

Mitsutoshi Somura

Office:

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**Somura Seminar  
British Culture and Literature**

**Subject**

Study of texts and practices after 1980s will provide a proper understanding of and a more profound insight into changing ideas and fragmented identities in British society, which may afford a clue for responding effectively to diversity around us. And now the Brexit is their response to globalization and fragmentation. Students will compare the society and culture of Britain with those of Japan in order to gain a broader perspective on the nation-states in the multipolar world.

**In the seminar**

1. Reading and understanding a literary work

Students will read a literary work during a semester. Literature is the fuzziest subject with no right answer and no central skill, but it draws upon various disciplines. Students will give a presentation which is open to discussions and arguments. The English way of life, morals, taste and their way of doing things will be closely examined from the Japanese (foreigner's) point of view. We have read *The Remains of the Day* (Kazuo Ishiguro), *Angela's Ashes* (Frank McCourt), *Pygmalion* (George Bernard Shaw) and so on.

2. Writing a term paper

Students will read academic books or articles during a semester, conduct research on a topic you choose and write a term paper under the guidance of the instructor. You are expected to give a presentation and develop your essay through questions, comments and discussions in the seminar.

3. Seminar activities include a summer seminar in August or September and off-campus seminars.

**Number of students we accept:** six or seven 3rd-year students and a few 4th-year students.

**This is a two-year seminar.**

**Seminar visit, time and place:** Tuesday from 9 to 23, October in the fourth or fifth period at S603

**Interview date:** Please contact me beforehand.