



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURES

JAPANESE

**JAPA 405 SPECIAL TOPIC: JAPANESE POP CULTURE: BOOK TO SCREEN
30 POINTS**

TRIMESTER 2 2015

Important dates

Trimester dates: 13 July to 15 November 2015

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Study period: 19–23 October 2015

Last assessment item due: 14 October 2015

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats.

Names and contact details

**Course Coordinator
and Lecturer:**

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School Office hours: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday

**Contact Person for Māori
and Pasifika Students**

Dr Carolina Miranda
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School Website: www.victoria.ac.nz/slc

Staff are available to consult with students during the hours indicated on their office doors.

Class times and locations

Lectures: (3 hours per week)
Monday 10.00am - 10.50am vZ (von Zedlitz) 106
Wednesday 10.00am - 11.50am vZ (von Zedlitz) 106

Communication of additional information

Any additional information relating to this course may be found on Blackboard. You are advised to check Blackboard regularly.

Prescription

This course introduces Japanese popular culture through film adaptations of manga comics, anime and literature. The texts studied include adapted texts in Japanese and English translations.

Course content

This course is designed for students who have completed a BA in Japanese with grades of above 'B' or its equivalent and who wish to improve their proficiency in Japanese to advanced level.

The course will cover a number of primary and adapted texts across a range of media from book to screen. We will cover a range of genres from *shojo* and *seinen* materials to *junbungaku* in their original format and in subsequent manga/film/English language adaptations and translations. It should be noted that some of the selected texts deal with themes of a graphic or adult nature and students should be prepared for this.

This course will be conducted as a literature course and as such will engage with critical and literary theory in addition to adaptation and translation theory. Students will be expected to read and engage with these works in both English and Japanese.

Classwork will comprise: (1) lectorial-style classes in English and Japanese on the theoretical frameworks, and recent discoveries, their analysis and interpretations; (2) reading and comprehension of selected passages in Japanese; and (3) relevant audio-visual comprehension.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

The aims of this course are broadly those of any Honours level course: to train you and help you in the transition from undergraduate study to independent postgraduate research for a thesis. The course is designed primarily for English speakers who wish to use Japanese language as a research tool. Expected outcomes include improvement of both intellectual understanding and reading comprehension skills. Understanding of the structure and grammar of modern Japanese is a prerequisite.

By the end of this course, you should have acquired and demonstrated a variety of skills that prepare you for further research and thesis writing.

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. Recognise and understand written and spoken Japanese from a range of sources including film, manga, anime and literature.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of key adaptation and translation theories.
3. Discuss various issues of Japanese culture and society in written and spoken Japanese at an advanced level.
4. Demonstrate understanding of Japanese culture and society relating to everyday life, including popular culture and literature.
5. Demonstrate research and analytical thinking skills through study of, analysis of, and commentary upon Japanese popular culture and literature.

Teaching format

The course will be taught in English and Japanese using a mix of Japanese primary texts and both Japanese and English secondary texts. Students will be expected to engage with the whole class to discuss the assigned texts. Students will be encouraged to study in groups but all work will be individually assessed.

The course consists of three hours of 'lectorials' (combined lecture–tutorials) per week.

Mandatory course requirements (MCRs)

In addition to achieving an overall pass of 50% students are required to do the following:

- a) Attend at least 16 of all 24 classes (one one hour and one two hour lecture per week) in order to participate fully in class discussion.
- b) Achieve at least 45% in each piece of assessment.

Workload

The University anticipates that you should be able to devote about 300 hours to a 30-point course including class contact time, background reading, research, and work on assessments (roughly 20 hours per week). **Please note that this is a rough guideline only.**

- a) Students are required to attend 3 hours of classes per week.
- b) Students will be required to prepare adequately the designated material in advance of class. Students will be expected to study and report on related academic literature, as well as carry out their own analyses on a particular aspect of the course content. They will also be expected to give an oral presentation and actively participate in class discussions.
- c) Students should consult dictionaries frequently in writing assignments, researching and preparing for class. This is very time consuming but can't be skimmed. Please do not hesitate to consult the lecturer and other teaching staff if you have any questions about your study.
- d) If your progress is not satisfactory despite spending a large amount of time on study, you should consult the coordinator. Students may visit her office (vZ706) or email (the above address) to make an appointment.

Assessment

This course is internally assessed. Assessment covers all four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking. Tests are given throughout the course to enable the Course Coordinator and students to monitor progress in language acquisition. Marking criteria will be handed out in class.

Assessment items and workload per item	%	CLO(s)	Due date
4 x short essays (1000 words each)	15% each	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	29 July, 12 Aug, 16 Sept, 30 Sept
<i>Pech Kucha</i> 6.40 oral presentation in Japanese	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Week 11
2 x translation pieces (Japanese to English)	12.5% each	1, 2, 4.	9 Sept, 14 Oct.

Submission and return of work

Students will be able to submit assignments to the Japanese drop-box at the SLC Office on the 6th floor of von Zedlitz, and collect marked work from the SLC Office between the hours of 10am and 2pm each day. A Student ID card will need to be shown to collect work.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

Extensions may be given in certain circumstances. Students must apply for an extension by contacting the course coordinator before the due date of a piece of assessment.

Penalties

- If a student is unable to sit a quiz or a test due to illness or other extraordinary circumstances the course coordinator must be contacted. Evidence such as a medical certificate must be provided as soon as possible in order to avoid a penalty.
- If prior notification of absence is not received, the piece of assessment missed will receive a nil mark. No make-up tests will be offered.
- Students caught cheating in any form will be listed on the University Academic Misconduct register and will be dealt with according to the University's plagiarism and academic misconduct guidelines.

Set texts

There are no set texts for this course. Texts to be studied will be posted on Blackboard.

Recommended reading

Materials will be provided throughout the course by the Programme.

Students must have ready access to at least three kinds of dictionaries: *kanji*, *eiwa* and *waei*.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:

Class reps will attend a meeting with the Head of School to discuss how the course is going and to raise any concerns or suggestions that they may have. You can find out more information on Class

Representatives on the VUWSA website: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Student feedback

This is the first time this course has been taught. Future feedback will be available at http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Aegrotats: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability
- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian>
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz

Course programme

Tentative Schedule

Week	Commencing	Themes	Items Due
1	13 July	Mighty Morphin Sentai Rangers	
2	20 July		
3	27 July	Magical Girls	Essay 1 29 日
4	3 August		
5	10 August		Essay 2 12 日
6	17 August	Tokyo Dreamers	
学休み 24 August to 6 September 2015			
7	7 Sept		Translation 1 9 日
8	14 Sept		Essay 3 16 日
9	21 Sept	School Boy Rumble	
10	28 Sept		Essay 4 30 日
11	5 October	<i>Pecha Kucha</i> presentations	
12	12 October		Translation 2 14 日

Key Texts (excerpts to be provided in class)

Section: Mighty Morphin Sentai Rangers

Introduction.

特撮 screen adaptations.

Section: Magical Girls

Takeuchi Naoko 美少女戦士セーラ・ムーン

CLAMP カードキャプターさくら

Go Nagai キューティー・ハニー

Section: Tokyo Dreamers

Kanehara Hitomi 蛇にピアス

Yoshimoto Banana キッチン

Murakami Haruki ノルウェイの森

Section: School Boy Rumble

Mastumoto Taiyou 青い春 ; ピン・ポン