This course is intended to introduce students to the history and culture of medieval and early modern Japan, emphasizing Nara and Heian times up to the Tokugawa unification, roughly CE 800–1600. Although we will use a textbook to gain a working chronological picture of Japanese history, the majority of work will be centered on careful reading of the rich historical and literary texts from this period which still, in contemporary Japan, have a marked influence on Japan's view of its own culture and history. The class is intended to be centered on discussion of the reading materials, and all students will be expected to participate actively in class sessions.

The entire term's course work is divided into the following sections:
* Ten 500-1000 word response papers, due on Fridays at 1:00. The response papers are expected to be polished reflections on a theme or core images from the week's reading
* A culminating essay of approximately 5,000 words (15-20 pages) that encourages students to rework their ideas into a polished piece of writing.
* A required e-mail "discussion note" due by 8:00 a.m every class day. This will be outlined the first day of class, but students should be prepared to write a very short note explaining how they would begin class discussion if they were responsible for leading it. Students who complete all of these will receive an "A" for this segment of the course, with other grades being determined by the number of responses.

Evaluation:
Response Papers 45%
Final Essay 45%
E-mail "Discussion Note" 10%
Attendance and class participation are expected.
Late assignments will be penalized.
Week I—Early Japan I

Tuesday, August 25
Introduction

Thursday, August 27
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 1-7  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 3-20 [1-18]*  
Amaterasu and Susano-o  
Okuninushi-no-mikoto and Izumo  
The Eastern Expedition of Emperor Jimmu  
From the History of Wei  
Conquest of the Eastern Frontier People  
From the Engishiki  
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 27-69  
The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter 28-37  
Tales of Ise 39-69  
* Page numbers for the older edition of the work on library reserve in binders.

Week II—Early Japan II

Tuesday, September 1
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 7-26  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 21-50 [19-47]  
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 70-102  
The Tosa Journal 73-102

Thursday, September 3
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 102-199  
The Gossamer Journal 102-155  
The Pillow Book of Sei Shonagan 156-199

Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week III—Heian Japan I

Tuesday, September 8
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 26-41  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 51-62 [49-60]  
Morris, The World of the Shining Prince: 1-63  
The Heian Period 1-14  
The Setting 15-40  
Politics and Society A-B 41-63

Thursday, September 10
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 200-287  
A Tale of Flowering Fortunes 203-250  
The Lesser Captain Plucks a Sprig of Flowering Cherry 252-256  
The Lady Who Admired Vermin 256-263  
Lampblack 264-270  
Tales of Times Now Past 272-282  
A Collections of Tales from Uji 282-287  

Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday
History 253
Medieval and Early Modern Japan
Autumn, 1998

Week IV—Heian Japan II

Tuesday, September 15
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 42-54 13
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 63-74 [60-68] 12
Morris, The World of the Shining Prince: 63-122 60——85
Politics and Society, C-F 63-88
Religions 89-122

Thursday, September 17
McCullough, Genji and Heike: 25-112 88——88 (173)
Kiritsubo 25-40
The Broom Tree 41-58
Yugao 59-83
Young Murasaki 84-112
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week V—Heian Japan III

Tuesday, September 22
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 54-63 10
Morris, The World of the Shining Prince: 123-169 47——81
Superstitions 123-140
The 'Good People' and Their Lives 141-169

Thursday, September 24
McCullough, The Tale of Genji: 113-215 103——103 (184)
A Celebration Amid Autumn Leaves 113-130
Aoi 131-160
Suma 161-189
Akashi 190-215
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week VI—Heian Japan IV

Tuesday, September 29
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 63-69 7
Morris, The World of the Shining Prince: 170-250 81——88
The Cult of Beauty 170-198
The Women of Heian and Their Relations With Men 199-250

Thursday, October 1
McCullough, Genji and Heike: 216-242 27
New Herbs: Part Two 216-230
The Rites 231-242
The Confessions of Lady Nijo 290-339
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday
History 253  
Medieval and Early Modern Japan  
Autumn, 1998

Week VII—Kamakura Japan I

Tuesday, October 6
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 70-80  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 97-109 [92-102]  
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 340-376; 393-420
The Journal of the Sixteenth Night Moon  
Essays in Idleness

Thursday, October 8
McCullough, Genji and Heike: 265-361  
Chapters 1-7
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week VIII—Autumn Break

Week IX—Kamakura Japan II

Tuesday, October 20
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 80-93  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 109-145 [102-141]  
An Account of My Hermitage  
The Clear Mirror

Thursday, October 22
McCullough, Genji and Heike: 362-458  
Chapters 8-12  
The Initiates' Chapter
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week X—Kamakura Japan III

Tuesday, October 27
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 93-117  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 147-170 [143-166]  
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 421-447; 495-522
Little One-Inch  
Akimichi  
The Journey of 1684

Thursday, October 29
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 1-94
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week XI—Ashikaga Japan I

Tuesday, November 3
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 117-132  
Lu, Japan: A Documentary History: 171-201 [167-197]  
McCullough, Classical Japanese Prose: 522-551
The Narrow Road of the Interior
History 253
Medieval and Early Modern Japan
Autumn, 1998

Week XI—con’t

Thursday, November 5
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 96-214
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week XII—Ashikaga Japan II

Tuesday, November 10
Totman, Japan Before Perry: 133-144
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 215-295

Thursday, November 12
Callahan, Tales of Samurai Honor: 1-108
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week XIII—Ashikaga Japan III

Tuesday, November 17
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 296-405

Thursday, November 19
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 406-514
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week XIV—Ashikaga Japan IV

Tuesday, November 24
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 515-598
No Response Papers Due

Week XV—Ashikaga Japan V

Tuesday, December 1
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 599-701

Thursday, December 3
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 702-803
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday

Week XVI—Ashikaga Japan VI

Tuesday, December 8
Yoshikawa, Taiko: 804-926
Response Papers Due at my Office by 1:00 p.m. Friday