



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

ASIA_V 364 - Modern Japanese Literature in Translation

Shota Iwasaki

This course is designed to give students (= you!) an overview of the literature and cultural history of modern and contemporary Japan, with literary and visual materials in English translation from various genres between 1868 and the present. Scholars generally date the “start” of Japan’s modern period to the Meiji Restoration of 1868, in which an emperor-based system of government replaced the Tokugawa shogunate (1603–1868). Starting with the Meiji Restoration and its impact on literature and continuing through the new writings of younger generations, we examine the ways in which narrative texts engage with the changing socio-historical conditions of Japan and the world.

Mode of Delivery: In-person

Sample Readings

Futabatei Shimei. *Drifting Clouds* (Ukigumo, 1887-89). Translated by Marleigh Grayer Ryan. Columbia University Press, 1967.

Selden, Kyoko, and Noriko Mizuta, eds. *More Stories by Japanese Women Writers: An Anthology*. M.E. Sharpe, 2011.

Assignments

Class Participation | 5%

Reading Notes | 10%

Online Discussion | 40%

Midterm Essay | 15%

Final Essay | 30%