

JAPANESE STUDIES – SINGLE MAJOR FIRST CYCLE PROGRAMME

Programme title (in Slovene): Japonologija

Programme title (in English): Japanese Studies

Website of the programme: http://as.ff.uni-lj.si/studij/studij/prva_stopnja/japonologija

The institution responsible for the programme: Department of Asian Studies (formerly Department of Asian and African Studies), Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana

Address: Aškerčeva 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

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Programme duration: 3 years, 6 semesters

Programme type: single major programme

Programme level: first cycle (B.A.)

Number of ECTS credits: 180 ECTS credits

Date of the first accreditation of the programme: 25 November 2008 (NAKVIS – Slovenian Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education)

1. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAMME

The Department of Asian Studies (then Department of Asian and African Studies), Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, launched its first programme in Japanese studies in 1995/1996. At that time Japanese studies could only be studied within the double major scheme. In 2008 a new single major BA programme in Japanese studies was accredited in line with the Bologna process.

The Department also offers a MA programme in Japanese studies and a specialisation in Asian Studies within the interdisciplinary PhD programme Humanities and Social Sciences.

2. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

The programme consists of courses on Japanese language, literature, history, and sociology; elective courses on Asian topics (54 ECTS) and courses freely chosen by the students (15 ECTS).

Students of the Japanese Studies programme acquire fluency in the Japanese language, and acquire basic knowledge about Japanese culture, history, sociology and literature. Graduates are capable of written and oral communication in Japanese, and are knowledgeable about the Japanese cultural area.

Due to the complexity of the field of study, students are encouraged to continue their studies at the MA level in order to acquire further specialised knowledge and skills.

Career paths of Japanese Studies graduates include research, journalism, business, tourism, public administration and organisations with international (especially East Asian) contacts and an international clientele.

2.1. GENERAL COMPETENCES

- high-level spoken and written communication skills,
- ability to work in a multilingual and multicultural environment,
- teamwork skills,
- skills for the independent acquisition of knowledge,
- capacity for lifelong learning in an information-based society,
- high-level ability to analyse, synthesise and anticipate solutions and their consequences,
- ability to develop their own research techniques and problem-solving approach,
- ability to use information and communication technology,
- ability to think critically.

2.2. SUBJECT-SPECIFIC COMPETENCES

- use Japanese at the 2nd level of the Japanese language proficiency test; understand and use 6000 frequent words, write both Japanese syllabaries hiragana and katakana, write ca. 1200 and read ca. 1450 Chinese characters;
- know the basic principles of Japanese language usage in different social contexts at various levels of formality;
- understand texts on general topics and basic scientific texts;
- translate simple texts from Japanese into Slovenian and act as intermediaries between Slovenian and Japanese speakers;
- use Japanese-language related IT technology;
- know the basic characteristics of Japanese culture and society.

Additional subject-specific competences are detailed in the syllabus for each subject separately.

3. INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

The Department of Asian studies conducts very lively international exchanges. For details see also

- The International Office of the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana:
http://www.ff.uni-lj.si/an/internationalOffice/international_office
- International cooperation at the Department of Asian Studies:
<http://as.ff.uni-lj.si/en/international-cooperation>

4. CURRICULUM

YEAR 1

First semester

Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
Modern Japanese 1	30		120	120	9
Introduction to East Asian Studies			30	60	3
History of East Asia	30			60	3
Japanese Language in Practice 1			30	60	3
Elective (within dept.) 1	30	30	30	180	9
Elective (any dept.) 1		30		60	3
TOTAL	90	60	210	540	30

Second semester

Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
Modern Japanese 1	30		120	120	9
Introduction to East Asian Studies				60	3
History of East Asia	30			60	3
Japanese Language in Practice 1			30	60	3

Elective (within dept.) 2	30	30	30	120	9
Elective (any dept.) 2		30		60	3
TOTAL	90	60	180	570	30

YEAR 2

Third semester

Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
Modern Japanese 2	30		90	150	9
Introduction to Japanese History 1	30			60	3
Introduction to Japanese Grammar 1	15		15	60	3
Japanese Language in Practice 2			30	60	3
Elective (within dept.) 3	60	30		180	9
Elective (any dept.) 3	15	15		60	3
TOTAL	150	45	135	570	30

N.B.: The actual ratio of lectures, seminars and tutorials for elective courses depends on respective courses.

Fourth Semester

Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
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Modern Japanese 2	30		90	150	9
Introduction to Japanese History 2	30			60	3
Introduction to Japanese Grammar 2	15		15	60	3
Japanese Language in Practice 2			30	60	3
Elective (within dept.) 3	60	30		180	9
Elective (any dept.) 3	15	15		60	3
TOTAL	150	45	135	570	30

Year 3
Fifth Semester

Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
Modern Japanese 3	30		90	150	9
Introduction to Japanese Literature 1	15	15		60	3
Japanese Society 1	15	15		60	3
Elective (within dept.) 5	60	30		180	9
Elective (any dept.) 5	15	15		60	3
BA Seminar		30		60	3

TOTAL	135	105	90	570	30
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Sixth Semester

Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
Modern Japanese 3	30		60	90	6
Introduction to Japanese Literature 2	15	15		60	3
Japanese Society 2	15	15		60	3
BA Seminar		30		60	3
BA Thesis				180	6
Elective (within dept.) 6	60	30		180	9
TOTAL	120	90	60	630	30

Elective Courses – Specialized (within dept.)

