

Comparative Literature

1. 履修条件・注意事項 = Requirements for registration

Good English and an interest in literature.

2. 授業の目的 = Course purpose

This course aims to introduce students to a selection of literary works, from the early 19th Century to the early 21st Century, across various cultural and linguistic boundaries. Through close reading of various texts, students will discuss these works in relation to their unique socio-cultural contexts, their narrative and stylistic composition, as well as their role as ‘world literature’. In addition, students will apply these principles through creative practice in writing poetry, prose, or creative non-fiction pieces. At the end of this course, students will have a thorough understanding of multiple creative approaches to writing and comprehending literature, experience of close reading of a multitude of texts, as well as practical creative skills for future practice.

3. 授業の内容・方法 = Content

1. Introduction
2. Charles Dickens’ *Gin Shops* (1835) and *Bleak House* (1853) (extracts)
3. Nikolai Gogol’s *The Overcoat* (1842) and *Dead Souls* (1842) (extracts)
4. Herman Melville’s *Bartleby, the Scrivener* (1853)
5. Anton Chekhov’s *Lady with the Little Dog* (1899)
6. Virginia Woolf’s *An Unwritten Novel* (1920)
7. Jorge Luis Borges’ *The Library of Babel* (1941)
8. Gabriel García Márquez’s *A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings* (1955)
9. Julio Cortázar’s *The Axolotl* (1968) and *Hopscotch* (1963) (extracts)
10. Saul Bellow’s *A Silver Dish* (1978)
11. Muriel Spark’s *Hanging Judge* (1995) and *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* (1969) (extracts)
12. David Foster Wallace’s *Good Old Neon* (2001)
13. Zadie Smith’s *The Embassy of Cambodia* (2013)
14. Roanna Gonsalves’ *Curry Muncher 2.0* (2017)
15. Conclusion.

4. 教科書・テキスト = Textbooks

All reading will be in English, and all readings will be provided. Students are encouraged to read the works in advance, especially longer sections.

5. 参考書 = References

For further reading and overview, students would be advised to consult (note: this is not compulsory reading):

Zepetnek, S., & Mukherjee, T. (Eds.). (2014). *Companion to Comparative Literature, World Literatures, and Comparative Cultural Studies*. Foundation Books.

6. 受講生の自宅学習 = Preparation and Review

Students are advised to acquaint themselves with the set texts.

7. 成績評価の方法と基準 = Evaluation

Assessment will be via two presentations (2 x 10%) and two essays or creative portfolios of poetry, prose, or creative non-fiction written in English (20% and 40% respectively). An additional 20% is awarded for participation in class discussion and creative workshops. Students are expected to write using correct English, and display a deep knowledge of creative writing theory and practice covered in class.

8. 連絡方法 = Contact information

If you have any questions please email Dr. David Wright (Associate Professor, Graduate School of Humanities, Nagoya University) at davidthwright@gmail.com. This outline may be subject to change.