Instructor: Hilary K. Snow, PhD
Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 10:45 am – 12:15 pm
Tuesdays and Thursdays 11 am – 12:30 pm
Also by appointment
Office: Honors College 151
Email: snowh@uwm.edu

Course Description
The most famous pictures of Japan are ukiyo-e woodblock prints from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries by artists such as Katsushika Hokusai, Utagawa Hiroshige and Kitagawa Utamaro. When they were first imported to Paris in the late nineteenth century they created a sensation on the art scene. Major European artists like Vincent Van Gogh, Claude Monet and Edgar Degas were fascinated by them and incorporated elements from Japanese prints into their own paintings.

This course explores the history of these intriguing images and what they reveal of Japanese culture during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. We will talk about why these prints were made and how they chronicle the rise of Edo (Tokyo) as a city full of theater, cafes and amusements. The course is arranged thematically and roughly chronologically, covering ukiyo-e throughout the Edo period (1615-1868) and printmaking into the twentieth century. Early sections of the course will discuss how woodblock prints are produced and their evolution from hand-colored prints to full color prints. We will investigate why this genre was popular and culturally significant, both in Japan and later in the West. After 1868, Japan opened to more interchange with the West and we will discuss how this changed the subject matter and production of prints. The course will end will an examination of the popularity of Japanese prints in the West and Japonisme of the late nineteenth century in Europe and America. No previous background in Japanese history or art history is required.

GER Statement
This course fulfills UWM’s GER requirements. To this end, this course is intended to:
1. Increase students’ critical and creative thinking skills through classroom discussions and written assignments.
2. Provide students with opportunities to hone their effective communication skills through classroom discussions and presentations.
3. Stimulate students’ intercultural knowledge and competence through the introduction of new content and ideas.

Credit Hour Breakdown
The expected minimum number of hours of energy expended by students in this class is as follows:

- Classroom discussion and discussion: 37.5 hours
- Reading and outside activities: 56.5 hours
- Paper research and writing: 50 hours
- Total: 144 hours
University Policies
For relevant policies governing attendance, religious observances, disability accommodations, incompletes, and other issues, please visit: http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/SyllabusLinks.pdf. Please notify me immediately if you need accommodations under any of these policies.

Textbook
There is no textbook for this class. All readings are available as PDFs or links on the course D2L site. Some links will not work if you are not on campus or the library does not recognize your computer as part of the UWM system. In those cases, use the citation information included in the syllabus to access the material through the library website. The citation linker is often the most convenient way to do this.

Assignments
Further instructions for written assignments will be distributed later in the semester.

- Discussion leading – At each class meeting, a student lead the initial discussion of the reading through providing questions and background. Students should submit a list of their questions and discussion notes.
- Short presentations – Throughout the semester, students will make short presentations on assigned topics related to the course. Dates will be determined at the beginning of the semester.
- Print identification paper – Each student will research an unknown print to identify the artist and subject.
- Print analysis paper – Students will prepare an in-depth analysis of a single print.
- Exhibition proposal – Students will propose a small, thematic exhibition on the topic of Japanese prints.
- Exhibition essay – Students will write a scholarly essay appropriate for a catalog of their proposed exhibition.
- Field trip – On April 20th class will be held at the Milwaukee Art Museum in the Print Study room for a viewing of Japanese prints. Further details will be distributed.

Students should regularly check D2L for course announcements and materials. All course handouts and other supplementary materials will be posted to D2L as they become available.

Grading Procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discussion leading</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short presentations</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Print identification paper</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Print analysis paper</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibition proposal</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exhibition essay</td>
<td>15%</td>
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Late written assignments will be docked one full grade for each day late (i.e. an A- paper would become a B-). All written assignments are due at the beginning of class. For the purposes of this policy, a day is defined as a 24 hour period beginning at the start of class (i.e. 9:30 am). A written assignment due on a Tuesday at 9:30 am will be counted one day late if submitted at 12 pm and two days late if submitted at 12 pm on Wednesday.

Tardiness and unexcused absences will lower your grade for class participation. Of course, if you are sick, especially with a fever, you should stay home. Please notify me as soon as possible to be granted an excused absence. If you have medical or personal circumstances that affects your ability to be present in class and complete your work, please contact your adviser.
Grading scale
A – 95-100       B- –  80-82.9       D+ –  67-69.9
A- – 90-94.9     C+ –  77-79.9       D –  63-66.9
B+ – 87-89.9     C –  73-76.9        D- –  60-62.9
B – 83-86.9      C- –  70-72.9       F –  59.9 and below

Technology in the classroom
Computers and other devices may not be used for anything other than note-taking or viewing assigned readings. Students who use their computers for anything other than approved activities or whose computer or device use is distracting to other students or the instructor will lose the privilege of using their computer or device in the class. The determination of disruptive computer or device use is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

Students participating in non-course related activities during class, including but not limited to inappropriate use of computers or cell phones, work for other classes, and excessive side conversations, will be marked absent for the day.

Communicating with the instructor
You are always welcome at my office hours without an appointment, and I am available to make appointments at other times. Most students find email the most convenient way to communicate with me between class meetings. I check email regularly during business hours, but generally do not read email in the evenings and on weekends. Please anticipate a twenty-four hour response time for emails sent on weekdays, although I will usually respond more promptly. Likewise, you are expected to check your UWM email regularly, as it is the primary way for the university and your instructors to contact you outside of class.

Schedule of Classes
All readings are to be read in advance of the meeting for which they are assigned.

Jan. 24       Introduction to the course
Jan. 26       Japan in the Edo Period
Jan. 31       Why Prints?
Feb. 2        Early ukiyo-e – Moronobu and Masanobu
Feb. 7  
Early ukiyo-e – Harunobu  

Feb. 9  
Theater  
Print identification due

Feb. 14  
Theater  

Feb. 16  
Surimono  

Feb. 21  
Library Research Instruction  
Meet at Golda Meir Library, Library Instruction Room A (North Commons)

Feb. 23  
Books  

Feb. 28  
Utamaro and Women  

Mar. 2  
Utamaro and Women  
Discussion continued; no new reading.

Mar. 7  
Warriors  
Mar. 9  
Censorship  
**Print analysis due**

Mar. 14  
Mitate  

Mar. 16  
Case study  

Mar. 20-24  
**SPRING BREAK NO CLASS**

Mar. 28  
Shunga (erotic images)  

Mar. 30  
Landscapes – Hokusai  

Apr. 4  
Hokusai and the Great Wave  
THE FULL BOOK IS AVAILABLE ONLINE THROUGH THE LIBRARY CATALOGUE.

Apr. 6  
Landscapes – Hiroshige  
Apr. 11 Nagasaki and Yokohama Prints
Exhibition proposal due

Apr. 13 Meiji Prints – Enlightenment

Apr. 18 Meiji Prints – War

Apr. 20 Print Viewing at the Milwaukee Art Museum
Meet at the museum at 9:30 am.
Further details to be announced.

Apr. 25 Shin hanga

Apr. 27 Sosaku hanga

May 2 Western Collecting
May 4  Western Collecting – Wisconsin connections

May 9  Japonisme

May 11  Review and reflection
**Exhibition catalog essay due**