

## COURSE DETAIL

### READING CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE FICTION IN TRANSLATION

**Country**

Japan

**Host Institution**

Hitotsubashi University

**Program(s)**

Hitotsubashi University

**UCEAP Course Level**

Upper Division

**UCEAP Subject Area(s)**

Asian Studies

**UCEAP Course Number**

112

**UCEAP Course Suffix****UCEAP Official Title**

READING CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE FICTION IN TRANSLATION

**UCEAP Transcript Title**

CONTEMP JPN FICTION

**UCEAP Quarter Units**

3.00

**UCEAP Semester Units**

2.00

## Course Description

In this class we read, in English translation, the works of two of the most prominent, internationally-acclaimed contemporary Japanese authors: Yoko Tawada and Haruki Murakami. The first half of the semester is spent reading the award-winning English translation of Yoko Tawada's novella, *The Emissary*. Tawada's work presents, with a touch of humor as well as pathos, a dystopian vision of Japan in the near future, in which the country is damaged almost beyond repair as a result of large-scale nuclear contamination, its people and language evolving in unexpected directions. The class then reads Jay Rubin's translations of Haruki Murakami's short stories, likely starting with "On Seeing the 100% Perfect Girl One Beautiful Morning". Each text is discussed with a focus on rhetorical play and cultural representation, with occasional reference to the Japanese texts. Proficiency in Japanese is not required, but those studying the language are highly encouraged to read the original texts, either in advance or during the semester. English-Japanese dictionaries will come extremely handy for anyone.

## Language(s) of Instruction

English

## Host Institution Course Number

N/A

## Host Institution Course Title

READING CONTEMPORARY JAPANESE FICTION IN TRANSLATION

## Host Institution Campus

Hitotsubashi University

## Host Institution Faculty

## Host Institution Degree

## Host Institution Department

Hitotsubashi Global Education Program

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