University’s new study guide for academic year 2020-2021 is published at [https://opas.peppi.oulu.fi](https://opas.peppi.oulu.fi)

The study guide includes information on degrees, curriculums, courses and course timetables. Course registrations are still done in Oodi.

If you have questions on information in the study guide, please contact the study field’s Academic Affairs Service Team [https://www.oulu.fi/forstudents/faculty-study-affairs](https://www.oulu.fi/forstudents/faculty-study-affairs)

Japanese Studies

Address: Japanese Studies, PL 1000, 90014 University of Oulu, Finland

Study Counsellor: University Lecturer Seija Jalagin +358-29 448 3363; Academic Affairs Secretary: study.humanities@oulu.fi

Email Address: seija.jalagin (at) oulu.fi

Website: [http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/](http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/)

Admission requirements

Japanese Studies can be studied by any student presently registered and enrolled at the University.

Study guidance

Study guidance is offered by the University Lecturer of Japanese Studies, phone: +358 29 448 3363.

Japanese Studies

Japanese Studies is open to all students as a minor subject, and offers a varied and comprehensive opportunity to familiarise oneself with the unique nature of Japanese language and culture. Students are relatively free to create their Basic and Intermediate Study packages from the available courses; or even only study individual courses.

Study packages and learning outcomes

Students are relatively free to compile Basic and Intermediate Study packages from the courses offered. One Basic Level course, *Introduction to Japanese Society and Culture* (5 ECTS credits), is compulsory, but other courses are optional. In addition, one Intermediate Level course, *Article Course* (5 ECTS credits), is compulsory. Students are also expected to include at least one year of Japanese language studies into the Intermediate Study package. Otherwise, students can choose their courses freely and focus on a particular topic, e.g. Japanese language,
Japanese history, Japanese culture and contemporary Japanese society. After completing the Japanese Studies package, via their area(s) of focus, students have the necessary skills for employment that requires knowledge of Japanese and other East Asian cultures and languages.

Upon completion of the Basic Level Japanese Studies, students will have acquired an understanding of the main features of Japanese culture from the perspectives of history, contemporary society and language. Students will also have acquired the skills necessary for pursuing further advanced study and analysis in the fields of spoken and written language, or a broader study of Asian culture. Students, who have completed the Basic Studies package, are especially qualified to study the differences and similarities as well as the challenges of cultural interaction between Western and Japanese cultures.

Upon completion of the Intermediate Level Japanese Studies, students will have a comprehensive understanding of Japanese culture, history, societal structures and language, and students will have acquired the necessary skills to study in Japan and work in situations that require an understanding of Japanese and East Asian cultures. Students will be especially qualified to apply their written and spoken skills to ensure successful cultural interaction.

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomat opintokokonaisuudet ja -jaksot

700587P: Cultural History of Japan, 5 op
700565P: History of East-Asia, 5 - 6 op
700574P: Introduction to Japanese Culture and Society, 5 op
700579P: Japan in a Changing World, 5 op
700576P: Japanese Art and Aesthetics, 5 op
700578P: Japanese Economic System, 5 op
700585A: Journalistic writing, 5 op
700577P: Politics in Japan, 5 op
700584P: Special Course on Japan and/or East Asia, 5 - 15 op

Opintojaksojen kuvaukset

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomien opintokokonaisuuksien ja -jaksojen kuvaukset

700587P: Cultural History of Japan, 5 op

Voi massaolo: 01.08.2017 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Seija Jalagin
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet:
   ay700587P   Cultural History of Japan (OPEN UNI)   5.0 op

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits
Language of instruction: Finnish / English

Learning outcomes: Upon completion of the course, students will be familiar with the basics of Japanese cultural history and has extended his/her understanding on topics in the course literature.

Mode of delivery: Reading course literature

Target group: Students minoring in Japanese Studies


Individual e-exam

More info: [http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569](http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569)

Assessment methods and criteria: Book exam

Grading: 0–5

Person responsible: Seija Jalagin

Working life cooperation: -

700565P: History of East-Asia, 5 - 6 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -

Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies

Laji: Course

Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities

Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail

Opettaja: Seija Jalagin

Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

Leikkaavuudet:

ay700565P History of East-Asia (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits: 6 ECTS credits

Language of instruction: Finnish/English

Learning outcomes: Upon completion of the course, students will be able to describe and explain the main historical developments of the East Asian cultures and states.

