Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2018-2019

Course offertings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 1)  Dutch  
seminar: coached  15.0 h  
exercises  5.0 h  
guided self-study  5.0 h  
group work  5.0 h  
lecture  30.0 h  
demonstration  5.0 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 Japan)  crdts  offering  5  A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Classical Japanese, bungo, Japanese language

Position of the course

The term, "classical Japanese" commonly translates the Japanese word, "bungo", meaning "written language". Bungo is the written idiom, which emerged over a millenium ago and remained relatively unchanged throughout the centuries until the 20th century. Even today - in a time in which a new written standard based on the colloquial, so called "modern" Japanese (kougo) has replaced the traditional bungo standard - bungo it is still used in traditional style Japanese poetry (waka). Knowledge of bungo is a key skill to access independently historical texts and documents, most of which aren't available in translation and thus it is arguably indispensable for any serious academic engagement with Japan's cultural and historical heritage. This course lays the foundation for an effective study of "bungo".

Contents

By means of lectures and illustrating examples the course introduces the participants into the history and structure of the Japanese language and of the Japanese writing system. In extensive practical exercises the students learn to read and write Japanese (kana) and Chinese (kanji) characters, not only by hand, but also by means of their computers. The students also learn how to use bi-lingual character dictionaries in the form of old-school books as well as of e-tools. The students accommodate themselves with basic grammatical terminology, and with the particulars of bungo (in contrast to kougo) orthography. Attention is paid to the similarities and the difference between so-called classical (bungo), and so-called modern Japanese (kougo).

Initial competences

To have a solid passive knowledge of English.

Final competences

1 Having a solid grasp of the historical evolution of the Japanese script, and of the particulars of bungo and kougo orthography
2 Knowing how to write Japanese by hand as well as by means of a computer

(Approved)
3 Being able to use bi-lingual character dictionaries
4 Having mastered the two kana scripts and having acquired a foundational knowledge of approximately 300 Chinese characters.
5 Understanding the relation between modern and classical Japanese.
6 Having acquired a stock of basic grammatical terminology for both, "modern" and "classical" Japanese

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
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Guided self-study, demonstration, group work, lecture, microteaching, seminar: coached exercises

Extra information on the teaching methods
lecture
guided self-study
group work
seminar: coached exercises
microteaching

Learning materials and price
- A syllabus written by the lecturer (available via Minerva)
- Minerva-documents

References
Course content-related study coaching
Interactive support via minerva and 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

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
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
Assessment
Periodical: written examination (100%)

Calculation of the examination mark
The periodical assessment (= written examination) counts for 100%.

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.