

History and Visual Culture Fieldwork

Kyoto and Nara

Professors Ellen Van Goethem and Lindsey DeWitt

Dates

March 7 (Monday) – 13 (Sunday), 2016

Course Outline

This class is an intensive course of seven on-site study days in the Kyoto and Nara areas, preceded by on-campus preparation (readings, meetings). It is required for first-year MA students in the IMAP program; others may join pending faculty approval.

We will visit temples, shrines, and historic sites in Nara and Kyoto with on-site discussions led by IMAP faculty, students, and occasional guests. During the field trip each student will give a presentation on a topic of their choice *in situ* (to be determined in consultation with the course instructors during the term).

Goals

To work closely as a group to share and acquire knowledge in an intensive study environment offering unparalleled opportunities for first-hand study of historical sites, material culture, and Buddhist or other religious practices in contemporary contexts.

To acquire new or improved skills for critically assessing Japanese religious icons and temples, Nara and Kyoto history, philosophy and religion, and archaeology.

To acquire new or improved skills in synthesizing visual and historical evidence.

To understand the function of religious icons and other material forms of religious practice in the temple or shrine, and more broadly, in society.

To acquire new or improved skills in understanding methodologies and techniques of art history, cultural studies, history, religious studies, and archaeology.

To observe living religious institutions and practices and consider their links to the past.

Funding

The IMAP program has put aside funds from university or faculty resources for this annual field-trip course for first-year students. The program will cover all costs over 40,000 yen including, but not limited to, lodging for six nights, all site admission fees, all transportation (a fixed amount will be provided for your return to Fukuoka or onward destination), funds for breakfasts (up to 400 yen/day), and one dinner. You are responsible for all lunches, five of the six dinners, and personal needs.

The 40,000 yen fee is due on February 12 to Professor Van Goethem. If your payment will be delayed, please speak with her as soon as possible. There will likely be opportunities for paid work during the term to fund a portion of the 40,000 yen fee for students who request work. Please speak to your advisor as soon as possible if you would like to earn funds toward the trip with paid work.

Requirements

Participation: First and foremost, we require your utmost effort, cooperation, and preparedness. Due to the close quarters and rigorous nature of this course, you are expected to be attentive to both individual intellectual and inter-personal group needs. You are expected to participate in every discussion at every site.

Readings: There is no textbook. Most if not all required and optional course readings will be made available to you as PDFs, and the sources from which readings are taken can usually be found in our library. The *Topics in Japanese Art and Architectural History I* and *Topics in Religious Practices and Beliefs I* (hereafter, AARP) readings will also prepare you well for this course. You are asked to **complete the readings in advance**, so please begin early. The goal is for you to experience the sites with knowledge from the readings in mind, and with notes in hand—not to stay up late cramming at the time of the field trip. One suggestion is to organize your notes according to temple/shrine/site or icon, historical period, Buddhist

sect, and so on, rather than as separate sections of notes for each reading, which makes it difficult to find information. It is probably sufficient to review your notes the night before according to the next day's schedule and to bring your notebook or selected notes with you on the day. We recommend that you also bring your AARP course notes.

Presentations: Prior to the trip, each student will choose a site or aspect of a site, historical situation, icon, or other relevant topic to present to the class during the field trip. If you are interested in a particular topic or site, please let the course instructors know. Otherwise, we can make suggestions and help you choose. Preparation for your presentation will come from the assigned readings, and may be supplemented with a modest amount of additional independent research. We do not expect you to undertake more than five hours additional reading for your presentation. Presentations will normally last no longer than 20 minutes, followed by discussion.

Note: The quality of the group discussion affects each presenter's grade. Since the presentation topics will be known to all before departure, all students should be prepared with questions in order to facilitate a strong discussion. One copy of your presentation *notes* should be submitted to Professors Van Goethem and DeWitt by the evening before your presentation, ideally much sooner (use the copy machine in any convenience store). The notes may be written by hand or typed.

Journal: During the field trip, you should keep a journal with notes from the site discussions and your brief comments. You may also add drawings. We recommend that you use a binder with a clamp or rings for your journal so that pages can be moved around. You will probably want to have a clipboard for writing notes while sitting or standing. Please have both a pen and a pencil available (some museums do not allow pens).

Note: We would like to see a synthesis of ideas from the readings and thoughts stimulated during our discussions at the sites reflected in your journals. Synthesis is key. As graduate students, you should write the notes to the readings for your own reference, then draw upon and expand upon this knowledge during the on-site study. You should add your fieldwork course reading notes to the end of the journal before submitting it when classes resume in April.

Presentation in formal written form: You should type your presentation and submit it with your journal in April, making any changes or corrections to the content learned during the on-site study period. You do not need to expand the presentation content, but you should add simple footnotes, illustrations (one or more), a caption list, and bibliography.

