A. Course Description

Credits: 4

Prerequisites: WRIT 131 Writing I or equivalent.

Lab Hours/ Weeks: Corequisites: None

Lecture Hours/ Week:

MnTC Goals: Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies, Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci, Goal 08 - Global Perspective

In this course, we will examine various aspects of Japanese popular culture from the Tokugawa period, through the imperial era (1868-1945), to the postwar/contemporary time (1945-present), though more emphasis is put on postwar Japan. Critical analysis of different forms of cultural production, from the theoretical and thematic perspectives of class, gender, globalization, modernity, national/racial/ethnic identity, sexuality, invented traditions, and war memory, will provide insight into Japanese history, culture, and society.

B. Course Effective Dates: 05/09/2005 - Present

C. Outline of Major Content Areas:

See Course Description for major content areas.

D. Learning Outcomes (General)

1. Can analyze factors affecting the transnational nature of popular culture, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
2. Can evaluate discrepancies between official ideologies and ideas represented by popular culture, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
3. Knows the political, economic, and cultural elements which have influenced Japanese popular cultural historically, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.
4. Understands the role of a world citizen who consumes popular cultural products and assigns meanings to them, consistent with the analytical and expressive complexity and sophistication that are distinctively characteristic of upper-division courses completed at a comprehensive university.

E. Learning Outcomes (MN Transfer Curriculum)

Goal LS - Upper Division Liberal Studies

None

Goal 05 - Hist/Soc/Behav Sci

1. Employ the methods and data that historians and social and behavioral scientists use to investigate the human condition.
2. Use and critique alternative explanatory systems or theories.
3. Develop and communicate alternative explanations or solutions for contemporary social issues.
4. Examine social institutions and processes across a range of historical periods and cultures.

Goal 08 - Global Perspective

1. Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
2. Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their
historical and contemporary dimensions.
3. Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

G. Special Information

None