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SPRING 2018

LIT 3316: Literature of Science Fiction
Anime/Manga - “Apocalypse How?” W. 4 - 6:45 pm in FN 2.102 (Kusch Auditorium)

In this course we will explore a selection of visual and verbal Science Fiction narratives in the form of Japanese anime (animation), manga (graphic novels/comics), poetry and novels. For many centuries, human cultures have used science fiction story-telling as a mode of philosophical speculation and exploration, as well as a popular form of entertainment. Anime and manga represent interesting variations of this ancient quest and present interesting challenges to us as readers (interpreters) and consumers of culture as well as creative contributors to it.

The organizing theme for this section will be “Apocalypse How?” – a question that will enable us to examine examples of SF anime that address vital questions for humanity, including matters of life and death, love and hate, the potential good/evil of science and technology (including AI), the physics and philosophy of time travel, the difficulty of creating sustainable communities and the complexities of living within the apparent “war zone” between nature and human technology.

The visual and verbal SF texts that will be read and view in this class include some “classic” works, some from foundational “auteurs” such as Osamu Tezuka, Hayao Miyazaki, and others from new anime artists and writers.

Class discussion will consider these kinds of questions:

- 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 or differ from traditional Science Fiction forms?
- How do human beings imagine possible futures in these stories?
- How do SF narratives and fictional worlds offer critical perspectives on humanity’s relationship to the natural world and our increasingly technological reality?
- What do they tell us about human desires, hopes and dreams and possible ways to live?
- How do stories from outside mainstream US culture affect our perceptions of their effectiveness and meaning?
- Are there “universal” (pancultural) elements of “good” art and literature that transcend such barriers? If so, what counts as “good” anime /manga and “good” Science Fiction and how do such qualities matter?

Class Format: primarily discussion (utilizing literary analysis and interpretation) with descriptive or informative mini-lectures providing historical and cultural background (from both the U.S. and Japan). We will view full-length anime and selected episodes of television series, and read Japanese SF manga, poetry, short stories and a famous novel all of which have influenced or inspired great anime. We will also read fan critiques and scholarly essays that offer artistic, cultural and literary-critical points of view.

* ***This course counts toward the MINOR in Medical and Scientific Humanities (MaSH)*** *

*** SPECIAL NOTES:**

**We will have special guest speakers (either live or via Skype) and
a Cosplay Day and Potluck (for extra credit!) ***

Course Objectives/ Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will read, view and discuss a wide variety of visual and literary texts, demonstrating the ability to interpret and analyze themes and issues using various interdisciplinary methods, including aesthetic, historical, biographical and cross-cultural approaches. Students will keep Reading Journals and will write 2 analytical and interpretative essays and complete 1 creative/interpretative take-home exam.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS / GRADING:

- Attendance/Participation (quizzes, in-class writing, discussion comments, Reading Journals, Creative/Cultural enrichment + other extra credit) = 1/3rd grade
 - TWO Mini-Essays, 2 pp single-spaced each, averaged = 1/3rd grade
 - Creative Analytical/Interpretive in-class EXAM = 1/3rd grade
- * Extra credit/enrichment opportunities: - listen in class for announcements!

REQUIRED READING:

1. *Electronic Reserve* reading via UT-Dallas Library website. Free!
See individual listings under each day they are due on the syllabus.

E-RESERVE PASSWORD: _____ (this will be announced in class only)

NOTE: the URLs / LINKS to some required readings will be posted on **E-Learning**
so it will be easier for you to find them!

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, *Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* (manga / graphic novel), VIZ, vol.1 and vol. 7.
ISBN-13: 978-1591164081 and ISBN-13: 978-1591163558
4. Murakami, Haruki. *Hardboiled Wonderland and the End of the World*. Vintage, 1993.
ISBN-10: 0679743464 / ISBN-13: 978-0679743460
5. 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
6. Tsutsui, Yasutaka. *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time* (Japanese novella in translation). David Karashima,
Translator. Alma Books, 2012. ISBN-10: 184688134X / ISBN-13: 978-1846881343

NOTE: with the exception of the two *Nausicaä* manga, all of these books are available as Kindle ebooks on Amazon. Either physical books or ebooks are acceptable for this class—your choice.
Reading them is the most important thing! – also your choice. ^_^

COURSE CALENDAR / DAILY ASSIGNMENTS

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

Helpful hint:

Create a READING JOURNAL to keep track of your notes on each week's readings and our class lectures and discussions.