Although you will not submit your journal and presentation write-up until early April, we advise you to complete these while your memories and impressions of the field trip are still fresh.

Assessment

Your final grade is based on all of the above. Our assumption is that your academic preparedness, active participation during the course, cooperation with faculty and peers, and careful attention to your journal will constitute the largest part of your grade. Students who are not well prepared during the field trip may be asked to write longer papers.

Schedule

Please see the tentative schedule. Confirmed sites include: Tōdaiji and its many halls (including the annual Omizutori festival), the Shōsōin, the Tōdaiji Museum, Nara Palace Site Historical Park, Hokkeji, Hōryūji, Tōshōdaiji, Yakushiji, Murōji, Nara National Museum, Kōfukuji, Kasuga shrine, Daigoji, Tōji, Fushimi Inari shrine.

Additional sites may include: the Zutō 頭塔 (stone pagoda associated with Jitchū 実忠 or Genbō 玄昉), Shin'yakushiji, Byōdōin, and Jōruriji.

Students may travel to Kyoto or the Kansai area on their own accord before the start of the intensive course provided they notify Professor Van Goethem. Students are also free to return to Fukuoka, remain in Kansai, or travel elsewhere from the afternoon of March 13 until the start of classes in April. A fixed amount will be provided for your transportation. Notification of your plans before March 7 and between March 13 and your return to Fukuoka should be emailed to Professor Van Goethem with the subject line "Fukuoka to Kyoto/Nara to Fukuoka" by February 15. You should also file the relevant paperwork with the Student Affairs Office.

General

- Bring your journals with you every day (or relevant notes and journal pages).
- Bring a camera if you wish.
- Always carry identification.
- Emergency contact information:
 - Prof. Van Goethem's cell phone: 090-3267-4979
 - Prof. DeWitt's cell phone: 090-1716-2198
 - Lodging phone number and address
 - Kyoto: K's House Kyoto, 418 Naya-chō, Shichijō-agaru, Dotemachi-dōri, Shimogyō-ku, Kyoto, 600-8142; tel. 075-342-2444
 - Nara: Guesthouse Naramachi, 30 Kitakyōbate-chō, Nara, 630-8322; tel. 0742-87-0522
 - Muroji: Minshuku Murō, 405-1 Murō, Uda-shi, Nara-ken, 603-0421; tel. 0745-93-2118
- Luggage: Bring a backpack or shoulder bag for daily use and for one overnight at Murōji.
- Monocular lens from IMA Seminar Room.
- Notebook, stiff clipboard, pens, pencils, etc. as above. Folders or zip-cases are recommended for many handouts and site-visit information sheets.
- Cash for a few days (post office and convenience stores with ATM are some distance from lodging and sites).
- Dress, etc.: Comfortable and warm, but neat and appropriate for temple visits. Jeans are acceptable but tidy (wool) pants are preferred. There are no laundry facilities. Use warm socks and padded shoes as we will be standing for many hours. We recommend that you bring a loose thick pair of socks for inside temples (cold floors) or some kind of slip-on sock-like slipper.
- During site visits (usually from 8 am until 4 pm) cell phones, iPods or other electronic devices should be turned off; iPads may be used to review and/or take notes.
- Water bottle to take along during the day. Hot water and green tea is provided in the rooms.
- Please be courteous to all our hosts and know how to properly introduce yourself and your institution.

Please notify us of any allergies, medical or personal needs, dietary restrictions, etc. that might affect the group. If you prefer, ask your doctor to inform us of your needs or allowances we should make.

Schedule

March 7 (Monday): Depart Fukuoka for Kyoto around 8 am; afternoon in Kyoto
March 8 (Tuesday): Half day in Kyoto; depart for Nara in the afternoon; Kōfukuji
March 9 (Wednesday): Hōryūji, Yakushiji, Tōshōdaiji; depart for Murōji in the evening
March 10 (Thursday): Murōji; return to Nara in the evening
March 11 (Friday): Tōdaiji, Tōdaiji Museum, the Nara National Museum
March 12 (Saturday): Nara Palace Site Historical Park, Hōkeji, Omizutori
March 13 (Sunday): Kasuga shrine; disperse

Readings

Many PDFs will be provided in a Dropbox for this course. One “master” print out will be available for copying (at your expense). Please do not damage or mark this “master” copy. Please check the course Dropbox and let us know about any missing (take care when copying to your computer) or unreadable PDFs. Missing PDFs might be stored on the IMAP computer, so please check there before contacting the course instructors.

Although ideally you would read every item mentioned in the list, we understand that you may be hard-pressed for time. In this case, make sure to distinguish between “required” and “optional” readings. We strongly suggest that you look at art books with images in addition to the corresponding PDF, and explore the books in total even when the reading may only a portion thereof (in other words, please use the library!).

