Studies, 2010.

All required readings will be provided on D2L.

COURSE NOTES

- There is **no language requirement** for this course and **no prior knowledge** of Japanese popular culture is necessary.
- While there is **no formal attendance policy** for this class, students are expected to attend class regularly and complete all assigned work on-time. Penalties will be assessed for work that is submitted late.
- Students are naturally expected to come to each class having already read all the **required readings** and prepared to discuss them. Please note that only select lecture slides will be uploaded to D2L.
- Students will submit two assignments (reading response and thesis statement) online via **Turn-it-in**.
- **Make-Up Work** will only be allowed with proper documentation or a statutory declaration.
- Readings, lecture slides, the syllabus, and so forth, will be **posted on D2L**. You are expected to check the course website daily. 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 are expected to complete their own academic work and assignments found to be **copied or plagiarized** will be punished with the offending students reported to the SLLLC and the Dean's office.

WARNING(!)

Some of our course texts and lecture topics contain potentially disturbing content such as violence and nudity. **If you will be too uncomfortable to view these materials or take part in these discussions, you should not take this course** (if you are under 18, please tell me immediately after the first class). 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.

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.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

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.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/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/legalservices/foip> 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://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

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/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

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 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: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

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 Block.

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, 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.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

A link to required 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>.