

61040 JAPANESE LITERATURE IV

INSTRUCTOR: Hiroshi Hosoya

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course deals with contemporary Japanese literature and focuses on Natsume Soseki's *Kokoro* (夏目漱石『こころ』), Dazai Osamu's *No Longer Human* 『人間失格』 (にんげんしっかく) 1948, in the original Japanese and in English translations. These titles are widely regarded as two of the most popular works of modern Japanese literature. In particular, *No Longer Human* is the number one bestseller of all Shincho Bunko books published since WWII. The aim of this course is first to enjoy and appreciate reading Japanese modern novels by interpreting the meaning of important parts of the text, and then to gain a good understanding of their content, examining the elements of expressions and the narrative technique employed, as well as drawing a comparison with Somerset Maugham's *The Moon and Sixpence* and other novels. As the course is conducted mainly in Japanese and partly in English, students are required to have a level of Japanese equivalent to that of IJ400 or higher. Students may, however, write their assignments and final paper in English. Auditing is permitted.

* Questions can be e-mailed to: hosoya@nanzan-u.ac.jp.

COURSE SCHEDULE

1. Introduction to Japanese modern literature
2. *Kokoro*: Reading
3. *Kokoro*: Reading
4. *The Moon and Sixpence* and *Kokoro*: Reading
5. *The Moon and Sixpence* and *Kokoro*: Reading
6. *Kokoro* and *No Longer Human*: Reading
7. *No Longer Human*: Reading
8. *No Longer Human*: Reading
9. *No Longer Human*: Reading
10. *No Longer Human*: Reading
11. Conclusion (Submitting final paper to the CJS Office)

TEXTS

Textbooks

夏目漱石『こころ』新潮文庫

Natsume Soseki, *Kokoro* tr. by E. McClellan. Tuttle.

太宰治『人間失格』新潮文庫

Dazai Osamu, *No Longer Human* tr. by Donald Keene. Tuttle. 177p ¥1,575

*These textbooks are available at the library as reserved books for the class.

Required Reading

William Somerset Maugham, *The Moon and Sixpence*, §I~XLIII, pp.1-156. Penguin Books, or other editions

ASSESSMENT

Attendance 10%; Class participation 10%; Assignments 30%; Final paper 50%