Within a category, read in the order given—but you may begin with any category.

READING LIST

RELIGION

Grapard, Allan G. *The Protocol of the Gods: A Study of the Kasuga Cult in Japanese History*. University of California Press, 1992. pp. 15-100. This is a long reading but very worthwhile. At the same time, Kasuga is not the main focus of our study. You may wish to read it last to be sure that you finish the other readings first.

Optional: Kageyama, Haruki. *The Arts of Shinto*. New York: Weatherhill, 1973. Ch 5 Kasuga. PDF

Fowler, Sherry Dianne. “Setting Foot on the Mt. Muro as a Women’s Alternative to Mt. Koya.” In *Asian Journal of Women’s Studies*. 3. 4 (1998): 52-73.

If you’d like to read the article above in Japanese see Fowler, Sherry Dianne. “Nyonin Kōya to shite no Murōji no mondai.” In *Nihon shūkyō bunkashi kenkyū* 2, No. 5 (Nov. 1997): 43-58.

VISUAL CULTURE (Statues, Paintings, Objects, Temple Plans, Architecture)

Nishi, Kazuo and Kazuo Hozumi. *What is Japanese Architecture?* Tokyo, NY and SF: Kodansha, 1983. These work well with the optional Mason reading, below.

“New Medieval Forms—The Great Buddha Style.” pp. 20-21.

“Details of the Great Buddha Style.” pp. 24-25.

“Common Shrine Styles.” pp. 42-43.

Coaldrake, William Howard. *Architecture and Authority in Japan*. London [u.a.]: Routledge, 1996. Chapter 3 “Great Halls of Religion and State.” pp. 52-80.

Mason, Penelope (revised by Donald Dinwiddie). *History of Japanese Art*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2005.

Chapter 4 (“Changing of the Guard”). pp. 184-88 (on the Rebuilding of Tōdaiji and Kōfukuji during the early 13th century). *Read for general knowledge*.

OPTIONAL: chapters 2 and 3 (Nara Period)

Rosenfield, John M. *Portraits of Chōgen: The Transformation of Buddhist Art in Early Medieval Japan*. Brill: 2011. Chapter 4 (“The Great Buddha of Tōdaiji”), pp. 96-115; Chapter 5 (“The Hall of the Great Buddha”), pp. 116-27; and a portion of Chapter 6 (“Sculptors of Kyoto and Nara”), from “Guardian Figures in the South Great Gate of Tōdaiji” on p. 140 until the end (p. 147).

Sugiyama, Jirō. *Classic Buddhist Sculpture: The Tempyō Period*. Translated by Samuel C. Morse. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1982. PDF in Tōdaiji course folder Sugiyama

Chapter 2: “The Beginnings of Tempyō Sculpture.” On Yakushiji, pp. 37-45.

Chapter 3: “The Heijō Capital and Kōfuku-ji.” pp. 53-73. NB: the map on p. 52 depicts late Nara-period Heijōkyō.

Review Sugiyama readings from Tōdaiji class.

NB: *There is an excellent glossary at the end of Sugiyama with kanji.*

Fowler, Sherry Dianne. *Murōji: Rearranging Art and History at a Japanese Buddhist Temple*. Honolulu, University of Hawai'i Press, 2005. Be sure to look at the color plates that go with the readings. Read the Introduction, Appendix (*Mt. Benichi's Petition for a Yearly Ordinand*) pp. 211-2, *Skim* Chapter One (Below the Surface of Mt. Murō: The Founding and Early History of the Temple and Shrine)—understand about the *momitō*. You may skip Chapter Two (Religious Affiliations and Contested Histories) as some relates to the reading by Fowler above, but be sure to *skim* pp. 71–4 middle of page and read pp. 77-83. Read pp. 85-94, p. 97, 107-21 in Chapter Three (Building and Rebuilding Murōji) and in Chapter Four (Outside and Inside the Golden Hall) pp. 139-57, *skim* pp.157-65 to Jizō, read from middle of pp.165–72. Read pp. 189-96 in Chapter Five (Shifting Identities and Trading Places). *Skim* the Conclusion. *Refer to the book rather than just the PDFs for this reading.*

Tseng, Alice Y. *The Imperial Museums of Meiji Japan. Architecture and Art of the Nation*. Seattle and London, University of Washington Press, 2008. (Chapter 5) pp. 137–70 and attached endnotes.
Read this for general knowledge.

HISTORY

Piggott, Joan R. *The Emergence of Japanese Kingship*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 1997.
Review chapter 7, “Shōmu Tennō, Servant of the Buddha,” pp. 236-79.
Read “Epilogue,” pp. 280-3.

Takeda, Sachiko. “Roads in the *Tennō*-centered Polity.” In Piggott, Joan R. (ed.), *Capital and Countryside in Japan, 300-1180: Japanese Historians in English*, pp. 147-65. Ithaca, NY: East Asia Program, Cornell University, 2006.

