

"ONLY THE STRONGEST FISH DARE SWIM IN DEEP WATERS"



Definition: Neo-Ninja/ Neo-Ninjutsu:

A 20th-century revival of interest in the culture of the shinobi/ninja of Japan.

Neo-Ninja's have no direct, genuine or provable lineage to Japanese ninjutsu, but practice according to those philosophies. Neo-Ninjutsu is not so much a martial art as it is a philosophy of practice surrounding the "art of stealth" and the philosophy of the ancient shinobi.

Neo-Ninjutsu organizations cover a wide spectrum of belief and ideals regarding their training.

Being a Neo-Ninja does not make their training any less or more authentic than those who believe they are of "authentic Ninja lineage"

Ninjutsu (Way of the Ninja or Ninja Way) is often translated to "the art of stealth" or "the art of invisibility"; ninjutsu can also mean "the skill of going unperceived". Ninjutsu is not a martial art system, as it is most commonly mis-portrayed. Ninjutsu is a separate and self-sufficient art of warfare.

In the Sengoku period, they were referred to by a variety of names, but not "Ninja". "Ninja" is an Edo period term. The two characters, "Nin" and "Ja" are the same characters as "Shinobi" and "mono". One of the original terms was "Shinobo no mono"--literally, person of stealth.

Prior to the Edo period, the word "Ninja" was not used. Shinobi, or Shinobi no mono, was one term. "Kusa" was a very common term also, used to denote stealthy scouts.

Some have "created" new systems based off the historical evidence of ninjutsu, in turn employing a system that meets a modern world; these are typically referred to as neo-ninja's or neo-ninjutsu.

Remember, ninjutsu is not so much one particular approach to martial arts, but a collection of fundamental survivalist techniques that came out of necessity in a politically volatile Japan; now modified for today's practitioners. Knowing this, it is reasonable to see similarity between systems as well as the uniqueness that each system portrays. Remember there is no one definition of what a ninjutsu system must include; there is no governing ninjutsu body. Only the ethics and principals of each system determine the authenticity of that system.

KuroShinobi Ryu Shinobi-do is Neo-Ninjutsu.

Today's modern ninja schools claiming real ninja lineage to date have been unable to provide satisfactory proof of their claims and some have produced no proof at all related to historic evidence of said claims. At best these schools reflect what can be found in legitimate, ancient ninjutsu scrolls, but these are in reality neo-ninja. Reality is that there are no traditional (historical) ninja schools left. What is left today are schools trying to teach what is essentially a dead historical tradition- we are all neo-ninjutsu. If you are confident that you are ninja, that your school is not neo-ninja but true ninja, we suggest you contact the [Historical Ninjutsu Research Team](#) (not affiliated with KSR).

It is not the aim of KSR to prove or disprove any ninjutsu school or lineage. We know what we are and openly admit neo-ninjutsu.

ABOUT US

We (Hawk Clan) are a study-group of American Ninjutsu: Shinobi-do under the organization of the **KuroShinobi Ryu**.

We are members of the KuroShinobi Ryu brought together by our common interest in the art of shinobijutsu. We come from many different martial arts backgrounds, but no previous experience is required.

We meet for regularly scheduled training sessions each month and attended KSR sponsored and suggested seminars to supplement our training. Testing for rank is done through the KSR main Hombu.

The KuroShinobi Ryu is an international organization for teaching the essence of ancient martial traditions associated with the ninja.

SHINOBI-DO

Shinobi-do includes martial arts training and military war sciences. Shinobi-do as taught by the KuroShinobi Ryu is not a particular style of martial arts. It is a Martial Science, or even more correct a Military Science that embodies the ideology of the shadow warrior.

Military science serves to identify the strategic, political, economic, psychological, social, operational, technological, and tactical elements necessary to sustain relative advantage of military force; and to increase the likelihood and favorable outcomes of victory in peace or during a war. Military scientists include theorists, researchers, experimental scientists, applied scientists, designers, engineers, test technicians, and other military personnel.

Military personnel obtain weapons, equipment and training to achieve specific strategic goals. Military science is also used to establish enemy capability as part of technical intelligence.

Martial Science is not a “style” or “system,” not of any specific nationality, not of any location or origin. The principles of Martial Science are universal and found throughout nature. On a more philosophical level, transcending the specific context of combat and self-defense, Martial Science ultimately is the universal link that integrates mind-body mastery with the attainment of total human peak performance and character leadership.

