



This is an abridged sample syllabus. Information is subject to change. Full syllabus will be distributed to registered students when term begins.

ASIA_V 326 - Critical Approaches to Manga and Anime

Ai Yamamoto

In this course we will analyze manga (Japanese comics) and anime (Japanese animation) and their related consumer goods and cultures in and beyond Japan. We will learn about the distinctive media characteristics of manga and anime, and their intermedial connections and contexts. We will practice analyzing manga and anime texts not simply as narratives but as narratives mediated through specific technologies. The course introduces a number of analytical perspectives from disciplines such as literary studies, visual culture studies, anthropology, and history, and those from the interdisciplinary fields of gender and sexuality studies, and cultural studies. We will practice analyzing manga and anime with a focus on their respective media forms as well as the symbolic, cultural meaning invested in them. All course materials (primary and secondary sources) are in English (or with English subtitles); no prior knowledge of the Japanese language is required.

Mode of Delivery: In Person

Sample Readings

TEZUKA Osamu, *Lost World*, 1948.

Scott McCLOUD, *Understanding Comics*. New York: HarperCollins, 1993.

Shiro YOSHIOKA, "Heart of Japaneseness: History and Nostalgia in Hayao Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*," MacWilliams, ed., *Japanese Visual Culture: Explorations in the World of Manga and Anime*. Armonk, NY: M.E. Sharpe, 2008,

Assignments

Attendance | 5%

Discussion Posts | 15%

Quizzes | 15% (5% x 3)

Manga/Anime Analysis | 20% (10% x 2)

Group Project 20% | 20%

Final Paper | 25%