



J. F. Oberlin University

ACADEMIC COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE NAME:

Japanese Cinematic Art

MEETING TIMES:

45 Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday (days may vary based on activity schedule)

Periods: 1 – 4 (periods and times may vary based on activity schedule)

DESCRIPTION:

The focus of this course is an introduction to film and visual art culture in Japan. A variety of topics will be covered as well as video art and film festivals. We will understand the history and analyze art, film and visual culture to better understand contemporary social and cultural aspects and issues in Japan also to include gender, society, family, national values, race and ethnicity and the ways they are portrayed in content and form. We will analyze the nature of the Japanese aesthetic and of post-war Japanese Cinema in contemporary Japan. The course meets for a minimum of 45 hours per two-week period. Students receive 4 Oberlin University credits and a Certificate of Completion for passing with a minimum grade of a D.

COURSE LEVELS:

Classes are taught and conducted in English. No Japanese language level is required.

COURSE OBJECTIVES/ OUTCOMES:

By the end of the session, students should be able to:

- 1) Critically analyze selected cinematic art pieces and important concepts of genre, national and narrative.
- 2) Develop positions about cinematic art to express and defend them in various contexts.
- 3) Develop research projects based on their own interests.

METHOD OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, participatory (dialogical, reciprocal learning), inquiry (research & inquiry, cooperative group, engage by generating questions), critical thinking and constructive thinking (analyzing and examining media, multiple alternative culture), creative future thinking (action agenda, root cause, exchange ideas).

TEXTBOOK(S) AND/OR CLASS MATERIALS:

The instructor will provide class materials.

GRADING, CERTIFICATE, GRADING PLAN & EVALUATION:

All students will get a grade for this academic course. You will also get a Certificate of Completion at the end of the course. Students who do not pass with a letter grade of D or above will not be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

Grading Scale:

90-100 = A 80-89 = B 79-70 = C 60-69 = D 50 and below = F

Breakdown:

- Class Participation: 25%
- Attendance: 25%
- Assignments: 20%
- Final Project: 30%

COURSE POLICIES:

It is required for students to attend all classes and come to class on time. Students should refrain from using cell phones while in class and eating during class times.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

Students are expected to conduct themselves well in the class. Disciplinary action may be taken for but not limited to dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism.

COURSE CONTENTS

Daily Contents

- Introduction: structure, pedagogy, assignment and grading, forming groups.
- Interpreting Film analysis
- Historic analysis of early film art up to war film critiques.
- Post-war mass culture in form, style and ideology.
- The Japanese aesthetic in cinematic art.
- Film in 1980s Japan.
- Japanese film and women.
- Aging and sexuality in cinematic art.
- Japanese cinematic art and youth.
- Japanese cinema and nationalism and multiculturalism.
- Explore the world of Manga and Anime and it's cultural influences.
- Queer Film Culture in Japan.
- Film festivals