An Analysis of Contemporary Manga Culture in Japan and Sweden with a study of the works of Naoki Urasawa

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Abstract
This thesis is an analysis of contemporary Manga Culture in Japan and Sweden. The objective of the study was to identify the potential and problems for Manga culture and its future in the international market. Also, I try to examine the potential of Manga to establish its academic status. This research will be based on the analysis of the transition and features of Manga related with Japanese culture, and a case study of Urasawa Naoki’s works from a feminist and postmodernist points of view. The research method is basically the analysis of literatures, interviews with Manga artists, and my own observation. The first chapter starts with the analysis of comic book features from visual cultural point of view, a historical overview of Manga and... (More)
What are the attitudes and beliefs expressed by Japanese culture toward animals and nature? Moreover, how do people in Japan coexist with an environment that is so frequently responsible for devastating natural disasters?

Students are expected to complete all required reading assignments and to be engaged and attentive during class lectures, presentations, and discussions. But in Japan, manga and museum have at least one thing in common: resulting from a particular modernization which involved the localization of imports from western civilization, they are both cultural hybrids. As such they are characterized by cultural particularities as well as a globally shared modernity. Furthermore, they are equally liable to historic change. Thus, the restraint by contemporary manga readers against the institution of the museum may be traced back to its educational mandate rather than its alleged non-Japanese imprint. Here, most artists want to see their works appreciated by ordinary consumers not critics or researchers, probably because they have never experienced a non-commercial project to be beneficial to themselves. Yawara! (also stylized as YAWARA!) is a Japanese manga series by Naoki Urasawa which ran in Big Comic Spirits from 1986 to 1993. In 1990, it received the 35th Shogakukan Manga Award for general manga. It was adapted in 1989 by Toho as a live action movie directed by Kazuo Yoshida, starring Yui Asaka in the main role and singing the main theme, "Neverland."