History of Japan (A002930)

Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2017-2018

Course size
Credits 5.0  Study time 150 h  Contact hrs 40.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020
A (semester 1)  English  lecture 40.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020
Uhl, Christian  LW21  lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (China Track))  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (UGent Track))  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject India)  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Japan)  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in African Languages and Cultures  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Archaeology  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in History  5  A
Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy  5  A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures  5  A
Exchange Programme History  5  A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Gender and Diversity  5  A

Teaching languages
English

Keywords
History, Japan

Position of the course
This course gives an overview over the history of Japan from the proto-historical to the modern periods. The course teaches you to grasp, evaluate and use general literature on the subject. Moreover, by using and applying competing interpretations of and approaches to Japanese history, the course also aims at producing an awareness for the meta-theoretical problems of historiography and modern historical consciousness in general. Students are required to participate in the final examination.

Contents
In addition to a bunch of academic articles on specific periods of Japanese history, the course uses two monographs as main textbooks. The authors of these two monographs employ two very different approaches to the history of Japan, approaches which are, in fact, manifestations of opposed scholarly, philosophical, and political paradigms. Moreover, the lecturer in charge will provide in his lectures a third perspective, which in combination with the textbooks will allow you to triangulate significant events and constellations in Japanese history as well as the more general problems inherent in historiography as a modern academic discipline and as an

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arguably quasi-literary genre.

Initial competences
Secondary education degree. Solid knowledge of English. Being able to follow and understand texts and explanations written or given in English.

Final competences
1. Knowing the arguably significant historical events and basic developments of the history of Japan
2. Being aware of the tension between the historical facts of the matter and the problem of their interpretation and (re)presentation
3. Being able to use critically historiographical and other secondary sources concerning Japanese history in order to obtain and evaluate information
4. Having demonstrated to yourself if and in how far you are capable of using provided material in order to discuss issues of Japanese history.
5. Being able to apply general concepts, such as state, society, feudalism, class, modernity, etc. Having an awareness of the epistemic surplus and the limitations of such concepts

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods
Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods
lecture 40

Learning materials and price
In addition we will make use of a syllabus, academic journal articles and other additional material, including excerpts from.
The total costs for the course is ca. EUR 50.-.

References

Course content-related study coaching
Interactive support via Minerva and/or e-mail, personally on appointment.

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions, written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination with open questions, written examination with multiple choice questions, written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods
Periodical: written exam with open and multiple choice questions (100%): the exam has to passed, i.e. the student has to obtain at the least 10 of 20 possible points.

Calculation of the examination mark
Periodical exam (100%) counted on 20 possible credit points in total.

Facilities for Working Students
1. Student attendance during educational activities is required
2. The examination cannot be rescheduled.
3. Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours.

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