UCI East Asian Languages & Literatures

East Asian 55: Introduction to the Japanese Classics



Web, Manga, Mimicry

An introduction to classical Japanese literature using translations of ten famous texts, from 10th century poetry collections to 18th century puppet plays. Our





goal is to read deeply and passionately – to savor the texts for their literary, historical, religious and philosophical insights. Three main assignments push the reading experience in new directions. First is a manga translation, providing dialog in English for a modern Japanese graphic-novel version of a classic text. Second is an exercise in creative writing, emulating one of our classical genres (pillow book, travel diary, etc.). Third is a web-research team blog, creating a visual, hyperlinked essay to curate background information on key images from Japanese history and art history.

Course Offering for Fall 2016

23010 TuTh 2:00-3:20 p.m. @ SH 128

*This course counts for the Japanese major premodern requirement and majors can use one lower-division course to fulfill their requirements.

For enrollment questions, contact Veronica Portal at vportal@uci.edu.