EALL 272 JAPANESE LITERATURE IN TRANSLATION – MODERN (Fall 2015)
Moore Hall 119, MWF 0930 – 1020a

Instructor: Quillon Arkenstone
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Office hours: after class or by appointment

Course Description:
EALL272 is a survey of modern Japanese literature in English translation. The texts, consisting of fiction, poetry and drama, will be considered both historically and analytically. The course format will be a combination of lectures, presentations and discussions based on reading assignments. Readings should be completed by the date of their listing on the schedule, and students should come to class prepared to engage the assignment through discussion. The “class participation” portion of the grade is a measure of daily preparedness based on participation in discussions as well as regular class attendance.

Students will write three short papers, focusing on one or more selected literary works. There will be two in-class quizzes, a midterm, and final examination.

Student Learning Outcomes:
1. Students will gain an overview of modern Japanese literary history.
2. Students will be able to identify literary influences, themes, and movements of the modern era.
3. Students will be exposed to how narratives position themselves vis-à-vis historical and cultural contexts.
4. Students will be able to discuss, present on, and write about modern Japanese literature in an informed manner.

Grading:

- Attendance/Class participation 10%
- 3 critique papers 30%
- 2 in-class quizzes 10%
- Midterm examination 20%
- Final examination 30%  Final is Friday, 12/18, 0945 – 1145a

Grading: 100-90 = A   89-80 = B   79-70 = C   69-60 = D   59 & below = F

Required Texts (available at the UH Bookstore):
5. Supplementary readings (found on Laulima).
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. Three tardies of ten minutes or more will count as one absence.
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 or 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/>.

Response Paper Guidelines:

For the response paper you are reacting to one or more of the texts that we have read. If you choose to concentrate on only one of the works, you might situate it within the larger context of class discussions, readings, etc. If you choose to respond to multiple texts you might explore how they relate to each other. The topic is up to you, but some ideas for topics are narrative framework, character depiction, use of imagery, isolation and discussion of an exemplary portion of the text, etc., but what you write about is up to you. No outside research is required; you are simply giving an organized reaction to one or more stories that we have read. If you do decide to consult outside sources, however, make sure the cite them.

However, you should do more in the paper than just express an opinion. Make sure that your response has a clear thesis statement and support it accordingly. When analyzing the text, you might consider its strengths and weaknesses, considering questions such as: does the author overemphasize or overprivilege anything? Is the author one-sided, or do they take a balanced view of things? When presenting your own opinions you could answer questions such as: did the piece hold your interest? Why or why not? What would you ask, or tell the author of the piece if you could? What did you realize as a result of reading the piece? Would you recommend the piece? No quotations, just cite.

Make sure your paper is:

- 12 point font, double spaced
- Times New Roman
- 3 to 4 pages in length

Grading rubric for responses:

9 – 10 (“A”): Exemplary writing; content is well-organized and insightful, demonstrates a thorough grasp of the material, and applies key concepts from class readings to personal observations and experiences. Very few spelling/grammar/format errors.
8 ("B"): Decent writing, showing that you have read the material and thought about it at least a little; applies at least one concept from class readings to personal observations/experiences; few minor errors

7 ("C"): Not clear you have read the material or thought about it, hard to follow, serious sloppiness

6 ("D"): Cannot figure out what you are trying to say, but there are signs of effort OR can figure it out, but there are signs of major carelessness

0 – 5 ("F"): Did not do what I asked you to do, just going through the motions