

Literature			
Registration Code	0065411	Credits	2.0
Course Category	Arts Basic		
Term (Semester) / Day / Period	G-I (1st year, Fall Semester) / Fri. /4 (14:45~16:15)		
Instructor	IWATA Kristina		
Target Schools (Programs)	Hu(J)·La(S)·Ec(S)·Sc(P·C·B)·En(P·C·Au)·Ag(B)		
<p>●Objectives of the course Literature is one of the many concepts that were (re)invented upon contact with the West during the Meiji period. However, not only was the definition of literature modeled on the Western example, but experiences with foreignness soon began to play a role on the plot level as well. In this course we will explore issues surrounding intercultural encounters through the lens of literary texts. The selected works cover roughly a century, beginning during the modernization period when Japan sent its brightest minds abroad to study, and ending with a foreigner's experiences in post-bubble Japan. The texts are discussed in close relation to their respective social and political contexts, providing students with good background knowledge of modern Japanese society. Students will understand what makes modern Japanese literature “modern” and “Japanese”, get a good overview of a specific aspect of Japanese literary history, and acquire basic skills in literary analysis and interpretation.</p> <p>●Course Prerequisites None, except for the willingness to read (and discuss) lots of good literature.</p> <p>●Course Contents Japanese modern and contemporary literature written between 1890-1996. With two exceptions, the focus is on short stories and short novellas all of which are provided in English translation. The course combines lecture (1/3) and seminar (2/3), meaning that the outcome significantly depends on students' preparation and active discussion in class.</p> <p>●Evaluation methods Weekly written reading responses 30%; Class participation 40%; Final written examination 30%.</p> <p>●Notice for students 1. As the study of literature by nature involves a certain amount of reading, students should be prepared to read and discuss a different literary text each week (with two exceptions, all are short novellas). This means that students with a genuine interest both in “literature” and in “Japan” will benefit most from the course. 2. In keeping with NU policies, students must attend 80% of classes in order to receive credit for the course. For a 15-week semester, this means that more than 3 absences may lead to you failing the course (absences for medical reasons, certain school functions, etc., will be excused if proper documentation is provided). 3. Students must submit a Course Withdrawal Form by the deadline when they have no intention of finishing a course during the semester.</p>			
Textbook	No required textbook for purchase. Readings will be made available on the first day of class.		
Reference Book	Listed on the final version of the syllabus (distributed on the first day of class)		