You will need this info handy when you write your ESSAYS and complete the MIDTERM EXAM. *

JAN 10: WK 1 INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE; BRIEF HISTORIES OF MANGA /ANIME AND SCIENCE FICTION

FILL OUT questionnaire; Take attendance; Intro. to class and go over Syllabus

LECTURE: *A Brief History of Manga and Anime*

[Break]

LECTURE: *A Brief History of Science Fiction Literature*

DISCUSS: What to Look for in this Week's Readings and How to Keep a READING JOURNAL

REQUIRED READINGS for week 1

Book:

Napier, Chp 1: Why Anime? pp. 3-14

Napier, Chp 2: Anime and Local/Global Identity pp. 15-34

E-Reserve or E-Learning Links:

LeGuin, "Why are Americans Afraid of Dragons?"

Poitras, Contemporary Anime in Japanese Pop Culture in *Japanese Visual Culture*, pp. 48-67

Levi, Chp. 1: The Birth of the American Otaku in *Samurai From Outer Space*

JAN. 17: WK 2 DYSTOPIAN SF1:

VIEW *Metropolis* anime (Rintaro, 1 hr 48 min)

[Break]

Reading QUIZ?

BACKGROUND INFO and DISCUSSION: anime and reading

REQUIRED READINGS for week 2:

E-Reserve or E-Learning Links:

Tezuka, selections from *Metropolis* manga

Makela, Chp 4: From Metropolis to Metropolis . . . in *Japanese Visual Culture*, pp.91-113.

Benzon, The Song at the End of the World . . . in *Mechademia 1*

Bird, States of Emergency . . . in *Mechademia 3*

Clements, Robotic Angel . . . on schoolgirlmilkycrisis.com

JAN. 24: WK 3 DYSTOPIAN SF2:

BACKGROUND INFO

VIEW *Ghost in the Shell* anime (the original movie, Oshii, 1 hr 23 min)

[Break]

DISCUSSION: anime and readings

REQUIRED READINGS for week 3

Book:

Napier, Chp 6: Doll Parts: Technology and the Body in *Ghost in the Shell* pp. 103-116

E-Reserve or E-Learning Links:

Osmond, The World of *Ghost in the Shell*

Ruh, Chp 6: *Ghost in the Shell* in *Stray Dog of Anime*, pp. 125-147.

McBlane, Chp 3: Just a *Ghost in a Shell*? in *Anime and Philosophy: Wide Eyed Wonder*, pp. 27-38

JAN 31: WK 4 ANIME IN OUTER SPACE 1

BACKGROUND INFO + Sampler of Space Travel SF [MH]

[Break]

VIEW and DISCUSS *Voices of a Distant Star* (Shinkai, OVA, 25 min)

REQUIRED READINGS for week 4:

E-Reserve or E-Learning:

Ono, Nostalgia and Futurism in *Contemporary Japanese Sci-Fi*

Kuge, In the World That Is Infinitely Inclusive . . . in *Mechademia 2*

Feb. 7: WK 5 ANIME IN OUTER SPACE 2

BACKGROUND on Kenji Miyazawa's life and work

VIEW *Night on the Galactic Railroad* (1 hr 53 min)

[Break]

Reading QUIZ?

DISCUSS anime and Miyazawa's short story and poetry

REQUIRED READINGS for week 5:

Short Story:

Miyazawa, *Night on the Galactic Railroad* (READ WHOLE story by today)

E-Reserves or E-Learning:

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

Pulvers, "Miyazawa Kenji, Rebel With a Cause", a longer biographical sketch

"Who is Miyazawa Kenji?" [a short bio. from a big fan website about Miyazawa. Only the bio page is required reading, but we strongly urge you to explore the rest of this site for more information.]

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****Heads Up NOTE: WATCH** Episodes 1-4 of *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya* by NEXT WEEK !**

FEB 14: WK 6 MAGICAL GIRL SF1

* * REQUIRED!!! BEFORE THIS CLASS: watch Episodes 1-4 of *The Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya*. It can be viewed on-line for free at either <http://www.crunchyroll.com/the-melancholy-of-haruhi-suzumiya> (sub) OR <https://www.funimation.com/shows/the-melancholy-of-haruhi-suzumiya/> (dub)

BACKGROUND INFO

VIEW *Melancholy of Haruhi Suzumiya* Episodes 5 and 6

[Break]

DISCUSS anime and reading

* See next page for REQUIRED readings for this week . . .

