

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2017-2018

Classical Japanese: language, text and context 1 (A005125)

Due to Covid 19, the education and evaluation methods may vary from the information displayed in the schedules and course details. Any changes will be communicated on Ufora.

Course size (nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)
Credits 6.0 Study time 180 h Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2020-2021

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	group work	15.0 h
			integration seminar	30.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2020-2021

Niehaus, Andreas	LW21	lecturer-in-charge
Mani, Yoshihiro	LW21	co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2020-2021

	crdts	offering
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages (main subject Oriental Languages and Cultures)	6	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Japan)	6	A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	6	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Classical Japanese, Edo-period, Japanese history, religion and philosophy, sharebon, society

Position of the course

The course discusses pre-modern Japanese language, on the basis of primary and secondary sources. Each academic year some topics are particularly focused upon, with relevant research questions, and relying (also) on knowledge previously addressed in other courses. Research results are discussed in class. In addition, students analyze one topic of their choice in small teams and present their results in class.

This course meets the following learning outcomes:

1.1,1.2,1.3,1.4,1.5,3.1,3.2,3.3,3.4,4.3,5.1,5.2,5.5

Contents

This class focusses on *sharebon*, an early-modern Japanese literary genre that flourished between the 1720s and 1840s. The plots of these texts revolve around humor and entertainment at the pleasure quarters of Edo. Although humor is a major aspect to each story, they offer a detailed portrait of the contemporary manners, language and customs. As *Sharebon* resemble play scripts centered on dialogue, with occasional prose descriptions, they form an ideal basis for further scrutiny into the localities, registers and other peculiar patterns within the evolution of Japanese language, culture and society (thus allowing cross-referencing to other MA-courses such as 'Modern Japanese'). Research results are discussed in class.

Related to the central themes, students choose a topic of their own and analyze it in small teams. The results are presented in class, and are part of the (individual) oral examination.

Initial competences

The course 'Classical Japanese: Language, text and context' requires a thorough knowledge of 'Classical Japanese (BA 3 level)', and a good knowledge of the Japanese history, literature as well as East Asian religions/philosophy.

Final competences

1 To be able to translate, analyze and interpret Classical Japanese texts.

- 2 To be able to conduct research on the basis of primary sources.
- 3 To be able to relate primary sources to a historical, religious-philosophical, social and cultural framework.
- 4 To be able to discuss the impact of classical themes on contemporary Japan.
- 5 To be able to use academic secondary literature.
- 6 To be able to report on research results in a critical and academic way.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, integration seminar

Extra information on the teaching methods

Classical texts are interactively related to previously acquired knowledge, and are discussed on the basis of scientific studies. Students are intensively involved, and receive guidance for the interpretation of primary sources. In small groups a paper is prepared that has to be presented in class.

Learning materials and price

Shirane, Haruo, ed. 2002. *Early Modern Japanese Literature: An Anthology, 1600-1900*. New York: Columbia UP (esp. chapter 16).
 Santō Kyōden, 1790. "Keiseikai Shijū Hatte (, Forty-Eight Techniques for Success with Courtesans)", *NKBT* 59: 388-416.
 Syllabus: uittreksels uit teksten

References

Course content-related study coaching

Discussions in class provide a constant feedback. The paper that needs to be presented can be discussed with the lecturer during the course of the semester.

Evaluation methods

end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period

Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period

Written examination with open questions

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation

Participation, assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation

examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Extra information on the examination methods

The written examination focuses on text passages both studied and not studied in class and on knowledge of the historical, philosophical, religious, cultural and sociological context of the text(s) discussed.

Calculation of the examination mark

Written examination (60%)

Permanent evaluation (40%)

In case one does not participate in one or more parts of the evaluation, one cannot pass the examination. If the average final score in that case totals 10/20 or more, the score will be reduced to the highest non-pass score (= 9).

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

- 1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
- 2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
- 3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during and after office hours

Extra information:

For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the Faculty of Arts and philosophy