The Japan-Online Professional Program for Teachers (J-OPP) and NCTA at the Program for Teaching East Asia, University of Colorado Boulder, invite applications for this Winter 2015 online seminar. This course is open to secondary teachers of world history and Asian studies nationwide, with priority given to teachers west of the Mississippi. J-OPP is offered in cooperation with the East Asia Resource Center, University of Washington.

**Overview:** From Hollywood to video games, samurai are among the most recognizable—and most misinterpreted—of Japanese historical figures. What does scholarship tell us about these warriors? How can this high-interest “hook” be used to effectively and accurately explore Japanese history and culture in the medieval and Tokugawa periods, as well as popular culture today? With an emphasis on primary source readings, this course offers historical context, resources, and a forum for discussion of strategies for teaching Japanese history through case studies of samurai over time.

**Online Format:** The seminar will be conducted entirely through three asynchronous online modules, each consisting of video lectures with a Japan historian, pertinent readings, and content and pedagogy discussions with colleagues. The modules explore samurai from the Medieval through the Tokugawa periods and consider images in popular culture today.

**Seminar Dates:** The course begins with online introductions, January 9-14, 2015. The three modules run: January 16-29; January 30-February 12; and February 13-28 (with added days to accommodate winter break). A short Curriculum Implementation Plan (CIP), due March 9, completes the course.

**Participation is free, with the following benefits and expectations:**
- 16 contact hours of study and discussion with a Japan specialist and fellow educators;
- Certificate of Completion for 16 hours;
- Course materials;
- $75 completion award with grade of “pass” or “high pass” from course instructor;
- Participants agree to complete video lecture viewing and readings, participate in the full 16-hour course, and complete the CIP and course evaluation.

Register online at [http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/programs/registration-samurai.html](http://www.colorado.edu/cas/tea/programs/registration-samurai.html).

Applicants will be notified of acceptance on or before January 5; registration is limited to 20 eligible teachers. For more information, e-mail J-OPP director Lynn Parisi, parisi@colorado.edu.