

JAPN 3560 日本映画 Studies in Japanese Film

Class Time: 6:00-8:30 Tuesdays

Room: Old Main 207

Instructor: Atsuko Neely atsko.neely@usu.edu

Office: Main 306

Office Hour: by appointment only

The course is intended to survey some of the major Japanese films and film directors. The works by directors such as Yasujiro Ozu, Arika Kurisawa will be screened in order to give students an appreciation for some of the classic works of Japanese Cinema. Contemporary works will also be examined in the courses with special attention to uniquely Japanese cultural practices in their life and human interaction is in family and society at large.

The works of the courses consists of reading the selection of the two books on Ozu and Kurosawa. Viewing the films in the assigned time slots, coming to the class prepared to discuss the films and periodically submitting brief critiques or commentaries on the assigned films.

The focus of the curses is on examination of cultural issues manifested in the films (verbal or otherwise).

Interactions and human relations amongst the characters reflected in the films are the particular interests in the course. Comparative observation between the US and the Japanese treatment of the same title will be part of the discussion in the courses.

Students are advised that some of the films required to view in the course are without English subtitles.

Text books:

Reframing Japanese Cinema: Authorship, Genre, History by Arthur Nolletti and David Desser (Nov 1, 1992)

A Hundred Years of Japanese Film by [Donald Richie](#) and Paul Schrader (Sep 7, 2012)

- Both available from Amazon

Course Requirements/Grading:

1. Regular Attendance/Participation in class discussions -30%
2. Complete the readings as assigned
3. View the films as scheduled
4. Independent research on chosen directors - 10%
5. Write and post the “short Commentaries” or “Critiques” on CANVAS in timely manner - 30%
6. One mid-term Paper on Classic Japanese Films (due date February 18) -15%
7. Final paper to be summited for Student Research Symposium (abstract due on March 25) - 15%

The list of the films for the course includes:

小津 安次郎 Yasujiro Ozu

東京物語 Tokyo Story

浮草 Floating Weeds
早春 Early Summer
黒沢 明 Akira Kurosawa
羅生門 Rashomon'
七人の侍 Seven Samurai

山田 洋次 Yoji Yamada
学校シリーズ
男はつらいよ

伊丹 十三 Junzo Itami
タンポポ Tampopo
マルサの女 Taxing Woman
スーパーの女

北野 武 Takeshi Kitano
菊次郎 Kukujiro

周防正行 Masayuki Suro
Shall we ダンス

宮崎 駿 Hayao Miyazaki
となりのトトロ My Neighbor Totoro
火垂るの墓 Grave of the Fireflies

滝田 洋二郎 Yojiro Takita
おくりびと Departure

Final Research Paper:

Students in this course are required to submit a research paper (5~7 pages, double space) for the Annual Student Research Symposium held on April 25th. Expectation is to conduct an extensive research on a topic related to Japanese Films/Cinema and present the paper in the class. If selected, the paper will be presented at the Research Symposium. The deadline to be considered to participate in the event is **March 30th**. The abstract of the paper should be submitted no later than **March 10th**.