

Course delivery with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic

Although the intent is for this course to be delivered in-person, the changing COVID-19 landscape may necessitate some or all of the course to be delivered online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will not change. Any assessments affected will be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

HURON UNIVERSITY Faculty of Arts and Social Science: Japanese Program, Department of French and Asian Studies Winter 2022

JPN3650G 550 Japan Through Film (2410)

Instructor: Michiya Kawai
Time: Mondays 8:30-11:30
Place: HC-H111
Office: A214
Telephone: 519-438-7224 Ext. 330
E-mail: mkawai@uwo.ca
Office Hours: TuTh: 11:30-12:30, or by appointment

Course Description:

Examination of various aspects of Japan, Japanese society and culture using Japanese cinema. The works by Itami and other Japanese films will be used to prompt discussion of such topics as contemporary issues in Japanese society, aesthetics, and communication. Taught in English.

Antirequisite(s): None.

Prerequisite(s): 1.0 Essay course from Category A or B.

Extra Information: 3 hours

Course Outcome:

Any student who successfully completes this course will be able to:

- Utilize a basic knowledge of the history of modern Japan for any task.
- Conduct structural analysis of film arts.
- Critically view (unfamiliar) cultures.
- Research any topics using modern research methods.
- Formulate questions and discover the answers.

Class Methods:

The course will be conducted through lectures and classroom discussions based upon the assigned reading, students' individual research, and/or video and other materials. Students are expected to prepare for the course by doing a short (preliminary) research for each class. Given the time limitation, we can only view subset of the films that are relevant for our discussion. Students are encouraged to view all the movies carefully outside the class.

Recommended Course Texts:

Bordwell, D., and K. Thompson. 2001. *Film Art: An Introduction*. New York: McGraw-Hill Higher Education.
Other reading materials are to be distributed in class or posted electronically.

Methods of Evaluation/Assessment:

There will be one final term paper, which will constitute 40% of the final grade. The final paper topic MUST BE approved by the instructor after consultation. Class participation (with comments/discussion) will be 25%. Two small paper assignments will weigh 15% and 20% and of the final grade.

Special Instructions:

Due to the once-a-week format, it is critical to attend "ALL" the classes. This is so, because learning takes place through discussions based upon the reading materials. Class participation, therefore, includes both preparation (reading and mini-research) and participation in discussion. Under a normal circumstance, a student who has missed four or more classes (or 12+ class hours) without a proper excuse will receive no participation marks and will be debarred from writing the final paper. Papers should be submitted through "Assignments" in OWL. **Please name your paper files as follows: JPN3650 family-name first-name #, where # is 1/2/3/4.**

POLICY ON ATTENDANCE

Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

SPECIAL EXAMINATION:

A special examination is any examination other than the regularly scheduled examination. Special exams will be allowed only on receipt of documentation verifying a serious illness or emergency that kept the student from writing the exam as originally scheduled. Such documentation is strictly confidential and kept in the student's file. In the case of missing a final exam for documented medical reasons, a special exam will be set by Academic Counseling.

Special exams will not be granted for occasions such as employment interviews, weddings, bar mitzvahs, family reunions, vacations, misreading the exam timetable, or oversleeping. Neither will special exams be granted in order to facilitate transportation arrangements, such as booking flights for home for Christmas or summer vacations. It is the policy of Huron [University] College to discourage informal arrangements by faculty which circumvent this regulation"

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF CLASSES: can be found after FASS Appendix

Program and Academic Counselling

Japanese students registered at Huron who require advice about modules and courses in JPN should contact Michiya Kawai, Coordinator for Japanese program, the Department of French and Asian Studies, mkawai@huron.uwo.ca, A-214, 519-438-7224 ext. 330.

For information about other French and Asian Studies, students should contact the Chair of the Department, Michiya Kawai, Coordinator for Japanese program, the Department of French and Asian Studies, mkawai@huron.uwo.ca, A-214, 519-438-7224 ext. 330.

Students interested in the exchange programs to Japan should contact the coordinator of the Japanese program: Michiya Kawai, mkawai@huron.uwo.ca, 519-438-7224 ext. 330



Appendix to Course Outlines: Academic Policies & Regulations 2021 - 2022

Mandatory Use of Masks in Classrooms

Students will be expected to wear triple layer non-medical masks at all times in the classroom as per Huron policy and public health directives. Students are now permitted to drink water in class by lifting and replacing the mask each time a drink is taken. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Huron policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean's Office, and such actions will be considered a violation of the Huron Student Code of Conduct.

Pandemic Contingency

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the course delivery moving away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, typically using a combination of synchronous instruction (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) and asynchronous material (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online at the discretion of the course instructor. In the unlikely event that changes to the grading scheme are necessary, these changes will be clearly communicated as soon as possible.

