

POETRY IN THE CLASSROOM: JAPAN



University of Colorado
Boulder

A Professional Development Series for K-12 Teachers

A great poem can be the perfect primary source to introduce students to the social, political and human complexities of important historical periods. Join us for **one or all** of these webinars that feature Japanese poems in translation that can be integrated into your classrooms.

Presenters: Dr. Marjorie Burge and Dr. Janice Brown teach Japanese language and literature in the Department of Asian Languages and Civilizations at the University of Colorado Boulder.

Webinar Format and Expectations: K-12 teachers nationwide are invited to register. **The presentations will be conducted live on Zoom from 7:00 to 8:00 pm ET.** You can sign-up for select ones or all five. Teachers will receive the poem(s) and resources to read prior to the presentation. Those who take part in 4 presentations (including Chinese poems presented in Winter 2024 or Korean poems upcoming in Fall 2024) and write a short Curriculum Implementation Plan are eligible for a \$75 gift certificate.

April 9 – *Tanka and Chōka from the Man'yōshū* - This webinar introduces two poetic forms and three poets featured in the 8th century Japanese poetry anthology *Man'yōshū*. Dr. Marjorie Burge will discuss the Nara courtiers' expressions of identity, travel, and nature's beauty and power through the forms of 31-syllable *tanka* (short-poems) and *chōka* (long-poems) featuring appended envoy verses in *tanka* form.

April 23 – Heian Exchange Poetry and Poetry Contests - In Japan's Heian period (794-1185), the exchange of 31-syllable *tanka* (short poems) was an integral component of courtship among the capital-based aristocracy, as well as the center of poetry contests! Join Dr. Marjorie Burge to explore a well-documented 10th-century courtship exchange from the woman-penned *Kagerō Diary* and learn how to run a Heian-court poetry contest in your classroom.

May 7 – Linked Verse (*Renga*) - The practice of collective composition of a single verse is as old as poetry itself in Japan, but social gatherings in which participants worked together to create extended "linked verse sequences" is a phenomenon of the medieval period (ca. 13th-16th centuries). In this session, Dr. Marjorie Burge will feature the poetic principle of impermanence in the sequence "Three Poets at Yuyama" by three of the greatest poets of the late-15th century, Sōgi, Sōchō, and Shōhaku.

May 23 – Haiku by Matsuo Bashō and Masaoka Shiki - This session will focus on selected haiku by Matsuo Bashō (1644-1694) and Masaoka Shiki (1867-1902) to trace the development of haiku from early modern to modern times and its spread in Japan and the world. With Dr. Janice Brown, participants will study and analyze selected haiku and explore activities for teaching *haikai* and haiku poetry in the classroom.

June 6 – Short Free Verse by Hagiwara Sakutarō and Hayashi Fumiko - The modernization of Japan brought sweeping changes to Japanese society and even poetry. Short free verse poems such as "Sickly Face at the Bottom of the Ground" and "Seeds on a Palm" by male poet Hagiwara Sakutarō, became an inspiration for those seeking new modes of expression. Through Dr. Janice Brown's comparison to female poet Hayashi Fumiko's short free verse poems, "Lone Journey" and "Quiet Heart," participants will consider the impact of modernization on gender, class, and socio-economic status in 20th-century Japan.

Register online at <https://tinyurl.com/TEAcourseregistration>

For more information, contact TEA Assistant Director for Japan and Korea Projects, Catherine Ishida at catherine.ishida@colorado.edu.

This course is made possible through funding from the Freeman Foundation to the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia, Program for Teaching East Asia, University of Colorado Boulder, with additional support from the Japan Foundation, New York.

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