The Monstrous and the Supernatural in Japanese Visual Culture

10 credits

MAIN CLASS
Art History 105
The Monstrous and the Supernatural in Japanese Visual Culture

LINKED CLASS
History Department 104
Introduction to East Asian History: Japan

Anthropology 104
Cultural Anthropology and Human Diversity

main class instructor: Gene Phillips

Exploring a society’s conceptions of the monstrous and the supernatural is one important and fun way to gain cultural insight. Since medieval times, monsters and other supernatural creatures have had an important place in the Japanese world view as well as its literature and art. Today, we see that heritage most clearly in film, anime (animation), and manga (comic books), but it appears in other media as well. In this seminar, we will look at such modern manifestations in light of those from earlier times and try to understand why Japan has this wealth of monsters and how it relates to other aspects of Japanese culture and how it has affected other parts of the world. Activities will include reading and viewing selected works from pre-modern and contemporary “high” and popular culture.

History 104: “Introduction to East Asian History: Japan” — Survey of major cultural, social, political and economic developments in Japanese history from ancient to recent times.

Anthropology 104: “Cultural Anthropology and Human Diversity” — Introduction to cultural anthropology for non-majors; comparative cross-cultural consideration of social organization, economics, politics, language, religion, ecology, gender, and cultural change. Includes 50% coverage of U.S. ethnic and racial minorities.
Enrolled in a FIG and you change your mind?

FIG classes are designed to be taken together. When you enroll in a FIG, you are signed up for these classes as a whole group, not as separate classes.

Dropping one FIG class means ending your enrollment in all of the classes in the FIG.

So, here’s what you should know if you want to drop the FIG:

- You can drop all the classes on your own at enroll.wisc.edu. Any non-FIG class will not be affected.
- After classes begin, if you need to drop a single class within the FIG, please contact Kari Fernholz (see below) to review your situation. If necessary, she will provide the required authorization to drop the class.
- **Wednesday, September 11, 2019** is the last day to drop a class without it appearing on your college transcript.
- **Friday, September 13, 2019** is the last day to add a class without first getting department permission.