

FALL 2014

Prof. Pamela Gossin (AH) and Dr. Marc Hairston (Hanson Center, Space Sciences)

**HUSL6330: Literature of Fantasy:
Anime/Manga from Ghibli to Steampunk
R 10-12:45 pm JO4.708**

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In this course we will present a selection of Japanese anime (animation), manga (graphic novels/comics) and light novels, focusing on the ways they represent and adapt a wide variety of fantasy themes and conventions. For many centuries, human cultures have used visual and verbal fantasy narratives as modes of philosophical speculation and exploration, as well as popular forms of entertainment. Anime and manga represent new manifestations of this ancient quest and present interesting challenges to us as readers (interpreters) and consumers of culture as well as creative contributors to it.

Some of the questions we will examine in this class include: How did anime and manga develop as art forms? What status do they have within Japanese and global cultures? How do these forms of story-telling build on traditional fantasy forms? Differ from them? How do themes of the human imagination of possible futures appear in these stories? How do these narratives display critical perspectives on humanity's relationship to the natural world and our increasingly technological reality? What do such forms tell us about the value of human desires, hopes and dreams and possible ways to live (personally, socially, geopolitically)? How does reading / seeing stories from outside mainstream US culture affect our perceptions of their effectiveness and meaning? To what extent do our expectations about style and content limit our ability to analyse and interpret creative works from another culture? Are there "universal" (pancultural) elements of "good" art and literature that transcend such barriers? If so, what counts as "good" anime /manga and "good" fantasy and how do such qualities matter?

The course format will be primarily discussion (utilizing literary analysis and interpretation) with descriptive or informative lectures providing historical and cultural background explaining the growth and development of anime and manga in both the US and Japan. Most class periods will include some viewing of anime films and television series (some selections, some full-length features). Some viewing of television series etc. will be required online. Required readings will include a variety of manga and Japanese novels, as well as some scholarly critiques of animation and graphic arts from artistic, cultural and literary-critical perspectives

* SPECIAL NOTES: We will likely have 1-2 special guest speakers (either live or via Skype) and a Cosplay Day and Potluck (for extra credit!)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / GRADING:

- Attendance and participation (in-class comments, discussion leader, etc) = 1/4th
- One 3-4pp Book Review/Critique = 1/4th
- One 8-10 pp interpretative/analytical paper + 5 min video "mini TED-talk" = 1/2
- Extra Credit: for Cosplay and other extra-curricular creative activities that enhance your A&P grade

REQUIRED READING:

- 1) Electronic Reserve readings on UT-Dallas Library Reserves webpage (Listen in class for password!)
- 2) Napier, Susan, *Anime: From Akira to Howl's Moving Castle*, Palgrave, (new expanded edition, 2005)
ISBN-10: 1-4039-7052-1 / ISBN-13: 978-1-4039-7052-7
- 3) Miyazaki, Hayao, *Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind* (manga / graphic novel), VIZ, vol. vol.1
ISBN-13: 978-1-59116-408-1
- 4) Le Guin, Ursula K. *The Farthest Shore* (The Earthsea Cycle, Book 3), Pocket, 2004
ISBN-10: 141650964X / ISBN-13: 978-1416509646
- 5) Murakami, *Hardboiled Wonderland and the End of the World*
- 6) Miyazawa, Kenji, *Night on the Galactic Railroad and Other Stories from Ihatov* (Modern Japanese Classics),
Julianne Neville, Translator, (One Peace Books, 2014)
ISBN-10: 1935548352 ISBN-13: 978-1935548355

CRITICAL/SCHOLARLY PERSPECTIVES:

(To be used for Discussion Leading and Book Review/Critique)

- 7) Lakoff/Johnson, *Metaphors We Live By*
- 8) Wolf, Mark J.P. *Building Imaginary Worlds: The Theory and History of Subcreation* (Routledge, 2012)
ISBN-10: 0415631203 ISBN-13: 978-0415631204
- 9) McGonigal, Jane, *Reality Is Broken: Why Games Make Us Better and How They Can Change the World*
(Penguin, 2011) ISBN-10: 9780143120612 ISBN-13: 978-0143120612
- 10) McCloud, Scott, *Understanding Comics*
- 11) Condry, Ian, *The Soul of Anime: Collaborative Creativity and Japan's Media Success Story (Experimental Futures)* (Duke, 2013) ISBN-10: 0822353946 / ISBN-13: 978-0822353942