REQUIRED READINGS for week 6:

E- Reserves or E-Learning Links:

Toole, Whatever Happened to Haruhi Suzumiya? (animenewsnetwork.com) / Hint: Stop reading at “hmmmm”
Blondeau, Review of Haruhi . . . (cgmagonline.com)
Anime Philosophy #1 . . . (hubpages.com)
Rivero, What does it all mean? (psychologytoday.com)
Yumeka, Haruhi Suzumiya – Masterpiece, Piece of Junk or Simply Overrated? (animeyume.com)

* * *

****Heads Up NOTE: WATCH** Episodes 1-10 of *Puella Magi Madoka Magica* by NEXT WEEK !**
You can watch it for free (with commercials) at <http://www.crunchyroll.com/puella-magi-madoka-magica>

FEB 21: WK 7 MAGICAL GIRL SF2

* * **REQUIRED!!! BEFORE THIS CLASS:** watch *Magical Girl Madoka*, Episodes 1-10 only –
SAVE Episodes 11 and 12 for class!

BACKGROUND

VIEW *Magical Girl Madoka* Episodes 11 and 12.

[Break]

DISCUSS anime and reading; DISCUSS Midterm Essay assignment

REQUIRED READINGS for week 7:

Electronic reserves or E-Learning Links:

Saito, Magic, Shojo, and Metamorphosis: Magical Girl Anime and the Challenges of Changing Gender Identities in Japanese Society in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Feb 2014.
Shen, The Dark, Twisted Magical Girls: Shojo Heroines in Puella Magi Madoka Magica in *Heroines of Film and Television: Portrayals in Popular Culture*, 2014.
Shamoon, Superflat Space in Japanese Anime in *Asian Cinema and the Use of Space* . . .pp. 93-108
Osmond, Penguindrum vs. Madoka Magica on mangaok.com
Osmond, Madoka Magica vs. Angel Beats on mangaok.com

FEB 28: WK 8 MAGICAL GIRL SF3

* * **MIDTERM ESSAY DUE** at beginning of class * *

BACKGROUND on *GWLTT*

VIEW *The Girl Who Leapt through Time* (Hosoda, 1 hr 38 min.)

[Break]

DISCUSS anime, novella and the Take-Home Midterm Exam

* See next page for REQUIRED readings for this week . . .

REQUIRED READINGS for week 8:

Book:

The Girl Who Leapt through Time [HAVE WHOLE novella READ BY TODAY]

Electronic Reserves / E-Learning Links:

Lee, "Adaptations of Time Travel Narratives in Japanese Multimedia . . .in International Research in Children's Literature, vol 7, issue 2.

Sevakis, Review of *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*, from *Anime News Network*

Osmond, Time Traveller: *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time* on mangauk.com

MARCH 7: WK 9 APOCALYPTIC SF - AI

* * Take-Home MIDTERM EXAM DUE at beginning of class * *

VIEW *Summer Wars* (Hosoda, 1 hr 54 min)

[Break]

DISCUSS anime and reading

REQUIRED READINGS for week 9:

E-Reserves or E-Learning Links:

Condry, Chp 1 about the production of *Summer Wars* from the *Soul of Anime*

Clements, Christmas in August essay on www.mangauk.com

Osmond. interview with Hosoda about Summer Wars on www.mangauk.com

Osmond. Sword Art Online vs. Summer Wars on www.mangauk.com

<<< SPRING BREAK GO HAVE FUN WATCH SOME MORE ANIME >>>

MARCH 21: WK 10 APOCALYPTIC SF - THE ENVIRONMENT 1

BACKGROUND INFO on Miyazaki's life and early works [MH]

Reading QUIZ

[Break]

DISCUSS *Nausicaä* manga, vol. 1

BACKGROUND on the narrative of Vols 2-6

REQUIRED READINGS for week 10:

Books:

Vol. 1 of the *Nausicaä* manga

Electronic Reserves:

McCarthy, Chp 1 Hayao Miyazaki: Life and Work from *Hayao Miyazaki*

Talbot, The Auteur of Anime from *The New Yorker*

Hairston, The Reluctant Messiah . . . from *Manga: An Anthology...*

MARCH 28: WK 11 APOCALYPTIC SF - THE ENVIRONMENT 2

* * HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT DUE at beginning of class today * *

[1 pg. single-spaced response to 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.**]

VIEW ***Nausicaä of the Valley of Wind*** anime (Miyazaki, 1 hr 57 min)

[Break]

DISCUSS anime and Vol. 7 + today's readings

REQUIRED READINGS for week 11:

Books:

Vol. 7 of the *Nausicaä* manga.

