

# **LIT 3311: Fantasy and Science Fiction: The Art/Science of Anime/Manga**

**Spring 2007**

**W. 5:30 - 8:15 pm  
2.102 (Kusch Auditorium)**

**FN**

**Co-Instructors: Prof. Pamela Gossin and Dr. Marc Hairston**

Prof. Pamela Gossin  
Office Phone: 972. (UTD) 883.2071  
Email: [psgossin@utdallas.edu](mailto:psgossin@utdallas.edu)  
3:15 - 4pm)

Office: JO 5.304  
Office Hrs: W: 2:30 - 4:00 pm + by appt  
(Note: 2<sup>nd</sup> W of each month:

Dr. Marc Hairston  
2.322B  
Office Phone: 972. (UTD) 883.2826  
9:30-11am + by appt  
Email: [hairston@utdallas.edu](mailto:hairston@utdallas.edu)

Instructional Office: FO

Office Hrs: Th.

TA: Aimee Brown  
4.904  
Office Phone: 972-883-2250 or C: 214-454-0699  
Email: [alb013400@utdallas.edu](mailto:alb013400@utdallas.edu) & [aimeeleebrown@yahoo.com](mailto:aimeeleebrown@yahoo.com)

Office: JO

Office Hrs:

## ***Pre-requisites:***

3 hours of lower-division literature or HUMA 1301. This course is intended for students interested in exploring the interdisciplinary relations between the arts / humanities and science / technology, including students working toward the minor (or future major) in Medical and Scientific Humanities (MaSH). This class is also valuable for students interested in experimental forms of creative writing, including new media and ATEC studies. No previous knowledge of Japanese language, culture or history is expected or required, and most necessary background information will be provided in class or in required readings.

\* ***This course counts toward ATEC and Medical and Scientific Humanities***  
(MaSH) \*

## ***Course Description:***

In this course we will present an overview of Japanese comics (manga) and Japanese animation (anime) and their rising stature in American pop culture, focusing on various forms of fantasy and science fiction. Since at least classical times, many human cultures have used such 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 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 narrative 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? How does reading / seeing a story from outside mainstream US culture affect our perceptions of its 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 and manga 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) such as: *Millenium Actress*, *Nausicaa*, *Utena*, *Ranma 1/2*, *Kashimashi*, *Gundam Wing*, *Pani Poni Dash*, *Magical Shopping Arcade Abenobashi*, *Ghost in the Shell*, *Haibane-Renmei*, *Kino's Journey*, and *Welcome to the NHK*. Required reading 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

\*                      NOTE: Special Guest Speaker, Saturday March 17                      \*  
\*                      Jeremy Ross, Director of New Product Development, TOKYOPOP                      \*

### **Course objectives:**

Students will read and discuss a wide variety of literary forms and genres, demonstrating the ability to interpret and analyze themes and issues using various literary critical approaches. Students will write a mid-term exam, one take-home essay and a final exam. Participation in on-line discussion will be required.

### **Required Texts:**

- 1) READING PACKET: Selections of articles/chapters by scholars and critics (available in both bookstores)
- 2) Napier, Susan, *Anime: From Akira to Howl's Moving Castle* (new expanded edition)
- 3) McCloud, Scott, *Understanding Comics*
- 4) Murakami, Haruki, *Hard-boiled Wonderland and the End of the World* (novel, in translation)
- 5) Miyazaki, Hayao, *Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind* (manga / graphic novel), vols 1 and 7
- 6) *Kino no Tabi* (light novel) vol. 1
- 7) *Revolutionary Girl Utena: The Adolescence of Utena* (manga)
- 8) *Ranma 1/2* (manga) vol 1
- 9) *Kashimashi* (manga) vol. 1
- 10) *Welcome to the NHK* (manga) vol 1

### **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.

Wk 1: January 10 : A "Serious Course" in Anime and Manga? Be careful what you wish for!  
Introduction to the class / A short history of manga and anime  
*Readings*: "A Thousand Million Manga" chapter from *Manga, Manga*; "Osamu Tezuka" from *Dreamland Japan*

Wk 2: January 17: Historical Anime: Fantasy of the Past  
View / Discuss: *Millennium Actress* (anime)  
*Readings*: "Birth of an American Otaku" and "Disney in a Kimono" chapters from *Samurai From Outer Space*; "Millennium Actress" essay from *Watching Anime, Reading Manga*; "Why Anime?" and "Anime and Local/Global Identity" chapters 1 & 2 from Napier; Chps 1- 2 from McCloud. (Don't forget to do readings listed under Week 1!)

Wk 3: January 24: Masterly Visions: Hayao Miyazaki, part 1  
View / Discuss: *Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind* (anime)  
*Readings*: *Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind* vol. 1 manga; "Dharma of Non-Violence" chapter from *Dharma of Dragons and Daemons*; Chp 3-5 from McCloud.

Wk 4: January 31: Masterly Visions: Hayao Miyazaki, part 2  
View / Discuss: *Nausicaa*, the manga. Selections from *Princess Mononoke* anime.  
*Readings*: *Nausicaa of the Valley of Wind* manga, vol. 7; "Nausicaa" section from *Dreamland Japan*; "The Enchantment of Estrangement: The Shoyo in the World of Miyazaki Hayao" chapter 8 from Napier; Chps 6-7 from McCloud

Wk 5: February 7: Boys / Toys: Shonnen and Mecha Genres  
View / Discuss: excerpt from *Gundam Wing: Endless Waltz*  
*Readings*: "Robots and the Imagination" chapter from *Inside the Robot Kingdom*; "The Hard School" chapter from *Behind the Mask*; Chps 8-9 from McCloud.

