XIDS 2002 Section 115: Samurai

Semester/Year: Fall 2019
Time/Location: M/W 1:20-2:10 Biology Building 03
Instructor: Ihor Pidhainy
Office Location: TLC 3245
Office Hours: M/W 11:30-12:30; 2:30-3:30 or by appointment
Telephone: 678-839-6508
Email: ipidhain@westga.edu

Please note: This syllabus is subject to change by the instructor. Advance notice will be given if any changes are made.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

XIDS 2002 is a course designed to help students get excited about learning at West Georgia. In addition, it is our hope that this course helps you succeed academically as well as personally and socially during this semester and beyond. The fundamental focus of the class is to provide an understanding of the basic structure of critical thinking and of academic disciplines in order to increase learning in the university classroom. Students are required to attend class and to interact with their instructors and classmates. While students must take responsibility for their own learning, the course attempts to support and enhance that responsibility by making the class a learning community within the University.

Our specific section (#115) is a study and exploration of samurai in Japanese history and culture. The Samurai, both as a class and as individuals, played an important role in the rule of the Japan from the 11th to 19th centuries and have continued to grip the imagination of the world through their representation in books, films, manga and anime. We will explore the samurai from an overall historical perspective, making use of the tools and approaches that historians employ in our discipline. Among these will be an examination of both primary sources (those created at the time of a problem, question or incident) and secondary sources (those created by sifting through primary sources and informed by various theories and ideas that historians believe in). These will help with giving a context to the world of the samurai and observing how this context changed over time. Beyond history, we will read and watch how artists responded, recreated and reimagined the samurai up to the very present.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

As a result of participating in this course, students should be able to:
1. adapt written and oral communication to specific rhetorical purposes and audiences.
2. recognize and begin to implement the skills necessary to become life-long, active learners through the exploration of an academic topic that focuses on a contemporary and/or enduring topic, question, or problem.
3. identify, evaluate, and use information, language, or technology appropriate to a specific purpose.
4. Become familiar with some of the tools historians use in their discipline.
TEXTS, READINGS, INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES, AND REFERENCES

Required Texts:
Wolf Essentials: https://issuu.com/thenavigatoruwg/docs/the_wolf_essentials_2019
• Chushingura: The Treasury of Loyal Retainers, Keene, trans.
• Wilson, Sean Michael. The Book of Five Rings: A Graphic Novel

ASSIGNMENTS

First Year Seminar Lab 15%
Journal entries (Best 5 of 6 x 6%) = 30%
Essays (2 x15%) = 30%
In-class Participation: 25%

• The First-Year Seminar Lab will be posted in CourseDen within a course called “XIDS 2002 Lab”. Be sure to complete the three assignments in the Lab to get your full 15% credit.
• Journal Entries are 1-page responses to a question or prompt.
• Essays are 3-4 page responses to a question that requires a more in-depth answer than the journal entry.
• Participation grade is based on active participation in-class that shows reading of texts and thoughtful consideration of questions discussed in class.
• There is no final exam.

COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Aug 14</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Yojimbo, scene: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCjsazHO0c0">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCjsazHO0c0</a></td>
<td>Ghost Dog: Way of the Samurai <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rml5ehAl7SM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rml5ehAl7SM</a></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Aug 19</td>
<td>Japan during the Heian (794-1185)</td>
<td>R: “A Chronological Outline of Japanese History,” 1-17, 26-27 (S)</td>
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<td>Aug 21</td>
<td>Heian Japan</td>
<td>R: Early accounts from Legends of the Samurai, 3-15, 19-21, 80-87 (P)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Aug 26</td>
<td>Genpei War (1180-1185) and the rise of Kamakura (1192-1333)</td>
<td>Tales of the Heike <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YE1MwI69ooU">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YE1MwI69ooU</a></td>
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<td>R: Keene, Tale of the Heike, “Death of Atsumori”, “The Fight at Dan no Ura”</td>
<td>Start ‘Minamoto no Yoshitsune’ from Tales of Heike (Legends 110-156)</td>
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<td>Aug 28</td>
<td>Continue ‘Minamoto no Yoshitsune’ in Tales of Heike. (Legends 110-156)</td>
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<td>Aug 30</td>
<td>Journal Entry #1 – Who were the early samurai?</td>
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Week 4  
Buddhism

