EALL 372B: Modern Japanese Literature (Fiction)
FALL 2015

MWF 2:30-3:20pm
Moore 228
Instructor: Elizabeth Keith, Ph.D.
Office: Moore 395
Office hours: MWF 1:30-2:20pm or by appointment
E-mail: ekeith@hawaii.edu

Course Description:
This course consists of close reading and analyses of novels by important modern (post 1868) Japanese writers, spanning the period from the 1910s to present. In addition to the close reading of the texts, the literary works will be studied in their contexts: historical, social, literary, cultural, and biographical. Handouts may be provided periodically as supplementary material and may be included in the quizzes and tests.

The class sessions will consist of a combination of lectures, discussions, films, guest lecturers, and field trips. Students are expected to have read the assigned materials by the scheduled dates and to participate actively. Students are expected to take notes in lecture sessions as the instructor’s lecture notes, slides, and power point presentations will not be made available to students. Regular attendance is required, and anyone who misses five or more class sessions without valid reason can expect to have his/her course grade lowered.

Required texts (available at UH Bookstore):
Handouts will be made available for purchase at the Copy Center.

Grading Criteria:
Midterm examination: 20%
Final examination: 30%
One paper (5-6 double-spaced typed pages): 15%
Class participation and attendance: 15%
Four unannounced quizzes, 5% each: 20%
**Student Learning Outcomes:**

After successfully completing this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe at least three important general characteristics of modern Japanese literature.
2. Identify and describe the modern Japanese writers and their works treated in this course.
3. Make connections between the literary works and their contexts (historical, social, and cultural).
4. Compare and contrast the personal relationships and social contexts depicted in Japanese literature with the student’s own observations and experiences.
5. Use writing to record, organize and focus ideas or information.
6. Write concise and focused analytical papers on selected topics in literature.
7. Share ideas with other readers and gain awareness of social and cultural factors that shape our thinking process.

**EALL 372B Fall 2015 Reading Schedule:**

Students are expected to have read the assigned reading materials, including handouts, before they are discussed in class. The approximate reading schedule, which may be adjusted, is as follows:

**WEEK 1**
8/24 (M) Introductions
8/26 (W) Meiji Literature.
8/28 (F) Background to the life and times of Natsume Soseki. *Botchan* (pp.5-60)

**WEEK 2**
8/31(M) *Botchan* (pp.61-123)
9/2  (W) *Botchan* (pp.124-172) Overall discussion.
9/4  (F) *Joryû bungaku* handouts (women’s literature)

**WEEK 3**
9/9  (W) *Joryû bungaku* continued: handouts.

Hayashi Fumiko *Downtown*. Hirabayashi Taeko *A Man’s Life*, etc.
9/11 (F) " "

**WEEK 4**
9/14 (M) Overall discussion of *joryû bungaku*
9/16 (W) Background to the life and times of Dazai Osamu.
9/18 (F) *The Setting Sun* (pp.1-52)

**WEEK 5**
9/21 (M) *The Setting Sun* (pp.53-128)
9/23 (W) *The Setting Sun* (pp.129-178) Overall discussion.
9/25 (F) Background to the life and times of Kawabata Yasunari.
WEEK 6
9/28 (M) Thousand Cranes (pp.1-39)
9/30 (W) Thousand Cranes (pp.40-113)
10/2 (F) Thousand Cranes (pp.114-147) Overall discussion.

WEEK 7
10/5 (M) Background to the life and times of Oe Kenzaburô.
10/7 (W) A Personal Matter (pp.1-53)
10/9 (F) A Personal Matter (pp.54-103)

WEEK 8
10/12 (M) A Personal Matter (pp.104-165)
10/16 (F) Background to the life and times of Yoshimoto Banana.

WEEK 9
10/19 (M) Kitchen (pp.1-50)
10/21 (W) Kitchen (pp.50-100)
10/23 (F) Kitchen (pp.100-152) Overall discussion.

WEEK 10
10/26 (M) MIDTERM
10/28 (W) Possible paper topics discussed.
   Recent literary prize winners in translation: Handouts.
   Risa Wataya (2008 Akutagawa Prize) I Want to Kick You in the Back;
   Miri Yû (Zainichi Korean) Full House,
   Nao-Cola Yamazaki (2004 Bungei) Dad, I Love You etc.
10/30 (F) Literary prize winners, continued.

WEEK 11
11/2 (M) Literary prize winners, continued.
11/4 (W) " "
11/6 (F) " "

WEEK 12
11/9 (M) Overall discussion of recent literary prize winners.
11/13 (F) Discussion of paper topics.

WEEK 13
11/16 (M) Background to the life and times of Murakami Haruki.
11/18 (W) A Wild Sheep Chase (pp.1-49)
11/20 (F) A Wild Sheep Chase (pp.53-98)
   PAPER DUE.

WEEK 14
11/23 (M) *A Wild Sheep Chase* (pp.99-150)
11/25 (W) *A Wild Sheep Chase* (pp.151-198)

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**

WEEK 15
11/30 (M) Video/film TBA
12/2 (W) *A Wild Sheep Chase* (pp.199-244)
12/4 (F) *A Wild Sheep Chase* (pp.245-289)

WEEK 16
12/7 (M) *A Wild Sheep Chase* (pp.290-353) Overall discussion.
12/9 (W) Review for Final Exam.

**12/18 FINAL EXAM** (Venue and time TBA)

*****

Students who enroll in this course are required to abide by the Student Conduct Code. See [http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/students/conduct/](http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/students/conduct/) for complete details. The most relevant section, on Academic Dishonesty, is as follows:

Because UHM is an academic community with high professional standards, its teaching, research, and service purposes are seriously disrupted and subverted by academic dishonesty. Such dishonesty includes cheating and plagiarism as defined below. Ignorance of these definitions will not provide an excuse for acts of academic dishonesty.

1. Cheating includes but is not limited to giving or receiving unauthorized assistance during an examination; obtaining unauthorized information about an examination before it is given; submitting another’s work as one’s own; using prohibited sources of information during an examination; fabricating or falsifying data in experiments and other research; altering the record of any grade; altering answers after an examination has been submitted; falsifying any official University record; or misrepresenting of facts in order to obtain exemptions from course requirements.

2. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to submitting, in fulfillment of an academic requirement, any work that has been copied in whole or in part from another individual’s work without attributing that borrowed portion to the individual; neglecting to identify as a quotation another’s idea and particular phrasing that was not assimilated into the student’s language and style or paraphrasing a passage so that the reader is misled as to the source; submitting the same written or oral or artistic material in more than one course without obtaining authorization from the instructors involved; or "drylabbing," which includes obtaining and using experimental data and laboratory write-ups from other sections of a course or from previous terms.

To be explicit: documented cases of plagiarism or cheating will result in a ZERO GRADE.