* URLs for Web Readings to be posted at: <<http://cindispace.utdallas.edu/hairston/lit3317-2014.html>>

OTHER RECOMMENDED:

- Mendlesohn, Farah and James, Edward, *A Short History of Fantasy* Libri Publishing; Second Edition, 2012.
ISBN-10: 1907471669 / ISBN-13: 978-1907471667

COURSE CALENDAR / DAILY ASSIGNMENTS

* *Note: Please have all readings listed under a particular class day, read FOR that class day's discussion (with the exception of the first week's readings, of course!). Most days (but not all) we will take a short 10-15 min. break – these breaks will not always be at the “midway” point, so plan fluid-intake accordingly!*

Wk 1: R. Aug. 28 : *Introduction to the course and a short history of manga and anime*

- Fill out questionnaires / Intro. to class and go over Syllabus
- Lecture/keynote: Brief History of manga and anime
- Reading (will be included in Discussion next week):

Book: Napier, Anime book, Chp 1: “Why Anime?” and Chp 2 “Anime and Local/Global Identity”

Electronic Reserves (on UTD Library webpage):

- LeGuin, from *The Language of the Night*, “Why are Americans Afraid of Dragons?”
- Levi, from *Samurai From Outer Space*, Chapter 1 “The Birth of the American Otaku” and Chapter 2 “Disney in a Kimono”

Wk 2: R. Sep 4 : *Miyazaki's Masterly Vision - Origins* [Sign up for Discussion Lead day]

- Lecture/keynote: background on Miyazaki's life and early works: *Hols*, *Prince of the Sun*; *Panda go Panda*; *Future Boy Conan*; *Sherlock Hound*; *Castle of Cagliostro*
- Read/Discuss:

Book: *Nausicaä* manga vol. 1

Electronic Reserves (on UTD Library webpage):

- McCarthy, from *Hayao Miyazaki*, Chp 1 (Hayao Miyazaki: Life and Work);
- Talbot, from *The New Yorker*, “The Auteur of Anime”

Web reading:

- “Creating Nausicaa,” Andrew Osmond, Mangauk.com
<http://www.mangauk.com/post.php?p=creating-nausicaa>

Wk 3: R. Sep 11: Miyazaki's Masterly Vision - Transmediation

DISCUSSION LEAD 1: _____ / 2: _____

- View and discuss: *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* anime (whole film/PG, 117 min.)

- Lecture/keynote: *Nausicaä* – the rest of the story (vols 2-7; beware spoilers . . .)

- Read / Discuss:

Book: LeGuin, *The Farthest Shore* book (have first ½ done by today)

Electronic Reserves (on Library webpage):

- Interview with Miyazaki “Trial and Error Leading Up to the Birth of Nausicaa” from *Art of Nausicaa*
- Loy and Goodhew, E-Res/online, “Dharma of Non-violence”

For Deeper Understanding/Insight . . .

- Hairston, Online Reserve, from *Manga: An Anthology...*, “The Reluctant Messiah: Hayao Miyazaki’s *Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind*”

*** HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT DUE TODAY: read the interview with Miyazaki done right after he finished the *Nausicaa* manga, “I Understand Nausicaa a Bit More than I did a Little While Ago” from Comic Box <<http://www.comicbox.co.jp/e-nau/e-nau.html>> and turn in 1 pg. response (due in class today!)**

Wk 4: R. Sep 18: Studio Ghibli - Other Films, Other Directors; aka Goro's Epic or Epic Fail? ***Tales from Earthsea and The Farthest Shore***

DISCUSSION LEAD 3: _____ / 4: _____

- View/Discuss: *Earthsea* anime (whole film/PG13, 115 min.)

- Read/Discuss:

Book: LeGuin, *The Farthest Shore* (have whole book done by today!)

