Endeavors into Feminist Interpretations of Japanese Visual Culture

A graduate project submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
For the degree of Master of Arts in English

By
Hannah Lauren Schiff

December 2016
The graduate project of Hannah Lauren Schiff is approved:

___________________________________  _______________________
Jennifer C. Lee PhD                      Date

___________________________________  _______________________
Dorothy Barresi MFA                      Date

___________________________________  _______________________
Jacklyn E. Stallcup PhD                   Date

___________________________________  _______________________
Danielle L. Spratt PhD, Chair            Date

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, NORTHRIDGE
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to thank all of my professors at California State University, Northridge, who contributed to my education in critical analysis of literature, essay writing technique, and how to best benefit from my graduate career. I am especially grateful to Dr. Charles Hatfield who took the time to guide me toward research in Comics and Anime and Manga studies even though I never had the privilege to take a class with him. Of course, I would never have been able to survive the Masters program without the love and support of my boyfriend of ten years, Todd.
DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my grandparents who made it possible for me to pursue higher education.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Signature Page</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedications</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abstract</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABSTRACT

Endeavors into Feminist Interpretations of Japanese Visual Culture

By

Hannah Lauren Schiff

Master of Arts in English

The following graduate project shows my research into taking my next steps into toward my goal of becoming a professional academic. The first stage consisted of personal and professional introspection. This self-examination in both areas allowed me to confirm that I do want to pursue a career as a professor, especially at a university which emphasizes teaching over research. Additionally, it gave me the chance to consider other possible jobs and careers that I might also find satisfying. The personal reflection forced the realization that I am not yet ready to directly move forward toward my ultimate professional goal of professorship by entering a PhD program, but that it is never too early to start planning. The second stage of the graduation project was to start this planning process. The next immediate action toward becoming a professor is applying for and entering a PhD program. My project reflects my preparations for eventually entering a PhD program through research about programs in which I’m interested, a draft of a personal statement, and samples of application materials. Overall, this graduate project is a compilation of practical exercises for my future.