Learning activities and teaching methods: Familiarization with Literature

Target group: Students minoring in Japanese studies


Assessment methods and criteria: General e-exam

More info: [http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569](http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569)

Grading: 0–5

Person responsible:
700574P: Introduction to Japanese Culture and Society, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Seija Jalagin
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet: ay700574P Introduction to Japanese Culture and Society (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits
Language of instruction:
Finnish
Timing:
1st year of Basic Studies
Learning outcomes:
Upon completing the course, students will be able to describe and explain the main phenomena of modern Japanese society and its culture.
Contents:
Basics of Japanese society (administration and economy, education and work, civil society, religiousness, values, current phenomena) and central features of cultural customs.
Mode of delivery:
Contact teaching
Learning activities and teaching methods:
The course Gate to Japan: lectures 30 h, seminar work, additional literature.
Target group:
Students of the Basic Studies of Japanese Studies
Recommended or required reading:
Fält, Nieminen, Tuovinen, Vesterinen: Japanin kulttuuri (1994 or newer, or a correspondent book in English); Bester, Bestor & Yamagata (eds.): Routledge Handbook of Japanese Culture and Society (2011)
General e-exam
More info: http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569
Assessment methods and criteria:
An exam based both on lectures and additional literature

General e-exam
More info: http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569

Grading:
0–5
Person responsible:
Juha Saunavaara

700579P: Japan in a Changing World, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish/English

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to describe and explain the status of Japan in Asia and the globalised world. Students will also be able to also describe and explain the consequences of globalisation and cultural interaction from the point of view of contemporary Japan.

Mode of delivery:
Independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Familiarisation with literature

Target group:
Students completing Basic and Intermediate Studies

Recommended or required reading:
Iriye: Japan & the Wider World. From the Mid-Nineteenth Century to the Present (1997) and essay (2 ECTS credits), or one of the following: Togo: Japan’s foreign policy 1945-2003. The quest for a proactive policy (2005, 400 pages); OR Holroyd & Coates (eds.): Japan in the Age of Globalization (2011, 220 pages); OR Otmazgin: Regionalizing Culture: The Political Economy of Japanese Popular Culture in Asia (2013, 256 pages).

Assessment methods and criteria:
Individual e-exam

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Seija Jalagin
Target group:
Students completing Basic and Intermediate Studies

Recommended or required reading:

Assessment methods and criteria:
Individual e-exam

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Seija Jalagin

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700578P: Japanese Economic System, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Seija Jalagin
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet:
ay700578P Japanese Economic System (OPEN YO) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5 ECTS credits

Language of Instruction:
Finnish/English

Learning outcomes:
Upon completing the course, students will be able to describe and explain the main features of the economic system in contemporary Japan. Students will also be able to understand how the system functions.

Mode of delivery:
Independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Book exam and an essay on a topic that is agreed upon separately

Target group:
Students completing Basic and Intermediate Studies

Recommended or required reading:
Garside: Japan’s Great Stagnation. Forging Ahead, Falling Behind (2012); students must search for subject related literature for the essay independently.

Assessment methods and criteria:
Book exam (3 ECTS credits) to be taken as a General e-exam and an essay (2 ECTS credits)

More info: http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Seija Jalagin

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700585A: Journalistic writing, 5 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Journalistic writing (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

**ECTS Credits:**
5 ECTS credits

**Language of instruction:**
Finnish/English

**Learning outcomes:**
Upon completion of the course, students will be able to produce a popular, publishable article on a topic related to Japan.

**Contents:**
Students write a popular article on a self-chosen topic. The article will be published in the online magazine of Japanese Studies or in another magazine.

**Mode of delivery:**
Contact teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
A workshop in the spring term, independent study and personal guidance.

**Target group:**
The course is compulsory for students completing the Intermediate Studies.

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Active participation in the course and writing as well as publishing an article.

**Grading:**
0–5

**Person responsible:**
Seija Jalagin

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Politics in Japan, 5 op

**ECTS Credits:**
5 ECTS credits

**Language of instruction:**
Finnish/English

**Learning outcomes:**
Upon completing the course, students will be able to describe and explain the main features and developments of the political system of contemporary Japan.

**Mode of delivery:**
Independent study or contact teaching

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
Lectures or book exam and an essay on a topic that is agreed upon separately.

**Target group:**
Students completing Basic and Intermediate Studies

**Recommended or required reading:**
Neary: *The State and Politics in Japan* (2002); students must search for subject related literature for the essay independently.

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Book exam (3 ECTS credits) to be taken a General e-exam and an essay (2 ECTS credits)

More info: http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Seija Jalagin

700584P: Special Course on Japan and/or East Asia, 5 - 15 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2015 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuyksikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Seija Jalagin
Opiotokhteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet:
ay700584P Special Course on Japan and/or East Asia (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

ECTS Credits:
5–15 ECTS credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish/English

Learning outcomes:
Upon completion of the course, students will be familiarised in-depth with one or multiple Japanese and/or East Asian cultural phenomena. Students will also be able to interpret the phenomena in the context of societal and cultural development

Mode of delivery:
Contact teaching or independent study

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Learning activities according to agreement with the teacher responsible for the course. Lectures, learning diaries, essays or book exam according to agreement.

Target group:
Students completing Basic and Intermediate Studies

Assessment methods and criteria:
Lectures, learning diaries, essays or book exam according to agreement. Also studies compiled during an exchange period abroad can be included under this course code.
Discuss about the exam and/or essays with the teacher.

More info: http://www.oulu.fi/japanstudies/node/5569

Grading:
0–5

Person responsible:
Seija Jalagin