## **Revised Course Schedule for History 17/ASLC 25 Fall 09**

## **Week 3: Ideals and Realities of the Imperial State**

9/21 Mon. ~~Imperial capitals and the periphery~~

Horyuji; how a Buddhist temple works (Prof. Morse)

Read: Lu, 29~36 [CR]

Coaldrake, “Great Halls of Religion and State,” 52~80 [CR]

Takeda, “Roads in the *Tennō*-centered Polity,” 148~65 [CR]

Film: *Sanshō the Bailiff* (Mizoguchi Kenji, dir. 1954. 124 min.)

9/23 Wed. ~~Realities of the~~ *~~ritsuryō~~* ~~order~~

Heijokyo (Nara) and Todaiji (Prof. Morse)

Read: “Heian Japan (794~ca. 1180),” 192~207 [CR]

Lu, 63~9 [CR]

Kiley, “Estate and Property in the Late Heian Period,” 109~124 [CR]

(2) Optional short response paper due via email by Friday 9/25: In light of what the readings tell us about the decline of the *ritsuryō* order through the Heian period, analyze how the film uses that decline as a backdrop for its central moral dilemma.

9/25 Fri. ~~Esoteric Buddhism and the power of ritual~~

Heiankyo and Toji (Prof. Morse)

Read: “Saichō and Mt. Hiei,” in 125~31, 140~142, 150~152 [CR]

“Kūkai and Esoteric Buddhism,” 153~157, 162~168 [CR]

Bowring, “Fundamental characteristics of tantric Buddhism,” 141~146,

436~447 [CR]

## **Week 4: Heian Beliefs and Combinatory Institutions**

9/28 Mon. Catchup / Heian overview.

9/30 Wed. Spirituality and combinatory institutions

Read: Kuroda, “Shinto in the History of Japanese Religion,” 1-21 [CR]

Kyōkai, *Nihon Ryōiki*, 99~102, 108~110, 132~143, 201~203, 252~255,

265~266 [CR]

(3) Short response paper due prior to class: The *Ryōiki* is a collection of stories meant to convey moral and spiritual principles to its readers. Choose one or two stories and analyze them. What can they tell us about attitudes, values, and perhaps even social practices of Heian period?

10/2 Fri. The cloistered world of aristocrats

Read: “The Vocabulary of Japanese Aesthetics 1,” 197~202 [CR]

“A Court Lady’s Musings,” 156~199 [CR]

Discussion question: Sei Shōnagon’s observations tell us a great deal about life of a mid- to lower-ranking aristocratic woman serving at the imperial court. Consider her apparent motives and insecurities to illuminate what life was like for a woman in her position; what can this text tell us about the nature of aristocratic society in Heian Japan?