Student Code of Conduct

Membership in the community of Huron University College and Western University implies acceptance by every student of the principle of respect for the rights, responsibilities, dignity and well-being of others and a readiness to support an environment conducive to the intellectual and personal growth of all who study, work and live within it. Upon registration, students assume the responsibilities that such registration entails. While in the physical or online classroom, students are expected to behave in a manner that supports the learning environment of others. Please review the Student Code of Conduct at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/sites/default/files/Res%20Life/Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct%20-%20Revised%20September%202019.pdf>.

Prerequisite and Antirequisite Information

Students are responsible for ensuring that they have successfully completed all course prerequisites and that they have not completed any course antirequisites. Unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

Attendance Regulations for Examinations

A student is entitled to be examined in courses in which registration is maintained, subject to the following limitations:

- 1) A student may be debarred from writing the final examination for failure to maintain satisfactory academic standing throughout the year.
- 2) Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course (after due warning has been given). On the recommendation of the Department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course. The Dean of the Faculty offering the course will communicate that decision to the Dean of the Faculty of registration.

Review the policy on Attendance Regulations for Examinations here:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/exam/attendance.pdf.

Statement on Academic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf. The appeals process is also outlined in this policy as well as more generally at the following website:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/appealsundergrad.pdf.

Turnitin.com

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

It is not appropriate to use electronic devices (such as, but not limited to, laptops, cell phones) in the classroom for non-classroom activities. Such activity is disruptive and distracting to other students and to the instructor, and can inhibit learning. Students are expected to respect the classroom environment and to refrain from inappropriate use of technology and other electronic devices in class.

Statement on Use of Personal Response Systems (“Clickers”)

Personal Response Systems (“clickers”) may be used in some classes. If clickers are to be used in a class, it is the responsibility of the student to ensure that the device is activated and functional. Students must see their instructor if they have any concerns about whether the clicker is malfunctioning. Students must use only their own clicker. If clicker records are used to compute a portion of the course grade:

- the use of somebody else’s clicker in class constitutes a scholastic offence
- the possession of a clicker belonging to another student will be interpreted as an attempt to commit a scholastic offence.

Academic Consideration for Missed Work

Students who are seeking academic consideration for missed work during the semester may submit a self-reported absence form online provided that the absence is **48 hours or less** and the other conditions specified in the Senate policy at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf are met.

Students whose absences are expected to last **longer than 48 hours**, or where the other conditions detailed in the policy are not met (e.g., work is worth more than 30% of the final

grade, the student has already used 2 self-reported absences, the absence is during the final exam period), may receive academic consideration by submitting a Student Medical Certificate (for illness) or other appropriate documentation (for compassionate grounds). The Student Medical Certificate is available online at

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf.

All students pursuing academic consideration, regardless of type, must contact their instructors no less than 24 hours following the end of the period of absence to clarify how they will be expected to fulfill the academic responsibilities missed during their absence. **Students are reminded that they should consider carefully the implications of postponing tests or midterm exams or delaying submission of work, and are encouraged to make appropriate decisions based on their specific circumstances.**

Students who have conditions for which academic accommodation is appropriate, such as disabilities or ongoing or chronic health conditions, should work with Accessible Education Services to determine appropriate forms of accommodation. Further details concerning policies and procedures may be found at: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>.

Policy on Academic Consideration for a Medical/ Non-Medical Absence

(a) Consideration on Medical Grounds for assignments worth *less than 10%* of final grade: Consult Instructor Directly and Contact Academic Advising

When seeking consideration on **medical grounds** for assignments worth *less than 10%* of the final course grade, and if the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported absences, the student should contact the instructor directly. The student need only share broad outlines of the medical situation. The instructor **may** require the student to submit documentation to the academic advisors, in which case she or he will advise the student and inform the academic advisors to expect documentation. If documentation is requested, the student will need to complete and submit the [Student Medical Certificate](#). The instructor may **not** collect medical documentation. The advisors will contact the instructor when the medical documentation is received, and will outline the severity and duration of the medical challenge as expressed on the Student Medical Certificate and in any other supporting documentation. The student will be informed that the instructor has been notified of the presence of medical documentation, and will be instructed to work as quickly as possible with the instructor on an agreement for accommodation.

(b) Consideration on Non-Medical Grounds: Consult Huron Support Services/Academic Advising, or email huronsss@uwo.ca.

Students seeking academic consideration for a **non-medical** absence (e.g. varsity sports, religious, compassionate, or bereavement) will be required to provide appropriate documentation where the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence have not been met, including where the student has exceeded the maximum number of permissible Self-Reported. All consideration requests must include a completed [Consideration Request Form](#). Late penalties may apply at the discretion of the instructor.

