

Two Murakami in Today's Japan

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1 Course Outline

This course does not give an overview of the poetics and politics of the writings of Murakami Haruki and Murakami Ryu. Instead we will closely read one novel by each author. Be warned that each novel is more than 400 pages long. Our close readings will be amplified by documentary films and secondary sources. Please do not enroll in this course if you cannot attend *every* class.

2 Course Objectives

The course explores the dialogue between literature and other forms of self-representation. Each week students will be responsible for preparing discussion questions and leading the class.

3 Course Assessment

For 2 credits	(1) Weekly Readings, Discussions, Presentations	75%
	(2) 1 Essay (2,000 words)	25%

4 Organisation, Attendance and Other Requirements

This course consists of discussions, close readings of primary and secondary Murakami texts. Please note that the weekly attendance component of this course totals 75% of your final grade.

Student attendance will be assessed, strictly following the relevant section of the JTW Rules and Policies:

1 Marks for attendance and participation will be deducted in the case of unauthorized absences and late arrival.

2 Any unauthorized absence will automatically incur a 3% reduction in the student's final mark.

3 Any late arrival (more than five minutes after the start of class) will incur a 1% reduction in the student's final mark.

In the event that you cannot attend class because of sickness or family emergency, please send me an explanatory email before class.

There is one additional pre-requisite for classroom attendance. You must have completed the weekly reading assignment before class. Classes will generally start with a short quiz; this gives all students the opportunity to demonstrate that they have done the reading homework.

As preparation for the first session, please make a list of questions that outline any areas of interest that you would like to explore in depth in this course.

5 Textbook and Recommended Readings and Viewings

The wind-up bird chronicle, Haruki Murakami, Jay Rubin

Murakami Haruki: the simulacrum in contemporary Japanese culture, Michael Seats

Murakami Haruki: the problem of genre, Martha Emma Rice

The Japanization of modernity: Murakami Haruki between Japan and the United States, Rebecca Suter

Dances with sheep: the quest for identity in the fiction of Murakami Haruki, Matthew Strecher
What I Talk about When I Talk about Running, Haruki Murakami
Underground, Haruki Murakami, Alfred Birnbaum, J. Philip Gabriel
Haruki Murakami and the music of words, Jay Rubin
A Wild Haruki Chase: Reading Murakami Around the World, Japan Foundation
Coin Locker Babies, Murakami Ryu, Stephen Snyder

Riben Guizi 日本鬼子, directed by Minoru Matsui (2001)
"A" - *Aum Shinrikyo Documentary*, directed by Tatsuya Mori (1998)
Because of You, directed by Murakami Ryu (DVD title 2000, original Japanese release as *Kyoko*, 1995)

6 Communications

At our first class I will give you my email address. Please regularly check the JTW noticeboard on the ground floor and third floor of the Ryugakusei Centre for any changes that may arise during the semester.

7 Pre-requisites

Apart from the ability to do the required reading for homework and punctually attend *every* class, none.

PART II

THE SYLLABUS

Session 1

Course overview, expressions of student interest. Allocation of student responsibilities: preparing discussion questions, weekly discussion leaders, presentation topic choices.
Thinking about translation.

Session 2

The wind-up bird chronicle (WUBC) 1

Session 3

WUBC 2

Session 4

WUBC 3

Session 5

WUBC 4

Session 6

Viewing *Riben Guizi* 日本鬼子

Session 7

Student presentations: WUBC

Session 8

Viewing "A" - *Aum Shinrikyo Documentary*

Session 9

Coin Locker Babies (CLB) 1

Session 10
CLB 2

Session 11
CLB 3

Session 12
CLB 4

Session 13
CLB 5

Session 14
Final review and student presentations/discussions

Session 15
Student presentations/discussions

Please note that this is a tentative schedule, and will definitely be subject to changes. Please regularly check the JTW notice board for updates, additional screenings, etc.

御注意下さい END OF SYLLABUS

授業科目
Two Murakami in Today's Japan

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テキスト
The wind-up bird chronicle, Haruki Murakami, Jay Rubin
Coin Locker Babies, Murakami Ryu, Stephen Snyder

授業内容
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