Sept. 9
Rashomon (1950)
88 min. Directed by Akira Kurosawa, the story of a rape and murder is told from different viewpoints. It would win an academy award for best foreign film. The Rashomon effect would be influential and often duplicated in a variety of works from a Western remake, The Outrage (1964) to a Star Trek: Next Generation episode, “A Matter of Perspective” (1990).

Sept. 16
Hidden Fortress (1958)
139 min. Directed by Akira Kurosawa, this classic samurai story of war and honor is seen through the eyes of two peasants, which would be copied in the original Star Wars: with its R2-D2 and C-3PO.

Sept. 23
Shinobe: Heart Under the Blade (2005)
107 min. Directed by Ten Shimoyama, based on the novel by Futaro Yamada, this film is the Romeo and Juliet of ninja lore, set between two rival ninja clans: the Koga and the Iga clans, two actual clans that changed Japanese history.

Sept. 30
Ghost in the Shell (1995)
82 min. Directed by Mamoru Oshii and based on the manga series by Masamune Shirow, join us for this cyberpunk science fiction animated classic.

Oct. 9
Ringu (1998)
96 min. Directed by Hideo Nakata, based on the novel by Koji Suzuki. This film became a classic of Asian horror. Many sequels were created, including a Hollywood remake. The film asks: What if watching a video could kill its viewers?

Oct. 28
Barefoot Gen (1983)
85 min. Directed by Mori Masaki and based on the manga series by Keiji Nakazawa, an award winning animation about the bombing of Hiroshima during world War II as told through the eyes of a boy.

Oct. 11
Late Spring (1949)
108 min. Yasujiro Ozu is called “the most Japanese” of Japanese directors. This film exemplifies that by examining the Confucian values of filial piety where a loyal daughter places her responsibilities of caring for her father over her own desire to marry.

Nov. 11
Battle Royale (2000)

No fee, just show up and enjoy the films about Japanese culture and history. Each film is worth one stamp on your passport. Seating is limited so plan accordingly and check often to see changes and updates.

For more information visit www.uco.edu/central/passport/films.asp

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