Please review the full policy on Academic Consideration for medical and non-medical absence at: https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf. Consult [Huron Academic Advising](#) at huronsss@uwo.ca for any further questions or information.

Support Services

For advice on course selections, degree requirements, and for assistance with requests for medical accommodation, students should email an Academic Advisor in Huron's Student Support Services at

huronsss@uwo.ca. An outline of the range of services offered is found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>.

Department Chairs, Program Directors and Coordinators are also able to answer questions about individual programs. Contact information can be found on the Huron website at: <https://huronatwestern.ca/contact/faculty-staff-directory/>.

If you think that you are too far behind to catch up or that your workload is not manageable, you should consult your Academic Advisor. If you are considering reducing your workload by dropping one or more courses, this must be done by the appropriate deadlines. Please refer to the Advising website, <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/academic-advising/> or review the list of official Sessional Dates on the Academic Calendar, available here: <http://www.westerncalendar.uwo.ca/SessionalDates.cfm>.

You should consult with the course instructor and the Academic Advisor who can help you consider alternatives to dropping one or more courses. Note that dropping a course may affect OSAP and/or Scholarship/Bursary eligibility.

Huron Student Support Services: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/>
Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.uwo.ca/>
Student Quick Reference Guide: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/student-services/#1>
Academic Support & Engagement: <http://academicsupport.uwo.ca/>
Huron University College Student Council: <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life/beyond-classroom/hucsc/>
Western USC: <http://westernusc.ca/your-services/#studentservices>

Mental Health & Wellness Support at Huron and Western

University students may encounter setbacks from time to time that can impact academic performance. Huron offers a variety of services that are here to support your success and wellbeing. Please visit <https://huronatwestern.ca/student-life-campus/student-services/wellness-safety> for more information or contact staff directly:

Wellness Services: huronwellness@huron.uwo.ca
Community Safety Office: safety@huron.uwo.ca
Chaplaincy: gthorne@huron.uwo.ca

Additional supports for Health and Wellness may be found and accessed at Western through, <https://www.uwo.ca/health/>.

JPN3650G
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Assigned sections are the topic of the day. However, I encourage you to check out the PPT files for all the course early, so that you'd know where the discussions are heading.

Bordwell and Thompson's ideal of "Four Types of Meaning" is rather crucial for this course, and I strongly urge you to *fully understand* the definition of each type of meaning and their implications. Here, *understand* means more than *I saw it and "kinda" know it*.

NB: The due dates of the second small paper for each set are announced in class, as they depend upon the return date of the first paper of each set.

January

Background: Japan ... Japan?

- 10 First Meeting: Business Matters
Initial Discussion: Defining the objectives
Symptomatic Meaning: Case Studies
Semiotics: Communication
Structure 1: *Film Art* Ch. 2
Research topic: Semiotics

Defining the methodology: Bordwell and Thompson's Symptomatic Meaning

- 17 Defining Questions
Structure 2: *Film Art* Ch 3
Godzilla (parts only)
Symptomatic Meaning: Case Studies
Semiotics: Communication
The goal of the course revisited.

**Case Studies of Symptomatic Meaning:
Economic "Miracle," the Burst of the Bubble, and the Recession**

- 24 **Tampopo:** Economic miracle (1960-80's)
On Juuzoo Itami
Japan in the midst of growth

28 (Fri) 1st short paper due: *What is Symptomatic Meaning?*

- 31 **Tampopo:** Economic miracle (1960-80's): Discussion
On Juuzoo Itami
Japan in the midst of growth

Applying the methodology: Bordwell and Thompson's Symptomatic Meaning

February

- 07 **Taxing Woman Returns**
Film Art Ch 7-8
- 14 **Shall We Dance?: Sararii man, Japanese workers**

Rich but bored? Comfortable but tired?

18 (Fri) 2nd short paper due: *Issues in the 90's in Japan*

21 << **Reading Week (02/19–27): No Class** >>

28 **Pompoko:** *Urban development in the 80's/90's*
Environmental Challenges
Looking Back: Development and cost of success.

March

04 (Fri) *One-Page Final Paper Proposal Due*

Lesson from the Post-Bubble Period

07 **Densha Otoko (Train Man)**
Affluent, but not rich

14 **Tokyo Sonata**
Post Bubble Freeze and the perspectives from the mid 2000's.

21 **Bubble-e Go**
Post Bubble Freeze and the perspectives from the mid 2000's

28 **TBA**

April

01 (Fri) **Final Paper Due**

04 **Wrap-Up**
Implications and Lessons to be Learned from the Japanese Experience
Implications on Research