NCTA
National Consortium for Teaching about Asia

Professional Development Seminar
2011 – 2012
September 17
October 29
November 12
December 3
January 14
February 18
March 24

A professional development seminar sponsored by the Freeman Foundation. Presented by the Institute for Asian Studies at Florida International University.

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Table of Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description and Goals</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesson Plan Outlines</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie Synopses</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Florida International University Seminar for Teaching on Asia
AY 2011 - 2012
Sponsored by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA)

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Description and Goals:
This seminar is designed to give Florida K-12 teachers an introduction to the history and contemporary issues and problems of East Asia, a region whose dynamism and vibrancy is sure to make it an even larger part of the state of Florida and our children’s future.

The main goals include:
- Through the use of films we will create an understanding of East Asian culture and the relation between traditional and modern thought in the context of globalized social history.
- Apply this knowledge about Asia to specific and original lesson plans for incorporation into each teacher participants’ curriculum.

Materials:
Course Packet with selected readings will be provided by Asian Studies.
The following films will be shown in class –
*After Life*, dir. Hirokazu Kore-eda
*Zen*, dir. Bamei Takahashi
*Ikiru*, dir. Akira Kurosawa
*The Funeral*, dir. Juzo Itami

Recommended Films Watch ONE film either produced in Asia or about Asia during the Prep Day (see Session I below) and come prepared to discuss it in class. Here is a list of recommended films for you to pick one but if this is not available, you may select a different one:

*South Pacific*, Joshua Logan
*The Bridge on the River Kwai*, David Lean
*Rising Sun*, Philip Kaufman
*Rashomon*, Akira Kurosawa
*Yojimbo*, Akira Kurosawa
*The Last Samurai*, Edward Zwick
*Mississippi Masala*, Mira Nair
Syllabus for NCTA 2011 – 2012
All sessions will meet in SIPA 503 (except Nov 12th and Feb 18th)

SESSION 1: September 17
9:30 Administration/Welcome
10:00-12:00 Film Viewing: After Life, dir. Hirokazu Kore-eda
12:00 Lunch
12:30-2:00 Group 1 Presentation/Discussion of Film – See List Below for Assignments

SESSION 2: October 29
9:30 Administration
9:45-12:00 Film Viewing: Zen, dir. Bamei Takahashi
12:00 Lunch
12:30-2:00 Group 2 Presentation/Discussion of Film – See List Below for Assignments

SESSION 3: November 12
9:30 – 5:00 All NCTA participants will be asked and required to attend “Bringing Dōgen Down to Earth” Conference on Zen Master Eihei Dōgen. The conference will feature five prominent, internationally-recognized figures in studies of Dōgen’s life and teachings. Each of these guests have either studied or worked closely with researchers and thinkers from Komazawa University in Tokyo, which houses the leading Buddhist Studies Department in Japan.

SESSION 4: December 3
9:30 Administration
9:45-12:00 Film Viewing: Ikiru, dir. Akira Kurosawa
12:00 Lunch
12:30-2:00 Group 3 Presentation/Discussion of Film – See List Below for Assignments

SESSION 5: January 14
9:30 Administration
9:45-12:00 Film Viewing: The Funeral, dir. Juzo Itami
12:00 Lunch
12:30-2:00 Group 4 Presentation/Discussion of Film - See List Below for Assignments

SESSION 6: February 18
All NCTA participants will be asked and required to attend the annual meeting of the Southern Japan Seminar/Midwestern Japan Seminar held at FIU as one of the sessions for NCTA points. More details will be announced.

SESSION 7: March 24
Final Presentations
(See requirements on next page).
Requirements:
Participants are required to participate actively in seminar discussions and to develop and present an original lesson plan that connects seminar material based on state-mandated teaching requirements. The seminars will consist of the following components:

THE MAIN REQUIREMENT IS TO PRESENT THE RESEARCH FOR AND THE EXECUTION OF A LESSON PLAN ON SATURDAY, MARCH 24TH AND TO ATTEND THE FULL CLASS SESSION AND PARTICIPATE IN DISCUSSION REGARDING YOUR COLLEAGUES’/PEERS’ PRESENTATIONS.

1. Preparation for each session
2. One Presentation as part of a Group
3. Final Lesson Plan and Presentation

ATTENDANCE POLICY
1. ATTENDANCE MANDATORY ON EACH OF THE FIVE IN-CLASS DAYS.
2. ANY ABSENCE WILL RESULT IN A DEDUCTION FROM THE STIPEND.

Guidelines for Group Presentations
Participants will be divided into four groups (please see the list below), each group is responsible for a presentation of 8-10 minutes (7-8 slides) on the assigned film or reading. Each group member has been assigned a specific topic of discussion on the assignment.

Discussants in Group 1, as well as for the other Groups should all try to preview their film in advance or if that is not possible, do some basic internet research so that they will come prepared to discuss the following topics along WITH A 7-8 SLIDE POWER POINT PRESENTATION.

Group 1 – After Life
Group 2 – Zen
Group 3 – Ikiru
Group 4 – The Funeral
Guidelines for Creating Your Lesson Plan for Final Presentation

This page is designed to help you with the format of your lesson plan. The list will assist you in creating your best lesson plans because they are the details that often are easily overlooked.

- Make the topic clear and establish a connection to Asia
- Follow the outline format
- List all of your sources and include one to two sentences explaining about each source
- Include titles of your sources; books, articles, webpages, etc. Even if a webpage has moved, it can often still be found by using a search engine with the title as the item to search for.

