EALL 271 JAPANESE LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION – TRADITIONAL (Spring 2015)
Moore Hall 423, MWF 11:30 – 12:20

Instructor: Q. Arkenstone
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Lincoln Annex A-2, #4
Office Hours: after class or by appt.

Course Description:
This course is a survey of the major works of premodern Japanese literature, read in translation. The works are studied in chronological order, classified by literary genre. Most of the readings are excerpts from literary texts; the instructor will provide background information on political and cultural history in lecture. A vital component of the course is class discussion of the assigned readings. Students should be prepared to speak up regularly during these sessions on their own initiative, as a significant component of the grade is based upon discussion participation. EALL 271 is a college-level survey course that presents, in both lecture and discussion format, a significant amount of factual material (names, dates, titles, literary terminology, etc.) that you will later be tested on. Students are expected to TAKE NOTES: record the information written on the board, and write down the basic points presented orally. To facilitate this process, occasional handouts and other supplementary materials will be provided, but there is no substitute for note taking.

QUIZZES: There will be two quizzes. These are short answer, covering factual information presented in the lectures.

PAPERS: There will be two papers, in designated areas (The Tale of Genji and nō drama), but you may be given a choice of specific topic. No outside research is required; you are simply giving an organized reaction to what we have read. Make sure that your response has a clear thesis (i.e., a point) and support it accordingly. Each paper should be 3-4 typewritten pages in length.

Textbooks:
Supplementary reading material will be posted on Laulima.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will be able to identify and describe major authors, works, features, forms and styles of premodern Japanese literature.
2. Students will be able to analyze and interpret translated works of premodern Japanese poetry, prose, drama and critical writings and discuss the development of major themes and styles among them.
3. Students will be able to situate and evaluate premodern Japanese literature in its social, historical, intellectual and religious contexts as well as vis-à-vis “world literature” of the past and present.
Grading:

- Attendance/Class participation: 20%
- 2 short papers (3-4 pages): 20%
- 2 quizzes: 10%
- Midterm examination: 20%
- Final examination (Friday, 5/15): 30%

Please Note:

1. Cell phones and anything else that beeps should be turned off during class. Laptops should be muted.
2. Absences and late assignments will be excused only in case of illness or other emergencies verified in writing by your doctor, etc.
3. In the event of a life-threatening emergency before or during class, we will convene/reconvene behind Jefferson Hall on East-West Road. All class functions, including examinations, will proceed as scheduled.
4. Students with learning differences, disabilities or related access needs are encouraged to contact the KOKUA Program (956-7511/<http://www.hawaii.edu/kokua/>) for information and services.
5. Students are expected to adhere to the highest standards of academic honesty. Please refer to the Student Conduct Code: <http://studentaffairs.manoa.hawaii.edu/policies/conduct_code/>.