**Japanese Manga: Texts and Contexts**

**Instructor:** Noriko WATANABE  
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**Class meetings:** Tuesday and Thursday, 14:55-16:25

**Course description**

This course introduces students to key aspects of and issues in Japanese culture and society through Japanese manga. It will focus on examining representations of race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, family and history in Japanese manga, some of which has provoked a debate. After examining each text, relevant anthropological and sociological literatures will be introduced to understand the social context and its interplays with the text.

Beyond views and images of manga as ‘pop culture’ outside Japan, this course will also explore various roles manga plays in Japanese society in the process of production, distribution and reception. These roles include a guidebook, educational medium, social or political satire, pornography, auto/ethnography, documentary, *Nihonjinron*, alternative or new history, site of nostalgia, testimony and *lieu de mémoire* whereby manga reproduces or subverts social norms or dominant representations. Where appropriate, we will compare manga representations with representations in or adaptations into other media such as history textbooks, films, TV dramas, theatre plays, museum exhibitions and memorials. For this purpose, we will watch extracts from films and TV dramas in class. If interested, screening will be held outside of the class meeting. In addition, field trips to the following sites will be arranged: Takarazuka Grand Theatre, Osamu Tezuka Manga Museum, Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Osaka Peace International Center and Osaka Human Rights Museum.

As Japanese majors, students are expected to read selected manga works in Japanese in order to develop their language skills while identifying distinctive language and image used by and for characters according to gender, age, class, region, race and ethnicity. In addition, students with advanced-level Japanese are encouraged to read academic and journalistic articles in Japanese and contribute to class discussions.
Requirements
- Attendance and active participation (25%)
  (Note: Unexcused absences will lower this grade.)
- Oral presentations as a discussion leader (15%)
- 3 short response papers (10% × 3 = 30%)  
- Either a proposal for publication with sample translation OR a research essay (3,000 words) (30%): due Friday, 14 April

Course materials
The course materials will be electronically available. Some manga works (the whole texts or sample chapters) are available on the website.

Accommodating students with disabilities
If you are a student with a disability and have a DS-certified 'Accommodation Letter' please contact the KCJS Resident Director to confirm your accommodation needs. If you believe that you have a disability that requires accommodation, you can contact your home school's Disability Services or Columbia’s Disability Services at disability@columbia.edu. The Office of Global Programs (OGP) can also assist you to connect with Columbia’s Disability Services if you wish.

Schedule (subject to change)
**Week 1: Introduction: A glimpse into the world of manga and Japan**
10 January
Required reading:

Recommended reading:
松田奈緒子『重版出来』(2011-)
http://shogakukan.tameshiyo.me/9784091850409

12 January
Required reading:
「北欧女子オーサの日本探検」 (2016-) http://www.asahi.com/be/.nihontanken/


Recommended reading:
佐々木大河『ふしぎの国のバード』 (2013-)
（A manga adaptation of *Unbeaten Tracks in Japan* (1880) by Isabella Lucy Bird）


**Week 2: Representations of Family: Becoming a site of nostalgia**
17 January
Required reading:
「サザエさんをさがして」(2004-) http://www.asahi.com/be/sazaesan/
『サザエさんうちあけ話』(1978)

19 January
Required reading:

Recommended reading:

**Week 3: Representations of Food: Manga as a food guidebook**
24 January
Required reading:
狩屋哲・花咲アキラ『美味しんぼ』(1983-)

Recommended reading:
小沢真理『銀のスプーン』(2010-)

26 January
Required reading:


**Week 4: Subverting Gender Roles: From fairy tale to ‘herstory’**
31 January
Required reading:
池田理代子『ベルサイユのばら』(1972–1973)
よしながふみ『大奥』(2004-)

Film: *Dream Girls* (Kim Longinotto and Jano Williams, 1994)

Recommended reading:
さいとうちほ『とりかえばや』(2012-)
2 February
Required reading:


Recommended reading:


押山美知子 2013『増補版 少女マンガジェンダー表象論：＜男装の少女＞の造形とアイデンティティ』（彩流社），第一章，第三章.

