The Practice and Aesthetics of Tea
Wednesdays and Fridays
3:00-4:30

Instructor: Hillary Pedersen

Inquiries: Email questions to hillyped@yahoo.com

Themes and goals: This seminar-style course focuses on various aspects of the formal preparation of tea, or chanoyu. Taking advantage of the rich tea culture of Kyoto and its environs, we will explore the visual and material culture of tea, its history, the ritualized act of preparing it, and the usage of tea in Buddhist contexts. We will also examine how tea is related to contemporary notions of hospitality and manners in everyday Japanese life, as well as to aesthetic sensibilities. When possible, visits to tea-related sites will be incorporated into the class schedule.


All other readings will be delivered to you in hard copy in class, or in PDF to your email.

Grading: Attendance and Participation in Discussions: 20%
Tea Utensil Presentation: 10%
Six Response Papers on Readings and Field Trips (1-2 pages): 30%
Final Project (10-12 page paper and 15-minute presentation on a topic of your choosing, related to course content): 40%

90-100% = A range (excellent)
80-80% = B range (good)
70-79% = C range (fair)
60-69% = D range (barely satisfactory)
Below 60 = F (unsatisfactory)

Attendance Policy: Attendance in this class is mandatory. Students must document all legitimate excuses.

Classroom policies: Please turn off cell phones, ipods, and other electronic devices.
Please come to class prepared, on time, and ready to participate.
Do not bring food or drink into this room.
Do not bring outside reading material to the class during class time (books, newspapers, magazines).
Do not sleep in class.

Academic misconduct: I do not tolerate plagiarism (盗用), cheating, or helping others to cheat.
Plagiarism is defined as misrepresenting the work of others (whether published or not) as your own. Any facts, statistics, quotations or paraphrasing of any information that is not common knowledge should be cited. Any instances of plagiarism or cheating will result in an automatic failing grade in the course.

For more information on paper writing, including how to avoid plagiarism and how to use citations, check the web for many excellent resources. For example:
http://www.writing.ku.edu/~writing/guides/
Schedule
(subject to change)

• All readings are mandatory and should be completed by the date under which they appear (i.e. Please read Pitelka, Surak and Sen’ō Tanaka by January 17th).
• Please write two discussion questions per reading to submit in class.
• For readings that are in PDF form (and will be sent to your email at least a week ahead), please print them out and read them, or take very detailed notes to bring to class discussion.

Jan. 15 Course Introduction

Jan. 17 Defining Tea Practice

Jan. 22 History of Tea I

Jan. 24 History of Tea II

Jan. 29 History of Tea III

Jan. 31 Tea Ceramics I
Response paper on Defining Tea Practice and History of Tea Practice due

Feb. 5 Tea Ceramics II


Feb. 7 Tea Ceramics III

**Field Trip to Raku Museum**


Feb. 12 Tea Utensils

**Response paper on Raku Museum field trip due**


Feb. 14 Tea Ceramics/Utensils

**Choose a tea utensil to present in class (bring photo). Please be prepared to speak for approximately 5 minutes about your object.**

Feb. 19 Tea Spaces I


Feb. 21 Tea Spaces II


Keene, Marc Peter, *The Japanese Tea Garden* (Stone Bridge Press, 2009), pp. TBD.

Feb. 26 Tea in Buddhist Contexts I


Feb. 28 Tea in Buddhist Contexts II


Mar. 5, 7

**SPRING BREAK (No classes)**

Mar. 12 Tea in Buddhist Contexts III


Mar. 14

No class (in lieu of Mar. 16 field trip)

Mar. 16 Tea Spaces/Tea in Buddhist Contexts
Field trip to Shunkoin Temple

Mar. 19 Kyoto as a Tea Center I
Response paper on Tea Spaces/ Tea in Buddhist Contexts due.

Mar. 26 Kyoto as a Tea Center II
Outline for Final Project due.

Mar. 28 Tea Aesthetics I
Response Paper on Kyoto as a Tea Center due.

April 2 Tea Aesthetics II

April 4 Contemporary Practice I
Response paper on Tea Aesthetics due.

Apr. 9 Contemporary Practice II

Apr. 11 Contemporary Practice III

Apr. 16 Kaiseki
Response paper on Contemporary Practice due

**Apr. 18**
Catch-up and review

**April 23**
Final Presentations