

JAPANESE ART OF THE KANSAI AREA

Fall semester, 2015

Karin Swanson

- September 8 Overview of the class, Jomon period
- 10 Yayoi and Kofun periods: counterpoint to non-Kansai-centered Jomon; discussion of earliest Kansai art
- 15 & 17 Reading the content of Buddhist art: interpreting iconography
- 22 HOLIDAY
- 24 The initial spread of Buddhism and establishment of worship sites
Discussion of fundamental Buddhist art concepts
- Saturday 26 Field trip to Kyoto National Museum
- *29 TEST ONE on the above material
- October 1 Conceptual and architectural differences between Buddhist and Shinto worship sites
- 6 Asuka and Hakuho periods: beginnings of Kansai Buddhist sculptural art
- 8 Nara period: a zenith of continental cultural dominance in the Nara area
- Saturday 10 Field trip to Horyu-ji and Fujinoki kofun in Nara prefecture
- 13 Nara period, part two; discussion focusing on secular arts
- *15 TEST TWO on the above material
- 20 Early Heian period: Kyoto-centered Esoteric Buddhist paintings and sculpture
- 22 Middle Heian period: Amida Buddha-focused devotional paintings, sculpture and temple complexes
- Saturday 24 Field trip to Toji and Byodo-in
- 27 & 29 Later Heian period: Secular arts, especially handscrolls; discussion of secular arts
- November 3 & 5 FALL BREAK

- *10 TEST THREE on the above material
- 12 PAPER PROPOSALS DUE
- 12 Kamakura period painting, especially handscrolls
- 17 Kamakura period sculpture; focus on the dynamic Kei School
- 19 Muromachi period paintings: the black and white of Zen
- Saturday 21 Field trip to Sanjusangendo and Daitoku-ji
- 24 Muromachi Zen-centered arts: ceramics, gardens and architecture; discussion
- *26 TEST FOUR on the above material
- December 1 Momoyama and period Kyoto painting
- 3 Early Edo period Kyoto painting; focus on Rinpa
- 8 & 10 Class presentations
- *15 TEST FIVE on the above material