GENIN: The common clan member is called Genin (your beginners in the ryu; on average 1 year-3 years in training within a study group or as an individual. Of course, this is only an approximated time table. The Genin was the ninja agent, sent out to perform the duties they would be employed to do... at this stage in a ninja life, often during their young adult-hood, after their elders felt they were ready to undertake ninja

missions. Most ninja at this stage either made it or didn't, meaning they died during the course of their missions. We of course do not follow, or promote, this ancient mentality, but use the term to mean "beginning student within the ryu". This is what each of you will be throughout this training course provided in this manual.

CHUNIN: Beneath the Jonin, and above the Genin are the Chunin, the middlemen. The Chunin were the seniors of the ninja groups, responsible for taking the orders from the Jonin and employing the ninja Genin agents into missions (for our purposes it equates our intermediate level students; average 2-5 years in their training after passing the Chunin test; a shodan if you will.) . Most Chunin were the one responsible for mission designs, mission guides, and setting up strategy. The Chunin was also the one who helped in the training, selecting of the best ninja agents for the given job. Chunin often assist Jonin in teaching Genin the basic Ninja skills. Chunin are allowed to promote others to Chunin (as long as they are lifetime members in the main body of KuroShinobi Ryu). Chunin are under the clan of their Jonin.

JONIN: The Jonin was the leader of the ninja clan they belonged to; their identity guarded by secrecy, no one knew who this person was, at most times, not even the Chunin. This was to protect the ninja agents and the clan. They would be the ones to decide a mission and pass on its particulars to the Chunin. For the Kuroshinobi Ryu we equate Jonin with "tutor, or sensei"; the equivalent of Master. Unlike traditional dan ranking a Jonin can promote a Chunin to Jonin (his own rank) if they feel that student is worthy. Jonin may continue with their initial clan or create their own clan. All Jonin are under the Inheritor who is considered the leader of the ryu. A Kuroshinobi Ryu Jonin License is offered only to individuals 18 years of age or older.

Ninjutsu training in the ancient times was a lot different to training today. The whole structure of ninjutsu organizations was also different. In the early times of the shinobi, there were three levels within a ninja ryu and they were known as Jonin, Chunin and Genin as discussed previously. One must also remember that ninjutsu is often translated to "the art of stealth" or "the art of invisibility"; ninjutsu can also mean "the skill of going unperceived". Ninjutsu, in the strictest sense of the word, is not a martial art system, as it is most commonly mis-portrayed. Ninjutsu is a separate and self-sufficient art of warfare. Ninjutsu used to be written shinobi-no-mono before the term ninjutsu became popular during WW2. Some individuals have "created" new systems based off historical evidence of ninjutsu employing a system that meets a modern world; these are typically referred to as neo-ninja's or neo-ninjutsu. Kuroshinobi Ryu and Kuroshinobi Ryu Shinobi-do are neo-ninja.

Remember ninjutsu is not so much one particular approach to martial arts, but a collection of fundamental survivalist techniques that came out of necessity in a politically volatile Japan; now modified for today's practitioners. Knowing this it is reasonable to see similarity between systems as well as the uniqueness that each system portrays. Remember there is no one definition of what a ninjutsu system must include; there is no governing ninjutsu body. Only the ethics and principals of each system determine the authenticity of that system. Instead of the modern-day Dan (blackbelt) and Kyu (ranks under blackbelt) rank structure, Kuroshinobi Ryu and Kuroshinobi Ryu Shinobi-do prefer to follow the more ancient ninjutsu three level structure of rank as outlined previously.

Kuroshinobi Ryu knows there are many individuals, male and female, who wish to run clans (schools or dojo's) and follow the Nine Traditions of the Kuroshinobi Ryu. For those who wish to teach and award students Genin, Chunin, or Jonin status in Kuroshinobi Ryu Shinobi-do, obtaining a Kuroshinobi Ryu Jonin License allows you to do so. Teachers develop their own curriculum (all that is asked is that you share it that with your Jonin and include the Nine Traditions within said curriculum) and advance students as you see fit under your title.

You set up your own fee's as you wish for instruction; these are subject to the laws of your country, state and/ or province.

With a Kuroshinobi Ryu Jonin License you have international rank within the Kuroshinobi Ryu; you have support and can ask for guidance at any time regarding your clan or school.