

**Sessions 10-11**  
**The Playground of the Pleasure Quarters**  
**(Founding and Visiting the Yoshiwara)**

**1. Founding the Yoshiwara: “field of rushes” to “field of prosperity”**  
**(Tuesday; reading: *Yoshiwara*, chapters 1-2)**

- a. Rise of merchants
- b. The link between the theatre & prostitution
- c. The establishment of Edo’s licensed pleasure quarters

**2. Visiting the Yoshiwara**  
**(Thursday; reading: *Yoshiwara*, chapters 3-4)**  
(slides from web site)

- a. Typical first visit to tayû/oiran
- b. The cost (based on Saikaku’s advice to first-time “players”)
- c. Discussion of Yoshiwara protocol via chapter 4 of *Yoshiwara*