Wk 6: February 14: Girl Power: Shoyo Genres  
View / Discuss: *The Adolescence of Utena*  
*Readings*: *Revolutionary Girl Utena (Adolescence of Utena)* manga; "What is Shoyo Manga?" and "The World of Shoyo Manga" from *Shoyo Manga! Girl Power!*; "The Third Sex" chapter from *Behind the Mask*; excerpt from "Now You See Her, Now You Don't: The Disappearing Shoyo" chapter 9 (pp. 171-176) from Napier.  
Last half-hour: \* Overview of Midterm format \*

\* Wk 7: February 21: \* MIDTERM EXAM: IDs/Interpretation; Short Answer; Definitions  
(You will have 2 hours to complete the exam; graded exams will be returned after Spring Break)

Wk 8: February 28: Gender Issues  
View / Discuss: selections from *Ranma 1/2* and *Kashimashi*  
*Readings*: *Ranma 1/2* vol. 1 manga; *Kashimashi* vol. 1 manga; excerpt from "Akira and Ranma 1/2" chapter 3 (pp. 39-40, 48-62) from Napier.

Wk 9: March 5 - 9: SPRING BREAK !

- \* Hint: Start reading *Hardboiled Wonderland and the End of the World* now so that you will have it completed by the time we get to the last three classes of the semester.

Wk 10: March 14: Science and Sentimentality

View / Discuss: *The Place Promised in Our Early Days*

Readings: "The Romantic, Passionate Japanese in Anime: A Look at the Hidden Japanese Soul" an on-line journal article from the book *Japan Pop! Inside the World of Japanese Popular Culture*

- \* RETURN graded exams; HAND-OUT Take-Home Essay Questions (Due March 28<sup>th</sup>) \*

\* March 17 \* **Special Saturday Seminar**

1-3:30 pm Jeremy Ross, an editor from *TokyoPop Publishing*, will be speaking on the future of manga, technology, and the challenges of bringing Japanese popular culture to the US

Wk 11: March 21: Comedy of the Fantastic

View / Discuss: selected episodes of *Magical Shopping Arcade*, *Abenobashi*, *Pani Poni Dash*, and *Kamichu!*

Readings: "Humor in Japan" from *Dave Barry Does Japan*

Wk 12: March 28: Cyberpunk Worlds \* TAKE HOME ESSAYS DUE at BEGINNING OF CLASS \*

View / Discuss: selections from *Ghost in the Shell-Stand Alone Complex*

Readings: "Stylistic Crossing" an on-line journal article from *World Literature Today* ; "Doll Parts: Technology and the Body in *Ghost in the Shell*" chapter 6 from Napier.

Wk 13: April 4: Dramatic Imagined Worlds

View / Discuss: selections from *Haibane-Renmei*

Readings: Interview with Yoshitoshi ABe from *Animerica Magazine* ; excerpt from "Now You See Her, Now You Don't: The Disappearing Shojo" chapter 9 (pp. 188-193) from Napier; Chps 1-12 from Murakami, *Hard-boiled Wonderland*.

Wk 14: April 11: Morality Tales

View / Discuss: selections from *Kino's Journey*

Readings: *Kino no tabi* vol. 1 (190 pages); "Elegies" chapter 14 from Napier; Chps 13-24 from Murakami, *Hard-boiled Wonderland*.

Wk 15: April 18: Dystopian Mirrors: Self-referential Post-modern Anime

View / Discuss: selections from *Welcome to the NHK*

Readings and listenings: *Welcome to the NHK* vol. 1 manga; "Retreating Youth Become Japan's 'Lost Generation'" an on-line audio report from *All Things Considered*, 24 November 2006; "Revenge of Japan's Nerds" an on-line audio report from *All Things Considered*, 24 November 2006; Chps 25-end from Murakami, *Hard-boiled Wonderland*.

Wk 16: April 25: FINAL EXAM, same format as midterm, covering material since the midterm.

### **Grading / Course Requirements**

- One midterm unit exam (IDs/Interpretation; Short Answer; Definitions) = 1/4 of course grade
- One 3 page, typed, double-spaced take-home essay exam = 1/4 of grade
- One final unit exam (covering material since the midterm) = 1/4 of grade
- Attendance and participation (study sheets, quizzes, writing assignments, discussion) = 1/4th

### **Course & Instructor Policies**

Please inform the professors *in advance* (via utd email ) of any possible absences or situations that may keep you from submitting assignments on time. 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 and my personal and professional values, 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.

## **UTD POLICY STATEMENTS**

**Field Trip Policies:** no field trips scheduled or required

### **Student Conduct & Discipline**

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

### **Academic Integrity**

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic

records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

### **Email Use**

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

### **Withdrawal from Class**

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

### **Student Grievance Procedures**

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

### **Incomplete Grade Policy**

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

### **Disability Services**

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

### **Religious Holy Days**

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

### **Off-Campus Instruction and Course Activities**

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address given below. Additional information is available from the office of the school dean.  
([http://www.utdallas.edu/Business Affairs/Travel\\_Risk\\_Activities.htm](http://www.utdallas.edu/Business%20Affairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm))

***These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professors.***