Don’t forget to ask for help if you need it.

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Lesson Plan Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Subject</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| II. Goal      |                          |

| III. Instructional Objectives |                          |

| IV. Content Outline |                          |

| V. Instructional Strategies |                          |
| Set                        |                          |
| Activities                 |                          |
| Closure                    |                          |

| VI. Assessment            |                          |

| VII. Materials            |                          |

| VIII. ESL Strategies      |                          |

| XI. Home Learning Extension |                          |

| X. Sunshine State Standards/ CBC Standards |                          |
Lesson Plan Outline

I. **Subject:** The subject in which you are teaching this lesson
   **Topic:** Name of the topic
   **Grade:** Grade level
   **Time:** The amount of time you are planning for the lesson

II. **Goal:** A goal is a learning outcome. It is expressed by a broad statement identifying the general education outcome you want students to display upon completion of the lesson. The goal is a concept, NOT just information.

III. **Instructional Objectives:** Objectives are the concrete measures by which your goal will be realized. Objectives show how students will get to the goal, and are expressed by action verbs.

IV. **Content Outline:** This is literally the content that you are going to use in the lesson. Content usually consists of facts – historical, theoretical, social, etc.

V. **Instructional Strategies:**
   **Set:** The learning activity that serves as your “springboard to inquiry.” Examples of a set include a key question, a KWL graphic organizer, a small-group discussion, a large-group discussion, simulations, and role play.
   **Activities:** Make sure that your activities are interactive, and that they relate to your goal and your objectives.
   **Closure:** Consolidation of your students’ learning. Consider using Bloom’s Taxonomy as the basis of formulating questions.

VI. **Assessment:** How do you know if your goal and objectives have been achieved? Think creatively about assessment. Above all, do not give students a lower order test after you have emphasized higher order thought processes in the class. The medium is the message.

VII. **Materials:** Include here both teacher and student resources.

VIII. **Home Learning Extension:** Short and/or long term work.

IX. **Sunshine State Standards/CBC Standards:** List the standards that are most useful for you and your administration.
“After Life”

**Released:** 1998  
**Director:** Hirokazu Kore-eda  
**Country:** Japan  
**Duration:** 1 hr. 58 mins  
**Main Stars:**  
- Arata (as Takashi Mochizuki, counselor)  
- Erika Oda (as Shiori Satonaka, trainee counselor)  
- Susumu Terajima (as Satoru Kawashima, counselor)

**Synopsis:**

Many films have offered insight into the unexplainable realm of the afterlife. In Kore-eda’s thought-provoking vision, the newly deceased find themselves in a way station somewhere between Heaven and Earth.

With the help of dedicated caseworkers, each should is given three days to choose one cherished memory from their life that they will relive for eternity. As the film reveals, recognizing happiness and finding a life’s worth of meaning in a single event is no simple task. If Heaven is only a single memory from your life, as Kore-eda suggests, which memory would you choose?
“Zen”

**Released:** 2009  
**Director:** Banmei Takahashi  
**Country:** Japan  
**Duration:** 1 hr. 47 mins  
**Main Stars:**  
Kantarō Nakamura (as Dōgen)  
Yuki Uchida (as Orin)  
Tatsuya Fujiwara (as Tokiyori Hōjō)

**Synopsis:**

This film shows the life of Dōgen, the founder of Zen Buddhism in Japan during the 13th century.

The story starts with Dōgen, a boy of 8, is at his mother’s death bed and takes to heart her final request: Find a way to escape human suffering. Soon after, we see him, now a young monk, trudging through the Chinese outback in search of a true master. He finds him in Ju-ching, an elderly Zen priest who urges him to “cast off body and mind” through zazen, which he finally succeeds in doing after hearing another monk scolded for dozing. The sharp words jolt him into his own Awakening.
“Ikiru”

**Released:** 1952  
**Director:** Akira Kurosawa  
**Country:** Japan  
**Duration:** 2 hrs. 23 mins  
**Main Stars:**  
Takashi Shimura (as Kanji Watanabe)  
Shin'ichi Himori (as Kimura)  
Nobuo Kaneko (as Mitsuo Watanabe, Kanji's son)

**Synopsis:**

In Akira Kurosawa’s *Ikiru*, Takashi Shimura portrays Kanji Wantanabe, an isolated, inward city office clerk who discovers he has stomach cancer and little time left on earth. With a compelling, radical narrative structure, Kurosawa depicts Watanabe’s last months and how his final decisions affect those left behind. *Ikiru* is one of the Japanese master’s darkest, yet most life-affirming works.
“Ososhiki (The Funeral)”

**Released:** 1984  
**Director:** Juzo Itami  
**Country:** Japan  
**Duration:** 2 hrs. 7 mins  
**Main Stars:**  
Tsutomu Yamazaki (as Wabisuke Inoue)  
Nobuko Miyamoto (as Chizuko Amamiya)  
Kin Sugai (as Kikue Amamiya)  
Hideji Otaki (as Shokichi Amamiya)

**Synopsis:**

The debut film from acclaimed Japanese director, Juzo Itami shows a very untraditional side to a very traditional ceremony. When Chizuko’s ornery father unexpectedly dies, the undertaking of the three-day funeral is too much to handle. Her family and especially her husband Wabisuke, find themselves in hilarious situations as the younger generation struggles with the complex rituals of the Buddhist ceremony that are fading fast from modern Japanese life.