



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

JPNS 201-01  
**INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE POPULAR CULTURE**

Tuesdays and Thursdays  
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM  
Administration (AD) #140

Fall 2018A

COURSE OUTLINE

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Dr. Ben Whaley

**TEACHING ASSISTANT:** Qing Li

**OFFICE LOCATION:** Craigie Hall D #425

**OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesdays, 12:00-14:00 (or by email appointment)

**OFFICE PHONE:** (403) 220-3482

**E-Mail:** benjamin.whaley@ucalgary.ca

**COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES**

This course seeks to broadly introduce students to major forms of popular culture from Japan in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries: namely, manga (print comics) and anime (animation), and their related subcultures, modern Japanese literature, works of Japanese cinema, and contemporary videogames. The goal of this course is to sufficiently acquaint students with these topics and introduce methods for analyzing these cultural forms so that they can later take standalone course offerings in each of these areas (e.g. JPNS 317.02, 323, 325, 327). As this is a 200-level course, assignments will be focus on core skills (reading, writing, presenting) needed for humanities study and success in one's university career, and personal and professional life, more broadly.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Identify the thesis statement and main argument structure of an academic article
- Write their own thesis statement and intro paragraph for an academic essay
- Synthesize and present their original research in the form of a video blog
- Understand the history of Japanese pop culture and possess tools to analyze it

**DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES**

Reading Response	20%
Thesis Statement	20%
Video Presentation	30%
Final Essay Plan	30%

**GRADING SCALE**

A+ 90-100   A 85-89   A- 80-84



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B+ 76–79    B 72–75    B– 68–71

C+ 64–67    C 60–63    C– 55–59

D 50–54    Fail ≤49

#### REQUIRED TEXTS

All required readings will be provided on D2L. There is no need to purchase anything from the bookstore. However, we will be reading chapters from William M. Tsutsui's *Japanese Popular Culture and Globalization* (AAS, 2010) and the first volume of Ōima Yoshitoki's manga *A Silent Voice* (Kodansha, 2015). For students who would like to read a physical copy, both of these texts are available for purchase from the U of C Bookstore.

#### COURSE NOTES

- There is **no language requirement** for this course and **no prior knowledge** of Japanese popular culture is necessary.
- While there is **no formal attendance policy** for this class, students are expected to attend class regularly and complete all assigned work on-time. Penalties will be assessed for work that is submitted late.
- Students are naturally expected to come to each class having already read all the **required readings** and prepared to discuss them. Please note that only select lecture slides will be uploaded to D2L.
- Students will submit two assignments (reading response and thesis statement) online via **Turn-it-in**.
- **Make-Up Work** will only be allowed with proper documentation such as a doctor's note or a letter from an academic advisor.
- Readings, lecture slides, the syllabus, and so forth, will be **posted on D2L**. You are expected to check the course website daily. Please make sure the email address registered with U of C is one you check frequently or you may miss out on class announcements!
- Students are expected to complete their own individual work and assignments found to be **copied or plagiarized** will be severely punished with the offending students reported to the SLLLC and the Dean's office.

#### WARNING(!)

Some of our course texts and lecture topics contain potentially disturbing content such as violence and nudity. **If you will be too uncomfortable to view these materials or take part in these discussions, you should not take this course** (if you are under 18, please tell me immediately after the first class).

#### ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the



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examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

The student accommodation policy can be found at: [ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy](http://ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy).

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities [ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy](http://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy).

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

**EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS**

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)

For the complete list of assembly points please consult <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: [arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate](http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate).

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).



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#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

#### **SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

#### **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

#### **WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.