



# Spring 2021 Japanese Program Courses

## Japanese Language Courses



JAPN 112 Elementary Japanese II **Block B** Limpert, Masami

JAPN 212 Intermediate Japanese II **Block A** DuBois, Jeffrey

JAPN 312 Advanced Japanese II **Block A** Limpert, Masami

## Japanese Culture and Literature Courses

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**JAPN 321D: Anime: Studies in  
Movement and Transformation**  
(HM, HE Movement Theme pending)  
**Block C** DuBois, Jeffrey

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This course explores Japanese anime as movement, considering the etymology of the word that refers to the animation or bringing to life of still images. There is a transnational element to this movement: anime is a product with consumers around the globe and serves as Japan's lucrative export of "soft power." As a medium made up of individual "texts," anime has been influenced by—and in turn influences—both live action and animated films around the world (i.e. Walt Disney's impact on the works of Tezuka Osamu). Thematically, anime covers topics both the domestic and international, where characters may be of ambiguous origin and identity (*Night on the Galactic Railroad*, 1985; the *Lupin the Third* series). Going further, anime films frequently play with boundaries and thresholds, where characters cross into liminal spaces inhabited by the supernatural (*Spirited Away*, 2001); they are often as interstellar as they are international (*Legend of the Galactic Heroes*, 1988; *Space Battleship Yamato*, 1974); and characters can often shape-shift and transform (*Pom Poko*, 1994; *Ranma ½*), metamorphose (*Akira*, 1988; *Mushishi*, 2005), evolve (*Pokemon*, 1997-), or exist in hybrid human-machine form (*Pat Labor*, 1989; *Mobile Suit Gundam*, 1979). This course provides a history of Japanese anime as it explores the theme of movement in the industry and the medium. No background in Japanese culture, language, or anime is necessary.



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## JAPN 330D: Nuclear Japan (IC, ES)

An **EMBEDDED STUDY ABROAD** course!

**ON CAMPUS Block D; IN JAPAN 5/18-6/8**

DuBois, Jeffrey

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This course combines classroom learning at CSB/SJU during D block and ends with an experiential component abroad. With portions both at home on campus and abroad in Japan, this “embedded” course explores the legacy of nuclear weapons and energy in Japan through ethical perspectives. While we consider the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on one hand, and the nuclear meltdown in Fukushima following the triple disaster of March 11, 2011 on the other, we also look for points of convergence and divergence between the understanding of atomic weapons and atomic energy in the imagination of Japan and the world. We look at witness narratives in short story and novel form, and traverse media such as film, manga, anime, photography, painting, children’s books, poetry, and digital art to gain insight into the possibilities for expression and representation in the atomic age. After establishing a foundation for understanding Japan’s nuclear legacy in the domestic portion of the course, we deepen our knowledge by visiting Japan’s nuclear ground zeros. The Japan portion of the course will be based out of Tokyo, where there are many exhibits and spaces that commemorate Japan’s nuclear tragedies. From there, we will make trips to Hiroshima, Nagasaki, Kyoto, as well as safe areas outside of Fukushima. Through discussions as a class and with Japanese students, reflections (journals) that compare our pre-Japan learning to that on site, and portfolio creations, students will demonstrate integration of the home and abroad portions of the course.



## *Japanese History Courses (offered by History Department)*

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**HIST 295: Badass Samurai and  
Beautiful Geisha: When Myth and  
History Collide**

**Block A** Perelman, Elisheva

**HIST 319: Japanese History Through  
Horror: Monsters and Modernity  
(HM/TU, IC)**

**Block C** Perelman, Elisheva

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**QUESTIONS? Contact Masami Limpert: [mлимпert@csbsju.edu](mailto:mлимпert@csbsju.edu)**