GS 1181-F42: Anime: Swords and Alchemy
MW 12:00-12:50 pm, Vincent 160

Instructor: Dr. David Bixler
Email dbixler@angelo.edu
Work Phone 325-942-2242
Office Location Vincent 115
Student Contact Hours: MWF 10:00-12:00; TR 9:00-11:00

1181 Freshman Seminar Course Description: Seminar on various contemporary topics. This course is designed to introduce incoming freshmen to the intellectual and cultural environment of the university and the impact it will have on their lives as students. Freshman Seminars incorporate various integral elements in order to facilitate first-year students’ transition from high school to college-level learning. Emphasis will be on communication, critical thinking, and information literacy. Open to all majors; restricted to and required of first-time-in-college students.

This specific section is an interdisciplinary study and appreciation of contemporary Japanese animation, Anime. Students will analyze and discuss the stories presented, write about the messages contained in the stories, and coordinate presentations of Anime. Students will also learn basic skills needed to be successful in college such as using Blackboard, the Library, and the Writing Center.

Core Student Learning Outcomes and Method of Assessing Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to

- Critical Thinking: Gather, analyze, evaluate, and synthesize information relevant to a question or issue – assessed through the Library Information Literacy Videos and Assessments.
- Communication Skills: Develop, interpret, and express ideas through effective written communication – assessed through the technical grade on three writing assignments.
- Personal Responsibility: Demonstrate the ability to evaluate choices, actions and consequences as related to ethical decision-making – assessed through the content grade on one major writing assignments.

Course Requirements (Check for Course Essentials)
Three written assignments, a major research project, and one presentation are required. Use of Blackboard and other online resources is required. Use of the library resources is recommended.

Required Materials
Use of Blackboard is required.

The Course Grade will be determined as follows:
Major Research Project 20%, In-class Writings 20%, Group Presentation 20%, Class Participation, Blogs and other homework 20%, Information Literacy Quizzes 20%.

American Disability Act
Persons with disabilities which may warrant academic accommodations must contact the Student Life Office, Room 112 University Center, in order to request and to implement academic accommodations.
Academic Integrity
Angelo State University expects its students to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic pursuits. Students are responsible for understanding the Academic Honor Code, which is contained in both print and web versions of the Student Handbook.

Attendance
Attendance is required and will be taken at every class meeting.

Religious Holy Day
A student who intends to observe a religious holy day should make that intention known in writing to the instructor prior to the absence. A student who is absent from classes for the observance of a religious holy day shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment scheduled for that day within a reasonable time after the absence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Schedule</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| August 27 | Welcome to College, “Attack on Titan” ("Shingeki no Kyojin"), episode 4, 20:00-23:00 (dub)  
The first day of school, “My Hero Academia” ("Boku no Hīrō Akademia"), episode 5, 10:55-11:53.  
Introduction, BlackBoard, Syllabus and Contact Information.  
**Assignment: Log into Blackboard (1)**  
A map of the ASU campus – where things are... **Campus Location assignment (2)**  
The beginning of “Beatless” (“ビートレス”), episode 1 (at least up to 10:00). |
| August 29 | The end of “Beatless” (“ビートレス”), episode 1  
University Resources, Rampart, Ramcat...  
**Begin Information Literacy Videos and Assessments (3)**  
“Clockwork Planet” ("Kurokkuwāku Puranetto"), episode 1  
[Alternate: “Plastic Memories” ("Purasutikku Memorizu"), episode 1]  
**Beginning of Major Research Project (4)**  
**DUE: Log into Blackboard (1)** |
| September 3 | Labor Day Holiday – No Class |
| September 5 | Recap of previous week’s information, research project, information literacy videos.  
**DUE: Campus Location assignment (2)**  
The ASU Anime Club. Plans for San Angelo Comic Con (October 12-14)  
“Captain Tsubasa” ("Kyaputen Tsubasa"), episode 1 (sub)  
[Alternate: “Eyeshield 21” (“Aishīrudo Nijūichi”), episode 1]  
ASU athletic events and why you should go to one. **Athletics Assignment (5)** |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| September 10 | An examination of the first segment of “Death Note” (“Desu Nōto”), episode 1. “Death Note” discussion, Ethical decisions in Anime. (dub)  
Discussion: Personal Ethics.  
In class writing – Opinion piece number one (6)  
DUE: Opinion piece number one (6) |
| September 12 | Aside 1: GPA calculations; why you should always do your best.  
GPA Calculation Homework (7)  
Group Assignments (8)  
Group work and planning |
| September 17 | DUE: Information Literacy Videos and Assessments (3)  
“Megalo Box” (“Megaro Bokusu”), episode 1.  
Discussion: Professional Ethics  
In class writing – Opinion piece number two (9)  
DUE: Opinion piece number two (9) |
| September 19 | DUE: GPA Calculation Homework (7)  
Supernatural Anime:  
“Kamisama Kiss” (“Kamisama Hajimemashita”), episode 13. |
| September 24 | Mecha Anime:  
“Gargantia on the Verdurous Planet” (“Suisei no Gargantia”), episode 1  
“Broken Blade” (“Bureiku Bureido”), episode 1, as much as time permits  
Blog Assignment: Sub versus Dub (10) |
| September 26 | The importance of Academic Advising. Looking at your degree plan. What is a ‘core course’ and what are the ‘other requirements’  
Degree Plan Assignment (11)  
Group work and planning |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| October 1 | **DUE: Major Research Project (4)**  
Historical Anime:  
“Golden Kamuy” (“Gōruden Kamui”), episode 1  
“Izetta: The Last Witch” (“Shūmatsu no Izetta”), episode 1  
Group work and planning |
| October 3 | **Group 1 presentation - Student choice Anime (8)**  
**Group 2 presentation - Student choice Anime (8)** |
| October 8 | **Group 3 presentation - Student choice Anime (8)**  
**Group 4 presentation - Student choice Anime (8)** |
| October 10 | **DUE: Degree Plan Assignment (11)**  
“My Hero Academia” (“Boku no Hīrō Akademia”), episode 17 (with Mei Hatsume).  
ACEN 2017 interview: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHE03lMS00](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VHE03lMS00)  
Plans for San Angelo Comic Con |
| October 12-14 | San Angelo Comic Con – Foster Communications Coliseum  
Alexis Tipton – voice actor for Mei Hatsume, *My Hero Academia*  
Optional Event – entrance fee is $15 for a one-day pass. |
| October 15 | **Group 5 presentation - Student choice Anime (8)**  
**Group 6 presentation - Student choice Anime (8)** |
| October 17 | Closing thoughts. A discussion of San Angelo Comic Con.  
**DUE: Blog Assignment (10)**  
**DUE: Athletic Event Assignment (5)**  
Farewell...  
“Wolf Children” (“Ōkami Kodomo”), Snow Scene |