Web Reading:

- LeGuin, “A First Response . . . <http://www.ursulaklequin.com/GedoSenkiResponse.html>
- “Tales of Earthsea and Family Feuds” Andrew Osmond, Mangauk.com
<http://www.mangauk.com/post.php?p=family-feud>

For Deeper Understanding/Insight . . .

- Unofficial translation of Goro Miyazaki’s production blog (note that it has 133+ entries but each one is relatively short). Reading it will give you a “behind the scenes” view of making an animated film as well as Goro’s candid comments about his father and their fight over the movie.
<http://www.nausicaa.net/miyazaki/earthsea/blog/index.html>

Wk 5: R. Sep 25: Mamoru Hosoda and *Wolf Children*

DISCUSSION LEAD 5: _____ / 6: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Brief background on Hosoda's life and work
- View/Discuss: *Wolf Children* (whole film/PG, 117 min.)

- Read/Discuss:

Web reading:

- "Review: Wolf Children," Charles Solomon, Indiewire.com
<http://blogs.indiewire.com/animationscoop/review-wolf-children>
- "Interview with Mamoru Hosoda," Madman Entertainment News
<http://www.madman.com.au/news/interview-with-wolf-children-director-mamoru-hosoda/>
- "Interview: Mamoru Hosoda," About.com
<http://anime.about.com/od/creators/a/Interview-Mamoru-Hosoda-Director-Of--wolf-Children-Ame-And-Yuki--.htm>

For Deeper Understanding/Insight . . .

- "Parental Thoughts About Wolf Children," Ard Vijn, Twitchfilm.com
<http://twitchfilm.com/2013/12/parental-thoughts-about-the-wolf-children.html>
...and a couple more interviews. There's some repeated material from the two required reading interviews, but some good supplemental questions and ideas here:
- "Interview: Mamoru Hosoda," Anime News Network
<http://www.animenewsnetwork.com/interview/2013-07-15/interview-mamoru-hosoda-director-of-wolf-children>
- "Interview: Magic of Hand-drawn Animation and Parenting," Twitchfilm.com
<http://twitchfilm.com/2013/03/mamoru-hosoda.html>

Helpful hint: Start watching Madoka this week (if you haven't already) so you'll be finished by next week's class. The subtitled version of all 12 episodes are available to watch for free here:
<http://www.crunchyroll.com/puella-magi-madoka-magica>

Wk 6: R. Oct. 2: The Magic of Madoka

DISCUSSION LEAD 7: _____ / 8: _____

- In-Class Discussion: *Madoka*, * Have all 12 episodes watched by today! *

- Read/Discuss:

Electronic Reserves readings (on UTD Library webpage):

- "Magic, Shōjo, and Metamorphosis: Magical Girl Anime and the Challenges of Changing Gender Identities in Japanese Society," Kumiko Sato, *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Feb 2014
- "The Dark, Twisted Magical Girls: Shōjo Heroines in Puella Magi Madoka Magica," Lien Fan Shen, from *Heroines of Film and Television: Portrayals in Popular Culture*, 2014

Web-reading:

- "Penguindrum vs. Madoka Magica", Andrew Osmond, Mangauk.com
<http://www.mangauk.com/post.php?p=penguindrum-vs-madoka-magica>

Wk. 7: R. Oct. 9: * 3-4pp BOOK REVIEW / CRITIQUE DUE *

[No regular class meeting due to Society for Literature, Science and the Arts Conference]

Wk 8: R. Oct. 16: *The Fantasy Anime of Makoto Shinkai*

DISCUSSION LEAD 9: _____ / 10: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Background of Shinkai's life and work; clips from other films
- View / Discuss: *5 Centimeters per Second* (whole film/PG, 65 min.)

* *Helpful hint: read first ½ of Hardboiled Wonderland by today. Also, start watching Haibane-Renmei this week (if you haven't already) so you're finished by next week. The subtitled versions are free to watch here: <http://www.funimation.com/shows/haibane-renmei/home>*

- Read / Discuss:

Web reading:

- "5 Centimeters per Second: A Stark Portrayal of Romance," Artifice.com (pretty good article from an anonymous undergraduate English major)
<http://the-artifice.com/5-centimeters-per-second-romance/>
- "Interview: Makoto Shinkai," Otakuinreview.com
<http://otakuinreview.com/blog/2011/10/19/interview-makoto-shinkai.html>

For Deeper Understanding/Insight . . .