Sept 4  
Buddhism of Japan

_Buddhism in the Land of the kami, 7th to 12th centuries_ (video)

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Week 5  
Buddhism continued

Sept 9  
Kukai, Dogen

R: “Kukai and his masters” (D Keene, 63-66); Dogen, from _Zen Masters of Japan_ 45-60

Sept 11  
Kamo no Chomei (1153/1156-1216)

R: Keene, Chomei, “An Account of my Hut”, 197-212

Sept 13  
_Journal Entry #2 – Talking about my hut_!

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Week 6  
From Ashikaga (1336-1579) to the Warring States (1477-1568)

Sept 16  
The Ashikaga

R: “Lord Souns 21 Articles” in _Legends of the Samurai_ 249-253 (P)

Vaporis, “Samurai Dress and Grooming Standards” 34-37 (P)

T Conlan, “The Nature of Warfare in Fourteenth Century Japan: The Record of Nomoto Tomoyuki” (S - skim)

Samurai armor: _https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=di8c7FZJgUA&feature=related_

Sept 18  
Warring States Period (1477-1568)

Ikegami, “A Society Organized for War” in _Taming of the Samurai_, 135-148 (S)

Sept 20  
_Journal Entry #3 What did it mean to be a Samurai by the Ashikaga and Warring States Period?_

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Week 7  
_Film: Seven Samurai_

Sept 23  
R: Minamoto no Yorinobu “Let your little kid be stabbed to Death” _Legends_ 71-74 (P)

Sept 25  
(film)

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Week 8  
_Film: Seven Samurai_ (continued)

Sept 30  
R: Souryi, “The Sengoku Period: Warlords Seeking power” in _World Turned Upside down_. (S) (SKIM)

Oct 2  
(film)

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Week 9  
_Seven Samurai_ and Unification (1568-1615)

Oct 7  
_Film: Seven Samurai_ (concluded)

R: D Richie, “Seven Samurai (S) (SKIM)

Oct 9  
Unification: Oda, Hideyoshi, Tokugawa

Sekihagara (26 min film – UWG online)

R: D. Lu "Oda Nobunagas road to unification" in _Japan: A Documentary History_ (P)

Oct 11  
_Essay#1: How is the Warring States period represented in the Seven Samurai?_

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Week 10  
Tokugawa and the Samurai place in the World: _Book of Five Rings_

Oct 14  
R: _The Book of Five Rings_ (S/P)

Oct 16  
Looking deeper at the Text

R: “Earth Scroll” Bennett (trans), Musashi, _The Book of Five Rings_ (P)

Oct 18  
_Journal Entry #4  Explore the Book of Five Rings_
Week 11  
**Film** - The Tale of Zatoichi

Oct 21
Zatoichi - film
R: “The Way of the Samurai” and “Trying to Get by on a Fixed Income” in Vaporis, 124-133 (P)

Oct 23
Zatoichi – film
R: “The Samurai and Death” in Vaporis, 134-137 (P)

Oct 25

**Journal Entry #5 What makes Zatoichi a samurai?**

Week 12
**A Historical Turning point – The Ako Incident**

Oct 28
“The Forty-Seven Samurai: An Eyewitness Account, with Arguments,” in *Legends of the Samurai* (P)

Oct 30
Kabuki Cool: Chushingura [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiO3wz4UzUI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiO3wz4UzUI)

Week 13
**The Legend of the Samurai: Chushingura**

Nov 4
*Chushingura*, Act 1-IV (P)

Nov 6
*Chushingura*: Act V- XI (P)

Week 14

**Trudging Along**

Nov 11
*Musui’s Story*, 9-22, 43-60 (P)

Nov 13
*Musui’s Story*, 71-108 (P)

Nov 15

**Essay #2 Chushingura vs. Musui – which is the truth?**

Week 15
**The end of the Samurai – Examining the Satsuma Rebellion of 1877**

Nov 18
R: J Buck, “The Satsuma Rebellion of 1877: From Kagoshima Through the Siege of Kumamoto Castle” (S)
Battle of Shiroyama 1877 Satsuma Rebellion
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_4JFzDVo89k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_4JFzDVo89k)

Nov 20
TBA

Nov 25-29
Thanksgiving

Week 16
**Modern Takes – Rurouni Kenshin**

Dec 2
*Rurouni Kenshin*: Meiji Swordsman Romantic Story (volume1) (P)

Dec 4
Wrapping up.

