

Course Title	Japanese Literature in Historical, Linguistic, and Cross-Cultural Perspective
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Course Description	This will be a whirlwind tour of Japanese literature, from its beginnings to the present day. We shall consider its linguistic forms, its themes and genres, and its historical and cultural background. Excerpts in English translation will be distributed each session for subsequent discussion, including content and translation issues. It is very important that students be prepared for each class and actively participate.
Prerequisite	A general interest in Japanese culture and in literature
Instructor	Charles De Wolf (須田狼庵)
Goals	A deeper understanding of Japan and a greater appreciation of literature
Textbook	Materials distributed by the instructor or publicly available.
Grading	Final course grades will be based on the results of: Homework and final report 65% Attendance 20 % Participation 15 % A: 100-90% B:89 – 80% C:79-70% D:69-60% F: Below 59%
Notes	In the case of absences, as general policy, NO make-up work will be given without a valid, documented excuse.

Schedule

No.	Date	Topic	Content	Homework
1	July 4	An Overview	History/language	Summary/readings
2	July 5	Early Japanese myth and verse	Kojiki/Man'yōshū	Summary/readings
3	July 6	Romance	The Tale of Genji	Summary/readings
4	July 7	Tales of Times Now Past	Konjaku Monogatari	Summary/readings
5	July 8	Literature Amidst Civil Strife	Heike/Kenkō	Summary/readings
6	July 11	Matsu Basho and 5-7-5	The world of hokku	Summary/readings
7	July 12	Modern Japanese Literature	Sōseki/Akutagawa	Summary/readings
8	July 13	Two Nobel Prize Winners	Kawabata/Ōe	Summary/readings
9	July 14	• Contemporary Authors: A Survey	Akagawa to Yamamoto	Summary/readings
10	July 15	• The Cult of Murakami Haruki	Final report due	---