

History 4360

# The Golden Age of the Heian Court

Spring 2009

MWF 2:30-3:20 LeConte 321

Instructor: Karl Friday

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**Texts:** Helen McCullough, ed. *Classical Japanese Prose: An Anthology*  
Robert Minor, *An Introduction to Japanese Poetry*  
Ivan Morris, *The World of the Shining Prince*  
Karl Friday, *The First Samurai*

**+ materials on reserve in the library (password for on-line reserves = Heian-kyo)**

## Class Schedule & Reading Assignments

### Week 1 (1/5-1/9)

Friday: What are We Doing Here? Introduction & Course Mechanics

### Week 2 (1/12-1/16)

Monday: The Beginnings of the Imperial Court

Wednesday: The *Ritsuryō* State (part I)

**Readings:**

CJ Kiley, "Ritsuryo System" *Kodansha Encyclopedia of Japan* 6:322-32  
(reserve)

Friday: The *Ritsuryō* State (part II)

### Week 3 (1/19-1/23)

Monday: Martin Luther King Holiday

Wednesday: The Capital City

**Readings:**

Morris, ch. 2

Friday, *First Samurai*, pp. 19-23

Friday: The Powers that Were

**Readings:**

Adolphson, "The Kenmon Theory" (reserve)

### Week 4 (1/26-1/30)

Monday: The Fujiwara regency

**Readings:**

Morris, pp. 62-78

Wednesday: Eiga monogatari

**Readings:**

McCullough, pp. 200-250

Friday: No class

**Week 5 (2/2/-2/6)**

Monday: Film: "Rashomon"

Wednesday: Film: "Rashomon" (continued)

Friday: Film: "Rashomon" (continued)

**Week 6 (2/9-2/13)**

Monday: Religion & Worldview

**Readings:**

Morris, ch. 4

Allan Grappard, *Protocol of the Gods*, pp. 1-13 (reserve)

Allan Grappard, "Shinto," *Kodansha Encyclopedia of Japan* 7:125-32 (reserve)

Wednesday: Tendai & Mt. Hiei

**Readings:**

*Sources of the Japanese Tradition* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), pp. 123-152 (reserve)

Friday: Kukai & Esoteric Buddhism

**Readings:**

*Sources of the Japanese Tradition* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition), pp. 123-152 (reserve)

**Week 7 (2/16-2/20)**

Monday: Film: "Jigoku-hen" **Midterms handed out!!!**

Wednesday: Film: "Jigoku-hen" (continued)

Friday: Film: "Jigoku-hen" (continued)

**Week 8 (2/23-2/27)**

Monday: Verse Utility **Midterms due!!!**

**Readings:**

Minor, pp. 1-35, 144-160

Wednesday: *Waka* in Action

**Readings:**

Bownas & Thwait, *The Penguin Book of Japanese Verse*, pp. 68-95 (reserve)

Friday: No class

**Week 9 (3/2-3/6)**

Monday: Film: "The Genji Scroll"

Wednesday: "The Rule of Taste"

**Readings:**

Morris, ch. 7

McCullough, pp. 251-70

Friday: no class

**Week 10 (3/9-3/13) Spring Break**

**Week 11 (3/16-3/20)**

Monday: Marriage & Romance

**Readings:**

Nickerson, "The Meaning of Matrilocality" (reserve)

McCullough, "Japanese Marriage Institutions in the Heian Period" (reserve)

Wednesday: The World According to Sei Shōnagon: *Makura sōshi*

**Readings:**

McCullough, pp. 156-199

Friday: no class

**Week 12 (3/23-3/27)**

Monday: Daily Life in the Capital

**Readings:**

Morris, ch. 6

Wednesday: Spirits, Ghosts & Portents

**Readings:**

Morris, ch. 5

McCullough, pp. 27-37

Friday: No class

**Week 13 (3/30-4/3)**

Monday: Film: "Onmyōji"

Wednesday: Film: "Onmyōji" (continued)

Friday: Film: "Onmyōji" (continued)

**Week 14 (4/6-4/10)**

Monday: Center & Periphery

**Readings:**

Friday, *The First Samurai*, ch. 2

Wednesday: Tales in Two Memoirs

**Readings:**

McCullough, pp. 70-155

Friday: Warriors, Warbands & Warbands

**Readings:**

Friday, *The First Samurai*, ch. 1

**Week 15 (4/13-4/17)**

Monday: Futile Warlords? **Term Papers due!!!**

**Readings:**

Friday, *The First Samurai* (all)

Friday, "Lordship Interdicted" (reserve)

McCullough, "A Tale of Mutsu" (reserve)

Wednesday: Real Estates

**Readings:**

Sato, "The Development of the First Shoen" (reserve)

Kiley, "Estate & Property" (reserve)

Friday: No class

**Week 16 (4/20-4/24)**

Monday: The Moral of the Stories

**Readings:**

McCullough, pp. 271-288

Wednesday: Honors Day – **No class**

Friday: Emperors Strike Back

**Readings:**

Hurst, "The Development of Insei" (reserve)

**Week 17 (4/27-4/30)**

Monday: Film: "Jigoku no mon" **Final exams handed out!!!**

Wednesday: Film: "Jigoku no mon" (continued)

Thursday: Film: "Jigoku no mon" (continued)

**Week 18 (5/4)**

Monday: **Final exam due!!!**

## Course Requirements:

► Your most important responsibilities for this course are to attend class regularly, complete all reading assignments **prior to** class time on the day they are assigned, and to participate in class discussions.

Emphasis throughout the course will be on developing and understanding of concepts and processes, rather than on memorization of names and dates. Nevertheless, since most of the names, terms and events that we will be discussing will be new to you, you will need to make an effort to familiarize yourself with the basic facts of the day's topic before coming to class, if the lectures are to make any sense to you and/or if the discussions are to be of any value.

Attitude and class participation will be considered when determining your final grade, in borderline cases.

► Your grade will be based primarily on three written assignments: a take-home midterm (30%), a take-home final (35%), and a term paper (35%).

- For the exams, you may utilize any references you choose (texts, class notes, outside sources, UFOs, etc.). Additional research is encouraged but not required. You **will**, however, be held responsible for understanding and incorporating any relevant material in the assigned readings and lectures.
- The paper should be an analytical essay on a topic of your choice relating to the subject of this course (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> century Japan). This should **not** be a simple research report that merely summarizes material compiled from various sources. It should, rather, explore a question and argue for a conclusion, based on research in books, articles and (wherever possible) primary sources in translation. In other words, the paper should be more than just the sum of its parts; **it should offer your readers something new, something they can't get simply by reading the sources you read.** You're encouraged to come discuss possible topics with me, for help refining and defining "doable" topics.

The papers should be around 10 pages, double-spaced (that is, around 2000-3000 words). Your best tool for finding source materials is the *Bibliography of Asian Studies*, which is a nearly-comprehensive listing of books, articles, and book chapters published in English. The UGA library has both the hard copy and on-line (for materials published after 1971) versions of this resource (<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/b/bas/>).

All papers are **due by class time on Monday, April 13.**

- All exams and papers must be word-processed (double-spaced); and *must* follow the style sheet handed out at the beginning of the term. ***Papers that do not comply with these guidelines will be penalized 10%.***

**Warning!! Warning!!** All deadlines are to be taken seriously! Extensions will be given only in dire circumstances and **only if approved in advance.** Late papers will be penalized.

Y *Remember, your mother is not enrolled in this course; take responsibility for getting your work done yourself!!*