

**Japanese 15**  
**Introduction to Great Books and Films in the Original**  
**Amherst College**

**Instructors**

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**Course description**

This course is designed for students who possess a high proficiency level of speaking but need training in cover-to-cover book reading or film comprehension. Class materials will be selected from well-known books and films. Writing assignments will be given to develop critical and creative writing skills in Japanese.

**Course objectives**

General objectives for this level of Japanese at Amherst are:

1. to be able to handle book-length materials or entire films;
2. to know the difference between spoken and written Japanese;
3. to be able to judge situations for appropriate speech and writing styles;
4. to be able to discuss and support abstract ideas in sustained conversations and writings.

In order to achieve these objectives, every student must:

1. attend every class;
2. do daily work, as directed and suggested by your instructor;
3. communicate the problems he or she has with the material to the instructor as soon as and as often as possible;

**Course materials**

1. 川端康成「千羽鶴」
2. Film(s) of your selection: At this level, the student learns the language most effectively through the content of material that he or she is interested in. Although it is the student's responsibility to select the film(s) for the course, his or her selection must be approved by the instructor. The instructor will consider the appropriateness of the material for the student.

The cost of copying and the book(s) will be charged to your account at the end of the semester. This is true for all students, including 5-college interchange students.

**Course content**

During the semester, everyone will complete the following:

1. read a book cover-to-cover;
2. watch a film (at least one; can be more);

3. do weekly writings
4. do the final project
5. submit the final project, which will count as the final examination of the course

### **Grades**

The final grade is based on:

- (1) regular attendance;
- (2) consistent preparation for each class;
- (3) quality of each assignment;
- (4) quality of the final project;
- (5) consistent effort.

### **Final examination**

There will be no final examination for this course. The final project due is 5:00 pm December 22<sup>nd</sup>.