

## Japanese Literary Translation

### Course Description:

In this experiential learning course, students work as a team to translate a modern Japanese short story into English for publication. Develops skills in reading comprehension and speed, critical analysis, working in teams, and oral and written communication.

Stories translated include: Kim Saryang, “Mushi,” Yamanokuchi Baku, “Nojuku”

### Learning Outcomes:

Upon successfully completing the course, students will be able to:

- read Japanese texts with increased speed and accuracy
- produce a polished Japanese-to-English translation of a short story in collaboration with a team of co-translators
- design a self-study plan for increasing language proficiency, and source materials to execute the plan

### Course Requirements and Grading:

#### 1. *Translation Contributions and Class Participation/Preparation* 70%

The goal of this course is to produce a publishable English translation of a Japanese-language short story. Much of this work will be performed in class, but preparing for in-class work will require pre-viewing the text to be translated (or related reading materials), drafting translations, offering peer feedback on existing translations, and so forth outside of class. These contributions to the class project both in and outside the classroom will be graded based on completion. Accuracy errors in translation or reading comprehension will not be penalized.

#### 2. *Tadoku* (多読) 30%

*Tadoku*, or the practice of reading a high volume of texts appropriate to one’s reading level without the use of a dictionary, is proven effective at increasing proficiency in Japanese—even in skills other than reading. Students will read Japanese-language texts of their choice for two hours per week and document their progress in weekly journaling assignments. Periodic vocabulary quizzes will be given, based on vocabulary lists submitted by each student. Students will also consult one-on-one with the instructor several times per semester, including an oral presentation or written submission in Japanese. Further details will be provided on the Canvas page and in class.

\*Due to the timeliness of both the translation project and *tadoku* assignments, late work cannot be accepted. Both can be performed remotely if you are unable to attend class. If you are incapacitated and cannot keep up with coursework for an extended period, contact me as soon as feasible to develop a plan to make up the missed work.