- "Interview with Makoto Shinkai," Alex Fitch, Electric Sheep
<http://www.electricsheepmagazine.co.uk/features/2008/06/01/interview-with-makoto-shinkai/>
- "2D Animation in the Digital Era," *an interview with Shinkai and look at the technology he uses in his work (ATEC majors take note)* <http://www.tested.com/art/movies/442545-2d-animation-digital-era-interview-japanese-director-makoto-shinkai/>
- "Tokyo Region" *since Shinkai's style is photorealistic, this is a comparison of scenes from the film with photographs of the actual locations in Tokyo*
<http://infinitemirai.wordpress.com/2014/03/23/tokyo-region-home-of-five-centimeters-per-second/>
- "5 Centimeters Per Second: Final Impressions," *same author as the above, this time talking about the imagery and the music. If you liked the music in the film you need to read this.*
<http://infinitemirai.wordpress.com/2013/11/28/five-centimeters-per-second-final-impressions/>

Wk 9: R. Oct. 23: *Fantasy Visions of Yoshitoshi ABe and Haruki Murakami*

* Have all 13 episodes of *Haibane-Renmai* watched and all of *Hardboiled Wonderland* read by today! *

DISCUSSION LEAD 11: _____ / 12: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Background of ABe's life and work; background on Murakami's life/work.
- Read / Discuss: ***Haibane-Renmai*** and ***Hardboiled Wonderland*** +

Book: Napier, Chapter 9: "The Disappearing Shojo," pp. 188-193

Electronic Reserve reading (on UTD Library webpage):

- Napier, section on "Hardboiled" from *Fantastic in Modern Japanese Literature*
- "Fly Away Old Home" Marc Hairston, *Mechademia* 2, pp. 235-249
- "Interview with Yoshitoshi ABe" *Animerica* vol 11, no, 9, Sept 2003, pp. 43-47
(note: for some strange reason none of the images *Animerica* chose to run with this interview are from *Haibane-Renmai*. They're all from *Lain* and *Neia* _7.)

Wk 10: R. Oct. 30: *Anime Fantasy Sampler and COSPLAY DAY!*

(*ARIA, Yokohama Shopping Log, Spice and Wolf*)

* EXTRA CREDIT FOR COSTUMES / BRING FOOD/DRINKS FOR POTLUCK! *

DISCUSSION LEAD 13: _____ / 14: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Overview of types/varieties of anime/manga fantasy
- View / Discuss: *SKYPE GUESTS?*

- Read / Discuss:

Book: Napier, Chap. 14: "Elegies," pp. 275-290

Electronic Reserves readings (on UTD Library webpage):

- "A Healing, Gentle Apocalypse: Yokohama kaidashi kiko," Marc Hairston, *Mechademia*
- Some others, TBD

Wk 11: R. Nov. 6: *The Fantasy Anime of Satoshi Kon (Paprika)*

DISCUSSION LEAD 15: _____ / 16: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Background of Kon's life and work; clips from other films
- View / Discuss: ***Paprika*** (whole film/R, 90 min)

- Read / Discuss:

Electronic Reserves readings (on UTD Library webpage):

- "Playing the Kon Trick: Between Dates, Dimensions and Daring in the films of Satoshi Kon," Paul Wells, *Cinephile* vol 7, No 1, Spring 2011, pp. 4-8
- "Paprika Dream Goddess," chp from "Satoshi Kon: The Illusionist" by Andrew Osmond, pp 101-118.