Tsuboi, Kiyotari, and Migaku Tanaka. *The Historic City of Nara: An Archaeological Approach*. Tokyo: Centre for East Asian Cultural Studies, 1991.

Review your notes.

Keep the publication date of this work in mind as some of the information is now outdated; however, the chapters do provide a good overview of changes in accepted knowledge and modern threats to ancient sites.

von Verschuer, Charlotte. *Across the Perilous Sea: Japanese Trade with China and Korea from the Seventh to the Sixteenth Centuries* (Cornell University East Asia Series, 2006), 1–22 (Chapter 1).

Wang, Zhenping. *Ambassadors from the Islands of Immortals* (University of Hawai'i Press and Association for Asian Studies, 2005), 33–85. (Chapters 3 and 4)

OTHER SITE-SPECIFIC

Daigoji

http://www.daigoji.or.jp/garan/index_e.html

<https://www.google.com/culturalinstitute/entity/%2Fm%2F0c1yts?hl=en&projectId=world-wonders>

Study the images and read the text closely. Scroll to bottom of text on left on Google site for Daigoji history.

Fushimi Inari

Cali, Joseph with John Dougill. *Shinto Shrines: A Guide to the Sacred Sites of Japan's Ancient Religion*. Honolulu, University of Hawai'i Press, 2013. pp. 101–4.

Tōji

Bogel, Cynthia J. *With a Single Glance: Buddhist Icon and Early Mikkyō Vision*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2009. Chapter 11, “The Tōji Karma Mandala,” pp. 278–337.

Tōshōdaiji

Suzuki, Kakichi. *Early Buddhist Architecture in Japan*. Tokyo: Kodansha International, 1980. Chapter 6 “Tōshōdai-ji and the Architecture of the Late Tempyō Period,” pp.110–24.

SCHEDULE: March 7-13, 2016

Students and faculty will be staying at: Kyoto: K's House Kyoto, 418 Naya-chō, Shichijō-agaru, Dotemachi-dōri, Shimogyō-ku, Kyoto, 600-8142; tel. 075-342-2444 Nara: Guesthouse Naramachi, 30 Kitakyōbate-chō, Nara, 630-8322; tel. 0742-87-0522 Muroji: Minshuku Murō, 405-1 Murō, Uda-shi, Nara-ken, 603-0421; tel. 0745-93-2118 Keep our cell numbers with you.	
7 Monday	Depart Fukuoka in the morning. Travel to Kyoto by shinkansen or plane. Arrive at K's House Kyoto, deposit luggage (anytime after 7am, check-in at 3pm). Bus/train to Daigoji 醍醐寺 Train to Fushimi Inari Shrine 伏見稲荷大社 Dinner in Kyoto. Please buy your own food for breakfast in the mornings and snacks throughout the day the night before (we will not be making extra stops). We will often eat lunch on the go.
8 Tuesday	Tōji 東寺 Afternoon March 8 – go to Nara 奈良 Kōfukuji 興福寺 (leave by 16:30) Nara National Museum 奈良国立博物館 (closes at 18:00) Nigatsudō 二月堂 ceremony (19:00) Prepare a small bag/backpack bag for overnight at Murōji before you sleep. Keep in mind that you will carry it all day on Wednesday and Thursday. Rest well for a long day tomorrow. Acquire breakfast tonight!
9 Wednesday	7:00am departure! 7:28 train from JR Nara to Hōryūji 法隆寺 Yakushiji 薬師寺 Tōshōdaiji 唐招提寺 Evening March 9 – go to Murōji 室生寺 Special dinner. Overnight in Murō village.
10 Thursday	Murōji 室生寺 Visit relief cliff carving of mandala 別尊曼荼羅. Return to Nara, free evening
11 Friday	Hokkeji 法華寺 Heijō Palace Site 平城宮跡
12 Saturday	Dep. Guesthouse ca. 7:25am for arrival at Tōdaiji 東大寺 ca. 7:45am (tentative) Daibutsu Pedestal 大仏殿登壇 Monks' Quarters 僧坊 and Kōdō 講堂 Kaidan'in 戒壇院 Shōsōin 正倉院 Hokkedō Hall 法華堂 Lunch. Nigatsudō Hall 二月堂 Nandaimon 南大門 Tōdaiji Museum 東大寺ミュージアム Shunie 修二会 (Omizutori お水取り) http://www.japan-talk.com/jt/new/nara-omizutori-festival

13 Sunday	Free to do as you wish. We suggest a trip to Kasuga Shrine 春日大社, to Byōdōin in Uji, hike or bus to Jōrūji 浄瑠璃寺, walk to Shin'yakushiji 新薬師寺, or explore the Fujiwara/Asuka area.
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