Dec 6

**Journal Entry #6 – How does Rurouni Kenshin connect with samurai?**
ACADEMIC SUPPORT
Accessibility Services: Students with a documented disability may work with UWG Accessibility Services to receive essential services specific to their disability. All entitlements to accommodations are based on documentation and USG Board of Regents standards. If a student needs course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability or chronic illness, or if he/she needs to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, the student should notify his/her instructor in writing and provide a copy of his/her Student Accommodations Report (SAR), which is available only from Accessibility Services. Faculty cannot offer accommodations without timely receipt of the SAR; further, no retroactive accommodations will be given. For more information, please contact Accessibility Services. Center for Academic Success: The Center for Academic Success provides services, programs, and opportunities to help all undergraduate students succeed academically. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6280 or cas@westga.edu University Writing Center: The University Writing Center assists students with all areas of the writing process. For more information, contact them: 678-839-6513 or writing@westga.edu

ONLINE COURSES
UWG takes students’ privacy concerns seriously: technology-enhanced and partially and fully online courses use sites and entities beyond UWG and students have the right to know the privacy policies of these entities. For more information on privacy and accessibility for the most commonly used sites, as well as technology requirements visit the UWG Online site. Students enrolled in online courses can find answers to many of their questions in the Online/Off-Campus Student Guide. If a student is experiencing distress and needs help, please see the resources available at the UWG Cares site. Online counseling is also available for online students.

HONOR CODE
At the University of West Georgia, we believe that academic and personal integrity are based upon honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. Students at West Georgia assume responsibility for upholding the honor code. West Georgia students pledge to refrain from engaging in acts that do not maintain academic and personal integrity. These include, but are not limited to, plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, aid of academic dishonesty, lying, bribery or threats, and stealing. The University of West Georgia maintains and monitors a confidential Academic Dishonesty Tracking System. This database collects and reports patterns of repeated student violations across all the Colleges, the Ingram Library, and the School of Nursing. Each incidence of academic dishonesty is subject to review and consideration by the instructor, and is subject to a range of academic penalties including, but not limited to, failing the assignment and/or failing the course. Student conduct sanctions range from verbal warning to suspension or expulsion depending on the magnitude of the offense and/or number of offenses. The incident becomes part of the student’s conduct record at UWG. Additionally, the student is responsible for safeguarding his/her computer account. The student’s account and network connection are for his/her individual use. A computer account is to be used only by the person to whom it has been issued. The student is responsible for all actions originating through his/her account or network connection. Students must not impersonate others or misrepresent or conceal their identities in electronic messages and actions. For more information on the University of West Georgia Honor Code, please see the Student Handbook.

UWG EMAIL POLICY
University of West Georgia students are provided a MyUWG e-mail account. The University considers this account to be an official means of communication between the University and the student. The purpose of the official use of the student e-mail account is to provide an effective means of communicating important university related information to UWG students in a timely manner. It is the student’s responsibility to check his or her email.
CREDIT HOUR POLICY
The University of West Georgia grants one semester hour of credit for work equivalent to a minimum of one hour (50 minutes) of in-class or other direct faculty instruction AND two hours of student work outside of class per week for approximately fifteen weeks. For each course, the course syllabus will document the amount of in-class (or other direct faculty instruction) and out-of-class work required to earn the credit hour(s) assigned to the course. Out-of-class work will include all forms of credit-bearing activity, including but not limited to assignments, readings, observations, and musical practice. Where available, the university grants academic credit for students who verify via competency-based testing, that they have accomplished the learning outcomes associated with a course that would normally meet the requirements outlined above (e.g. AP credit, CLEP, and departmental exams).

HB 280 (Campus Carry)
UWG follows University System of Georgia (USG) guidance:
http://www.usg.edu/hb280/additional_information
You may also visit our website for help with USG Guidance: https://www.westga.edu/police/campus-carry.php