Wk 12: R. Nov. 13: *Fantasy Vision of Kenji Miyazawa (Night on the Galactic Railroad)*

DISCUSSION LEAD 17: _____ / 18: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Background of Miyazawa's life and work; clips from other films
- View / Discuss: *Night on the Galactic Railroad* (whole film/NR, 113min)
- Read / Discuss: Kenji Miyazawa, *Night on the Galactic Railroad* (whole short story)

Electronic Reserves readings (on UTD Library webpage):

- Napier, section on "Galactic Railroad" from *Fantastic in Modern Japanese Literature*

Wk 13: R. Nov. 20: *New Horizons: Anime in a Post-Miyazaki World*

DISCUSSION LEAD 19: _____ / 20: _____

- Lecture/keynote: Background on Miyazaki's later life and work; his legacy and what's next?
plus some history of WWII
- View / Discuss: *The Wind Rises* (whole film/PG13, 126min)
- Read / Discuss:

Web reading:

- "A Soaring Swan Song for Hayao Miyazaki," Kenneth Turan, LA Times
<http://articles.latimes.com/2013/nov/07/entertainment/la-et-mn-the-wind-rises-20131108>
- "Miyazaki's Haunting Farewell," Andrew O'Hehir, Salon
http://www.salon.com/2014/02/28/miyazakis_haunting_farewell_a_dreamer_who_made_warplanes/
- "What Japan's Latest Anime Blockbuster Says About the Country's Wartime Past," Kirk Spitzer, Time
<http://world.time.com/2013/08/30/what-the-wind-rises-says-about-japans-attitudes-to-its-wartime-past/>

For Deeper Understanding/Insight . . .

- "Miyazaki Hayao and the Asia-Pacific War," Matthew Penny, Japan Focus (*a deeper dive into the historical and current politics surrounding The Wind Rises*); <http://japanfocus.org/events/view/189>
- "Behind the Scenes at Studio Ghibli," Anne Thompson, Indiewire (*an interview with Geoffrey Wexler, a high-ranking Studio Ghibli executive, about Miyazaki's final film and how it came about*); <http://blogs.indiewire.com/thompsonhollywood/the-wind-rises-studio-ghibli-interview>
- "How The Wind Rises Was Dubbed Into English," Matt Patches, Vulture (*an article about the dubbing of the film and the dilemmas and challenges that go into any translation of an artwork from one culture to another*) <http://www.vulture.com/2014/02/how-the-wind-rises-was-dubbed-into-english.html>

Wk 14: FALL BREAK: * HAPPY THANKSGIVING *

Wk 15: R. Dec. 4: Steampunk Fantasy Sampler and Course Wrap up!

- Lecture/keynote: Overview of Steampunk: history and background
- View / Discuss: it'll be a surprise!
- Read / Discuss:

Book/Electronic Reserves: TBD

Web reading:

- "Last Exile," Hugh David, Mangauk.com <http://www.mangauk.com/post.php?p=last-exile>
- "The Connection Between Miyazaki's Laputa and Jules Verne," Andrew Osmond, Mangauk.com <http://www.mangauk.com/post.php?p=french-connection>

For Deeper Understanding/Insight . . .

- "Fam, the Silver Wing 2," Andrew Osmond, Mangauk.com (*interesting essay on using the character of the child empress Sara Augusta to explore the ambiguous historical role of Emperor Hirohito in World War II*); <http://www.mangauk.com/post.php?p=fam-the-silver-wing-2>

DUE DATE FOR FINAL PAPERS AND VIDEO: tba: _____

Instructor's Policies and Class Philosophy / UTD Policies

Please inform the professor *in advance* (via utd email) of any possible absences or situations that may keep you from submitting assignments on time. We'll try to help in any way we can. Late assignments will not be accepted nor absences excused *without such prior notice*. Because attendance and participation count as a substantial part of your grade in this course, unexcused absences, tardy arrivals, early departures will count against this portion of your grade.

In accordance with university policy, this is a drug-free, alcohol-free, smoke-free, barrier-free classroom. In the interests of promoting a comfortable learning environment, all students and the professor pledge to respectfully consider the expression of ideas and opinions by others regardless of political, philosophical, religious, intellectual, cultural, racial, generational or gender differences.

Any student found guilty of plagiarism (using another person's thoughts, words, ideas, terminology etc. without properly acknowledging them with footnotes, endnotes, or parenthetically in the text with a bibliography will be subject to disciplinary action under the policies of the University of Texas-Dallas. See the university's student code, MLA style sheet or Chicago Manual of Style for more information.

All syllabus info., descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor. Students are responsible for listening for in-class announcements/changes and checking their UT-Dallas email account for additional messages or postings (which may supercede info. on this syllabus).

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<http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies>