COURSE DETAIL

JAPANESE GHOST AND FANTASY STORIES
Country Japan
Host Institution Keio University
Program(s) Keio University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Japanese
UCEAP Course Number 167
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title JAPANESE GHOST AND FANTASY STORIES
UCEAP Transcript Title JAPAN GHOST FNTSY
UCEAP Quarter Units 3.00
UCEAP Semester Units 2.00

Course Description

Modern Japanese literature is filled with ghosts and goblins--if only you know where to look. This course is designed as an introduction to the strangest, scariest, and wildest fiction in modern Japan, meaning that no prior knowledge of Japanese literature or Japanese history is required. The course begins at the "beginning" of modern Japanese literature in the late nineteenth century up to contemporary works and explores a range of ghost stories, fairy tales, as well as the literary equivalent of the splatter film. The course explores the following questions: How did the broad genre of today's *gensō bungaku* (roughly corresponding to supernatural, horror, and fantasy genres) emerge and develop as a set of assumptions about the nature of modern life in Japan? How do these assumptions challenge our way of interacting with the world, with other people, and ultimately with our own sense of self? What kind of new understandings of various boundaries--between the real and the unreal, the present and the past, the foreign and the native, the living and the dead--might these stories suggest? And how are these texts part of a larger global network of weird fiction--what, in other words, does it mean to call a Japanese text "Gothic"?

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
N/A

Host Institution Course Title
GHOSTS AND GOBLINS IN MODERN JAPANESE LITERATURE

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.ic.keio.ac.jp/en/files/2022/8/30/GHOSTS%20AND%20GOBLINS%20IN%20MODE...

Host Institution Campus
Keio University

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree
Host Institution Department International Center
Course Last Reviewed 2022-2023

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