Week 5: Representations of Homo/Sexuality: Manga as pornography by and for women
7 February
Required reading:
萩尾望都『ボー一族』(1972-1976)
竹宫恵子『風と木の詩』(1976-1984)

9 February
Required reading:
"The Godmother of Manga Sex in Japan" (BBC)


Recommended reading:


**Week 6: Representations of Corporate Culture: Gendered ‘realism’**

14 February

Required reading:
弘兼憲史『島耕作』シリーズ(1983-)
http://comic-sp.kodansha.co.jp/shimako30/
安野モヨコ『働きマン』(2004 -2008)

16 February

Required reading:


Recommended reading:

**Week 7: Representations of Race and Ethnicity: Between self and others**

21 February

Required reading:

ヤマザキマリ『テルマエ・ロマエ』(2008-2013)
http://thermaeromae.com/trial/index.html

Films: 『テルマエ・ロマエ』(Thermae Romae) (Hideki Takeuchi, 2012)
*Pocahontas* (Mike Gabriel and Eric Goldberg, 1995), its special feature on character design

Recommended reading:

杉浦日向子『百日紅』(1983-1987)
Its film adaptation 『百日紅: Miss HOKUSAI』(Keiichi Hara, 2015)

23 February

Required reading:


Recommended reading:

吉村和真, 田中聡, 表智之 2007『差別と向き合うマンガたち』臨川書店, 第1章 6. 「『黒人描写問題』の問題はどこにある：『人種』概念について考える」, 7. 「二人の外国人画家に描かれた『日本人』: ワーグマンとビゴーの視線上にあるもの」, 第2章 1. 「学習マンガのなかの野蛮人：蝦夷の族長アテルイ」, 第3章 10. 「差別表現に世界標準はあるか：『エマ』をめぐる論争」.


28 February (no class)
2 March (no class)

**Week 8: Representations of Inter-racial Romance and ‘Hafu’ (Mixed Race): From fantasy to autoethnography**

7 March
Required reading:
小栗左多里『ダーリンは外国人』(2002)
井上純一『中国人妻日記』http://blog.livedoor.jp/keumaya-china/

Recommended reading:
前田ムサシ『フィリピン妻 4 コマ日記』(2012)
麻生みこと『そこをなんとか』(2007-) 2 巻 and its TV drama adaptation (NHK, 2012)

9 March
Required reading:

Film: 『キクとイサム』(Tadashi Imai, 1959)

Recommended reading:
田中東子 2014 「少女マンガにおける＜ハーフ＞キャラクターの表象」, 岩渕功一『＜ハーフ＞とは誰か：人種混血・メディア表象・交渉実践』（青弓社），第 5 章(pp. 143-176).


**Week 9: Re-presenting Classics and History: Educational manga and beyond**

14 March

Required reading:
- 石ノ森章太郎『日本の歴史』(1990)
- 橫山光輝『三国志』(1971-1986)

Recommended reading:
- 大和和紀『あさきゆめみし』(1979-1993)
- 白土三平『カムイ伝』(1964-1971)
- 惣領冬実『マリー・アントワネット』(2016)

16 March

Required reading:


Recommended reading:

- 田中優子 2008『カムイ伝講義』(小学館)
- 惣領冬実・塚田有那『マリー・アントワネットの嘘』(講談社, 2016)
**Week 10: Remembering Hiroshima: Manga as testimony and lieu de mémoire**

21 March

Required reading:
こうの史代『夕凪の街、桜の国』 (2003, 2004)

Film: 『父と暮らせば』 (Kazuo Kuroki, 2004), Hiroshima Mon Amour (Alain Resnais, 1959)

23 March

Required reading:


Recommended reading:

**Week 11: Manga and Historical Revisionism: Manga artists as political critics**

28 March

Required reading:
水木しげる『コミック・カランコロン漂白記』 (1997, 1999)

30 March

Required reading:
Week 12: Responding to the Nuclear Disasters: From optimism to skepticism and realism
4 April
Required reading:
萩尾望都『なのはな』(2016)
竜田一人『いちえふ：福島第一原子力発電所労働記』（2014-2015）
http://www.moae.jp/comic/1f/1?_ga=1.263055113.480843861.1440049333

Recommended reading:
山岸凉子『パエトーン』(1988)
http://usio.feliseed.net/paetone/_SWF_Window.html

6 April
Required reading:


Week 13: Student Project
11 & 13 April
Presentations of Student Research/Translation Projects