Semester	Subject	Lectures	Seminar	Tutorial	Individual work	ECTS
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Chinese Art	30	30			6
1, 3, 5	Selected topics of Anthropology of Japan	15	15		60	3
1, 3, 5	Selected Topics of			30	60	3

	Chinese Society					
1, 3, 5	Japanese Tradition and Modernity	15	15		60	3
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Culture of Islam	15	15		60	3
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Chinese Philosophy	15	15		60	3
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Modern Chinese language - tutorial 1			120	60	6
3, 4, 5, 6	Modern Persian language			60	120	6
3, 4, 5, 6	Introduction to Japanese Calligraphy			60	120	6
3, 4, 5, 6	Chinese Calligraphy	20	40		30	3
2, 4, 6	Asian Religions	15	15		60	3
1, 3, 5	Japanese Music 1			30	60	3
2, 4, 6	Japanese Music 2			30	60	3

1, 3, 5	Japanese Music 3			30	60	3
2, 4, 6	Japanese Music 4			30	60	3
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Position and Role of Taiwan in the International Community	30	30		120	6
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Introduction to Buddhist Art and Iconography			30	60	3
4, 6	Modern Theoretical Discourse	15	15		60	3
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	Modern Korean 1			150	120	9
3, 5, 6	Modern Korean 2			150	120	9
5, 6	Modern Korean 3			120	60	6
2, 4, 6	Korean Phonetics 1			30	60	3
3, 4, 5	Korean Phonetics 2			30	60	3

2, 4, 6	Korean Writing 1	15		15	60	3
1, 3, 5	Korean Culture	15	15		60	3
3, 5	Introduction to Korean Literature 1	30			60	3
3, 5	Introduction to Korean Literature 2	30			60	3
2, 4, 6	Korean Art 1	30			60	3
2, 4, 6	Korean Art 2	30			60	3
3, 4, 5, 6	Internship			60	120	6
3, 4, 5, 6	Intercultural communication	60			120	6
3, 4, 5, 6	Team research work				180	6
5	Communication in Japanese and intercultural contacts		15	15	60	3
3, 4, 5, 6	Project research work				180	6

The percentage of restrictive (specialized) elective and free elective courses in the programme:

a) year 1 – 40%

b) year 2 – 40%

c) year 3 – 40%

Admission requirements

The admission requirements for the undergraduate programme in Japanese studies are defined in line with Article 115 of the Statute of the University of Ljubljana.

The following persons may apply for the undergraduate programme:

- a) Those that have passed the upper secondary-school leaving exam (matura),
- b) Those that completed any four-year secondary school programme prior to 1 June 1995.

Selection criteria

Overall score in the high-school leaving exam (matura) 60%

Grade average in years 3 and 4 of secondary school 20% each

Criteria for recognising knowledge and skills acquired prior to admission

The Department of Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, recognises knowledge and skills acquired prior to admission through various forms of formal and informal education.

Students shall provide certificates or other documents attesting to knowledge acquired through various types of formal education that clearly show the content and amount of work the student has invested so that credits can be awarded for knowledge and skills. Students may receive up to 9 credits. If the students have previously acquired knowledge overlapping with compulsory courses of Japanese Studies programme more credits can be acknowledged. This is subject to examination of an individual application to a designated committee at the Department of Asian Studies.

Conditions for advancement in the programme

To advance to the second year of the undergraduate programme Japanese Studies, the student must satisfy at least 90% of programme requirements and syllabuses for the first year, totalling 54 ECTS credit points or more.

To advance to the third year the student must satisfy 90% of the obligations given in the programme requirements and syllabuses for the second year, totalling 54 ECTS credit points or more, which together with the requirements from the first year represents a total of at least 114 ECTS credit points.

Transfer between programmes is defined in line with Articles 181–189 of the Statute of the University of Ljubljana.

Conditions for completing the programme

To complete the undergraduate single major programme in Japanese Studies, students must complete all obligations defined by the programme and the syllabuses for subjects required for their chosen option totalling 180 ECTS credit

points. The study is completed when the candidate completes all requirements, totalling 180 ECTS. Students must write and defend a BA thesis.

Student mobility

The department encourages student mobility, ECTS earned abroad may be counted towards the completion of the programme at the University of Ljubljana.

Japanese Studies students regularly participate in international mobility, within Erasmus/Socrates exchanges and bilateral agreements with various East Asian Universities. For the former, credit points are acknowledged based on the Learning Agreement and Transcript of Records, for the latter based on certificates and transcripts of the host university indicating completed obligations, number of contact hours and content of the courses taken.

From 1996 to 2014, the department has hosted 101 incoming students specialising in Japanese studies, and 115 outgoing students enrolled in the Japanese Studies programme at the Univ. of Ljubljana have studied abroad.

Support and activities

Students receive learning support from teachers, student tutors, and a counselling service for students organised at the Faculty of Arts. Most help to students is given through the tutoring system. The faculty and the department have an organised tutoring system comprising student and teacher tutors, and tutors for special-needs students and international students.

Students of Japanese Studies are actively involved in various research projects and academic workshops, speech contests, cultural activities, performances and other events.

The Department of Asian Studies wholeheartedly encourages students of Japanese Studies to continue their studies at second-cycle programmes as well as their inclusion in specialized student work for business and non-business sector.

Potential employers often contact the Department with their (student) job offers.

Career Counselling

Career centres at the Faculty of Arts (http://www.ff.uni-lj.si/an/activities/career_centre_university_ljubljana) and at the University of Ljubljana (<https://kc.uni-lj.si/en/home>) aim to help students before and after graduation to find suitable jobs on the market. Support is offered via an e-learning platform to which all students have access. The Faculty of Arts also organises an annual information day when all MA and PhD programmes offered are described in detail.

Facilities and Resources

The Department has its own specialised library with books in European and East Asian languages.