Q: What are the 3-4 notions of loyalty present in 47 Ronin (readings)?
- there’s the Confucian sense of relationships that require loyalty
- master-vassal relationship (two types: loyalty to the house, and “samurai loyalty” – loyalty to your immediate lord
- loyalty to the shogun (societal implications)

ichibun: (shame)
hitomae: (reputation)

In 47 Ronin, there was the Incident | Waiting Period | Attack and Judgment

Issues surrounding the Incident of Asano attacking Kira:
- disobeying shogun
- poor swordsmanship (for not successfully killing Kira)
- Kira is a coward; should he have been punished?

Waiting period:
- ronin had different ideas about how to restore Asano’s honor

Attack and Judgment:
- controversy over whether the samurai deserved death
- why didn’t the ronin commit seppuku immediately? Opportunism?

The shogun banned this story!

Q: Who do you side with in this story?
- You can understand both sides of the story (both the shogun and the ronin); but from his modern viewpoint, killing someone over an insult is ridiculous

Q: Why didn’t the shogun execute the ronin like common criminals?
- might have created unrest
- does not fit with their status, and this is a very ordered society (Tokugawa)

Three different ways of the warriors can be categorized broadly as such:
Kamakura Period | Muramachi Period | Tokugawa Period

Categorize what we’ve read/watched into each:

Kamakura:
- Heike
- Kwaidan
- Some pre-Heike readings

Muramachi:
- Seven Samurai
- Throne of Blood
- Zen (begins)

Tokugawa:
- “Bushido” (Yamaga Soko)
- Zen (cont’d)
- Hagakure
- 47 Ronin

[screening of the rest of 47 Ronin]