Napier, Chp 8: The Enchantment of Estrangement in *Anime: Akira to Howl's . . .*, pp. 151-168

Electronic Reserves / E-Learning Links:

Interview with Miyazaki, Trial and Error Leading Up to the Birth of *Nausicaa* from *Art of Nausicaä*

Loy and Goodhew, Dharma of Non-violence from *The Dharma of Dragons and Daemons . . .*

Gossin, 'Animated' Nature: Aesthetics, Ethics and Empathy in Miyazaki's Ecophilosophy in *Mechademia 10*

* * *

Heads Up NOTE: WATCH Episodes 1-5 of *Haibane-Renmai* watched by NEXT WEEK !

If you have a subscription to Funimation, then you can watch episodes 1-11 on the Funimation website here:

<https://www.funimation.com/shows/haibane-renmei/>

Otherwise you can watch it (for free) on Funimation's Youtube channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7499636C5043F6B9>

However, since it is rated TV-14 you will need a Google/GMail account to login with in order to view it.

APRIL 4: WK 12 APOCALYPTIC SF - PSYCHOLOGICAL/SPIRITUAL 1

* * HAVE THE FIRST HALF of *Hard-Boiled Wonderland* READ BY TODAY * *
and Have Episodes 1-5 of *Haibane-Renmai* watched by **TODAY**

BACKGROUND on ABe's life and work and Murakami's life/work.

DISCUSS: *Hard-Boiled Wonderland* . . . Murakami (1st half of novel)

[Break]

VIEW and DISCUSS: ***Haibene-Renmai*** (Abe), Episode 6

REQUIRED READINGS for week 12:

Book:

Murakami, *Hard-Boiled Wonderland*, read first half.

Electronic Reserves:

"Interview with ABe," *Animerica*, vol 11, no. 9, Sept 2003, pp. 43-47.

Creamer, The Dream of Redemption in *Haibane Renmei* from **Anime News Network**

Heads Up NOTE: WATCH Episodes 7-11 of *Haibane-Renmai* watched by NEXT WEEK !

APRIL 11: WK 13 APOCALYPTIC SF – PSYCHOLOGICAL/SPIRITUAL 2

* * HAVE ALL OF *Hard-Boiled Wonderland* READ BY TODAY * *
and
Have episodes 7-11 of *Haibane-Renmai* watched by **TODAY**

Reading QUIZ

DISCUSS: *Hard-Boiled Wonderland* . . . Murakami (2nd half)

[Break]

VIEW and DISCUSS: ***Haibane-Renmai*** (Abe), Episodes 12-13

REQUIRED READINGS for week 13:

Books:

ALL OF ***Hardboiled Wonderland*** should be read by today!

Napier, Chp 9 excerpt: The Disappearing Shojo in *Anime: Akira to Howl's* . . . pp. 188-193

Electronic Reserve / E-Learning Links

Hairston, Fly Away Old Home, *Mechademia* vol 2, pp. 235-249.

Napier, “Contemporary Dystopias” section on “Hardboiled” from *Fantastic in Modern Japanese Literature*

APRIL 18: WK 14 APOCALYPTIC SF – PSYCHOLOGICAL/SPIRITUAL 3

BACKGROUND on Satoshi Kon’s life and work

VIEW: ***Paprika*** (Satoshi Kon, 1 hr 30 min)

[Break]

DISCUSS anime

REQUIRED READINGS for week 14:

Book:

Napier, Chp. 14: *Elegies in Anime: Akira to Howl's* . . . pp. 275-290

Electronic Reserves / E-Learning:

Jackson, Space Between Worlds . . . *Mechademia 5*

APRIL 25: WK 15 TIME TRAVEL SF + POTLUCK + COSPLAY

* * FINAL ESSAY DUE at beginning of class * *

BACKGROUND on Shinkai

VIEW: ***your name*** (Shinkai, 1 hr 46 min)

DISCUSS anime and readings

REQUIRED READINGS for week 15:

E-reserves / E-Learning:

Osmond essay on history of Shinkai on <http://www.mangauk.com/flying-solo/>

Clements, <https://schoolgirlmilkycrisis.com/2017/12/01/approaching-shinkai/>

Reviews from [japantimes](http://japantimes.com), schoolgirlmilkycrisis.com, The Atlantic, NPR and kotaku.com

* * THERE WILL BE NO CUMULATIVE FINAL or CLASS MEETING DURING FINALS WEEK * *

cuz, Profs G and H . . .

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, cell phone usage or other disruptions *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).

FOR ADDITIONAL APPLICABLE UTD POLICY STATEMENTS SEE:

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