



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

JPNS 317.02-01
JAPANESE CINEMA

Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri
Scheduled Time: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Asynchronous Online Course

Fall 2020 Block Week (August 31 – September 4)

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Ben Whaley

OFFICE HOURS: By email appointment during block week

E-MAIL: benjamin.whaley@ucalgary.ca (I will respond to emails Monday to Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM)

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (403) 220-3482 (As this office number will be checked infrequently, please use email whenever possible for a prompt response)

TEACHING ASSISTANT: Qing Li (office hours by email appointment; qing.li1@ucalgary.ca)

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This course will broadly introduce Japanese cinema, its styles and history. We begin with excerpts from an early silent film of the 1920s and continue to masterpieces by Japan's foremost directors from the "Golden Age" of cinema (1950s). We examine "New Wave" cinema amidst the changing social and political landscape of the 1960s, and the rise of globalization and social satire in the comedies of the 1980s. We conclude with contemporary works from the current generation of acclaimed directors (1990s to today). A central focus of inquiry this year will be on Japanese animation (*anime*) and how these works reflect the environmental politics of postwar and contemporary Japan. Anime is a filmic genre argued to have originated in Japan, so we will also consider what defines a "national cinema" and how Japan portrays itself (and how it is imagined abroad) through its film culture. Drawing on assigned readings, we use several scholarly approaches in the course, including, but not limited to, film studies, cultural studies, and media studies.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course students will have:

- Gained knowledge of and compared a variety of Japanese films, genres, and directors
- Situated these films within their respective social, historical, and cultural context
- Learned the basic history and development of Japanese cinema
- Acquired methodological tools from film studies and formally analyzed film scenes
- Engaged in genre criticism and discussed both Japan's national cinema and its global reception

REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Required films will all be made available either through direct links from the TFDL (posted to D2L) or through links to approved external streaming platforms. Students will screen the required films and watch



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the associated pre-recorded lectures on the assigned day (24-hour period) at a time that works for their schedule. In order to take this class, students need access to the following:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Stable internet connection

Required readings will all be provided as PDFs on D2L. There is no need to purchase anything from the bookstore.

COURSE NOTES

- Per University guidelines, this class will have no in-person meetings and all work will be completed asynchronously and remotely **online via D2L**. Course evaluations will also be completed online.
- Throughout this course, students will view **5 films and 5 pre-recorded video lectures** and complete the associated **online quizzes** (via D2L) following each film screening and lecture on their own time.
- A written **scene analysis (9/2)** and **final examination (9/4)** will be completed electronically on specified days (24-hour period). Details below under assessments.
- There will be **no formal attendance or participation policies** for this course.
- You are expected to check the **course website (D2L)** regularly. Please make sure the email address registered with U of C is one you check, or you may miss out on class announcements!
- **No Make-up Work** will be allowed for any class assignments due to the condensed and remote nature of this course. Students will have until the final day of the course (Fri. 9/4 at Midnight) to view all the films and video lectures and complete the associated online quizzes.
- There is **no language requirement** for this course and **no prior knowledge** of Japanese film is needed. All films will be presented with English subtitles.

WARNING(!)

Some of the films we will watch contain potentially disturbing content such as graphic violence, adult themes, or nudity. **If you will be too uncomfortable to view these movies 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). **Given the rapid pace and condensed nature of Block Week, students who anticipate missing screenings or assignments should not take this course as make-up work will not be accepted.**

ASSESSMENTS

All assessments are required work in order to pass the class.

Online Scene Analysis	30%
	Completed on Wednesday 9/2
	Typed, two-page maximum
	3-hour limit
	Submitted via D2L Dropbox (Rubric Graded Assignment); 24-hour availability



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Five Online Quizzes	40% (5@8%; 1 Question = 1%) All quizzes completed by Fri. 9/4 at Midnight Submitted via D2L; Open Availability beginning on the day of the screening
Online Final Exam	30% Completed on Friday 9/4 Written Exam [accumulative on all films, recorded lectures, and readings] 4.5-hour limit Submitted via D2L; 24-hour availability

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	

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 behavior 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://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

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/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 unauthorized 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



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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://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/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.

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

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>.