Spring 2014

Stony Brook University
Department of Asian/Asian American Studies
College of Arts and Sciences
AAS 331: Japanese Literature in the Feminine Domain
This course satisfies a DEC J requirement
Course Instructor: Mary Diaz
Sec: 01
Office: Humanities 1039
Office Hours: Tu/Thurs 1:00-2:00
E-mail: Mallow8859@AOL.COM (Please be aware that no other e-mail address will reach me. Be sure to put “AAS 322” in the subject area whenever you e-mail so I don’t delete your message.)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course examines both writings of Japanese women and writings about Japanese women. It will challenge the application of current Western feminist standards to Japanese culture through the analysis of Japanese literary works. We will begin with Japanese mythology focusing on the stories of the creator goddess and Amaterasu, the sun goddess, from whom the imperial line was descended. We will consider the great Heian Era women writers and their culture, examining the difference between men's and women's writing. From the Heian era we will move to the Meiji Era, when Japan's isolationist period had ended and centuries' worth of Western literature was introduced to Japan. We will concentrate on the writings of Higuchi Ichiyo, noting how the position of women had changed by her day and how it affected her literary style. The course will close with a focus how literature treats Japanese women in our own time. This course is offered as AAS 331 and WST 331.

Course Pre/co-requisites
Any lower level course that satisfies the Japanese Minor. (Can be waived)

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:
This course will give students a basic body of knowledge concerning Japan through its literature Nara, Heian, Meiji, Taisho and Showa era writings by and about women.

This course will teach students to think critically and communicate effectively on important topics related to Japanese history, culture, religion and society.

This course will give students familiarity with research methods from humanities through readings, discussions and papers.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:
Attendance and Make Up Policy
There will be no attendance taken in this class, however quizzes and group projects will occur frequently. The worst four grades (or more) will be dropped, so if a student does not attend class and misses a project or quiz, that student will receive a zero for any project or quiz that occurs that day, and that grade will be dropped. There is no way to make up a project or quiz. If a student shows proper documentation for an extended absence (to be discussed in class) that student will be excused for the projects or quizzes specified by the documentation. A missed exam can always be made up.

Description and schedule of Required Readings and/or Assignments.
Please see meeting schedule.

Exams
There will be a midterm and a final. These will each consist of two essays.
Midterm date: 3/11

GRADING:
Midterm 25%  A = 94-100  C+ = 77-79
Paper 25% (due 4/2)  A= 90-93  C = 74-76
Quizzes and Participation 25% (to be explained in class)
Final 25%  

MEETING SCHEDULE  
This is a TENTATIVE schedule!!!

1/28 – Introduction
1/31 – Kojiki reading (from Website posted on Blackboard)
2/4 – Kojiki reading (Philipi trans. posted on Blackboard and Chamberlain trans. posted on blackboard).
2/6 – Reading posted on Blackboard for this date.
2/11 – Pillow Book readings (posted on Blackboard).
2/13 – more Pillow Book readings (posted on Blackboard).
2/18 – The Tale of Genji readings (posted on Blackboard).
2/20 – The Kageru Nikki readings (posted on Blackboard).
2/27 – Read the biographical information in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
3/4 – “The Sound of the Koto” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
3/6 – “A Snowy Day” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
3/11 – midterm
3/13 – “Separate Ways” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
3/18 – no class
3/20 – no class
3/25 – “The Last Day of the Year” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
3/27 – “Child’s Play” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
4/1 – “Child’s Play” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
4/3 – “The Thirteenth Night” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
4/8 – “Troubled Waters” in In the Shade of Spring Leaves.
4/10 – paper due, film
4/15 – excerpts from The Broader Way posted on blackboard
4/17 – excerpts from The Broader Way posted on blackboard
4/22 – “The Iron Fish” posted on blackboard
4/24 – “Platonic Love” posted on blackboard
4/29 – The Woman in the Dunes
5/1 – The Woman in the Dunes
5/6 – The Woman in the Dunes
5/8 – review

CLASS PROTOCOL
Please only use cell phones or computers if I ask you to.

CLASS RESOURCES
Library resources
Blackboard
Writing Center

DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS) STATEMENT (must be the following language)
If you have a physical, psychological, medical or learning disability that may impact your course work, please contact Disability Support Services, ECC (Educational Communications Center) Building, room128, (631) 632-6748. They will determine with you what accommodations, if any, are necessary and appropriate. All information and documentation is confidential.

[In addition, this statement on emergency evacuation is often included, but not required: Students who require assistance during emergency evacuation are encouraged to discuss their needs with their professors and Disability Support Services. For procedures and information go to the following website: http://www.stonybrook.edu/ehs/fire/disabilities ]

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY STATEMENT (must be the following language as approved by the undergrad council):
Each student must pursue his or her academic goals honestly and be personally accountable for all submitted work. Representing another person's work as your own is always wrong. Faculty are required to report any suspected instances of academic dishonesty to the Academic Judiciary. Faculty in the Health Sciences Center (School of Health Technology & Management, Nursing, Social Welfare, Dental Medicine) and School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures. For more comprehensive information on academic integrity, including categories of academic dishonesty, please refer to the academic judiciary website at http://www.stonybrook.edu/uaa/academicjudiciary/

CRITICAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT (must be the following language as approved by the undergrad council):
Stony Brook University expects students to respect the rights, privileges, and property of other people. Faculty are required to report to the Office of Judicial Affairs any disruptive behavior that interrupts their ability to teach, compromises the safety of the learning environment, or inhibits students' ability to learn. Faculty in the HSC Schools and the School of Medicine are required to follow their school-specific procedures.
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