Syllabus Spring 2016
The Discovery of Interiority in Modern Japan
IDSEM-UG1369
Monday and Wednesday, 3:30-4:45
1 Washington Place, 401

Course Description:
The process of modernization in Western Europe spanned hundreds of years, from its nascent origins in the Renaissance, through the Enlightenment, into the twentieth century. In Japan this same process was collapsed into a few short decades around the turn of the nineteenth century. In this class we will examine the shift from a premodern to a modern system of subjectivity and perspective in literature and language. We will take up such issues as: What was the impact of Western imperialism, science, art, gender and sexual politics? What were the internal conditions that made Japan ready for modernization? How did premodern conventions in turn create a modernity in Japan different from Western models? What resisted modernization, and why? Our texts will include modern literature such as The Quilt (Katai), Masks (Enchi), The Miner, (Sôseki), and secondary sources including Karatani, Origins of Modern Japanese Literature.

Course requirements:
Attendance, Participation 10%
Student directed discussion topics (2x semester: for each 15%) 30%
Papers - 2 papers, 8-10 pages each 30% each 60%

Students are required to bring a copy of the assigned readings to class. No laptops or other devices allowed in the classroom. Exceptions will be announced.

Unexcused absences will negatively impact your grade. Late papers will be accepted, but progressively penalized for tardiness.

**** On Japanese names: Japanese names are in the opposite order of American ones, so the FAMILY NAME (our last name) comes first, and the GIVEN NAME is second. (Like in a bibliographic list, but without a comma: i.e. Cornyetz Nina). However, complicating this is the fact that many authors, especially early modern ones, are known by their GIVEN names (which are usually actually pseudonyms). I have CAPITALIZED the name they are known by on the syllabus. Check this when you are unsure.

Course Objectives: To familiarize students with a sampling of modern Japanese fiction and the shifts in epistemologies that accompanied the development of Japanese modernity.
Required Books:

Also on reserve at Bobst Library


Additional Readings are available as photocopies on NYU Classes. Below they are listed with full citation information in the order in which we will be reading them.


4. Kunikida DOPPÔ, “Musashino,” in *River Mist and Other Stories*. David Chibbbett,


Schedule

January 25, Monday: Introduction

January 27, Wednesday: Language, Text, Modernity
http://afe.easia.columbia.edu/special/japan_1750_meiji.htm
Tanaka, New Times in Modern Japan excerpt (NYU Classes)

February 1, Monday: Modern Japan - Historical Settings

February 3, Wednesday: The shôsetsu and the novel
Readings: MIYOSHI, “Against the Native Grain,” NYU Classes

February 8, Monday: The Discovery of Landscape 1

February 10, Wednesday – no class, Professor out of town

February 15, Monday – no classes, presidents day

February 17, Wednesday The Discovery of Landscape 2
Readings: Finish Karatani, “Discovery,” 34-44.

February 22, Monday: Discovery of Landscape 3
Readings: Doppo, “Musashino” NYU Classes

February 24, Wednesday: Discovery of Interiority 1
Readings, Karatani, “Discovery of Interiority,” in Origins of Modern Japanese Literature, 45-65

February 29, Monday: The Discovery of Interiority 2

March 2, Wednesday: Confessional Fiction
Readings: Tayama KATAI, “The Quilt” 35-96; Sievers, “Impressions” and “The Early Meiji Debate on Women” 1-25, all on NYU Classes

March 7, Monday: Confession and Interiority
Readings: Karatani, “Confession as a System,” 76-96, in Origins
March 9, Wednesday: The *Shishōsetsu* 1  

**Paper One Due Sunday March 13 12:00 midnight, in docx. format emailed to NCornyetz@gmail.com**  
Please note: this is an email I use exclusively for papers. Do not mail questions to this email, and do not mail papers to my other email please.

No Classes Week of March 14, Spring Break

March 21, Monday: The *Shishōsetsu* 2  

March 23, Wednesday Language 1  

March 28, Monday: Language 2  

March 30, Wednesday: The God of Japanese Fiction  

April 4, Monday: Modern Monogatari  
Readings: Izumi KYÔKA, “The Kôya Ascetic” NYU Classes

April 6, Wednesday: Fetishized Culture  

April 11, Monday: Mary Pickford?  
Readings: TANIZAKI, *Naomi*

April 13, Wednesday: Masochistic Bliss?  
Readings: Finish *Naomi*

April 18, Monday: Parodying the *shishōsetsu*.  
Readings: SOSEKI, *The Miner*

April 20, Wednesday: Fiction  
Readings: Finish *The Miner*

April 25, Monday: A Woman’s Tale  
Readings: ENCHI, *Masks*
April 27, Wednesday: A Woman’s Tale 2
Readings: Finish Masks

Paper Two Due Sunday May 1 12:00 midnight, in docx. format emailed to NCornyetz@gmail.com
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May 2
1. Anime 1

May 4
2. Anime 2