Japanese Studies

Address: Japanese Studies, P.O. Box 1000, FI-90014 University of Oulu, Finland
Telephone: +358-8-553 3313 (office), +358-8-553 3327 (study counsellor)
Fax: +358-8-553 3315
Website: [http://www.oulu.fi/hutk/japani/inenglish.html](http://www.oulu.fi/hutk/japani/inenglish.html)

Overview of the subject

Japanese Studies is a multidisciplinary programme implemented by the Department of Architecture and the History Sciences. Administratively, it is part of the History Sciences.

Japanese Studies is a minor subject which offers students a varied and comprehensive perspective on the unique character of Japanese culture and language. The programme is intended for all students at the University of Oulu, including foreign exchange students, since part of the teaching can be provided in English, depending on the amount of participants.

Students can acquire the basic skills of speaking and writing the Japanese language, and acquaint themselves with the basics of Japanese culture and society. It is also possible to familiarize oneself more thoroughly with Japanese aesthetics, art history and architecture, Japanese history and interaction between Japan and the western culture. The teaching of the courses is carried out by the teachers of the University of Oulu as well as by visiting experts.

Teaching is organised according to an annual curriculum. The History Sciences is responsible for the courses of the History of Japan and East and Southeast Asia, and the Department of Architecture for the courses of Japanese architecture, garden art, art history and aesthetics. The Japanese language courses are provided by the Language Centre. The East and Southeast Asian courses are provided by the Finnish University Network for East and Southeast Asian Studies.

Students can form a study package of 25 credits (Basic Studies) and 35 credits (Intermediate Studies) by choosing courses from the following list; or they can take individual courses.

Admission requirements

Japanese Studies may be taken by all students registered as attending at the University of Oulu.

Commencement of studies

The curriculum for History Sciences is published at the beginning of each semester. A separate curriculum for Japanese Studies is also available.

Study guidance

Study guidance is provided by the Lecturer of the History of East Asia, tel. +358-8-553 3327.

Practical information

Completed study packages are marked by Olavi K. Fält, Professor of History. Students should register for book examinations online in WebOodi no later than 10 full days prior to the examination. Information on lecture examinations will be given on lectures.

Study packages

I Japanese Language 28 credits
II Introduction to Japanese Culture and Society 21-27 credits
III Japanese Art and Aesthetics 10 credits
IV Japanese Architecture and Garden Art 14-40 credits
V Asian Cultures 31 credits
VI Popularization of scholarly writing 6 credits

Courses

I JAPANESE LANGUAGE
* Teaching provided by Language Center
905040Y Elementary Course in Japanese 12 credits
905041Y Intermediate Course in Japanese 12 credits
905051Y Writing Skills I 2 credits
905052Y Writing Skills II 2 credits

II INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE CULTURE AND SOCIETY
700560P Basic course in Japanese Culture and Society 3 credits
700561P Religion in Japan 3 credits
700570P Politics in Japan 3 credits
700571P Japanese Economic System 3 credits
700563P Interaction between Japanese and Western Culture 6 credits
700564P Special Course in Japanese Culture 3-9 credits

III JAPANESE ART AND AESTHETICS
* Teaching provided by the Department of Architecture.
451521A Introduction to Japanese History of Art 5 credits
451522S Japanese Aesthetics 5 credits

IV JAPANESE ARCHITECTURE AND GARDEN ART
* Teaching provided by the Department of Architecture.
451524S Traditional Japanese Architecture and Garden Art 5-10 credits
451525S Contemporary Japanese Architecture 5-10 credits
451523S Japanese Architecture 2-10 credits
451526S Japanese Architecture Studio 2-10 credits

V ASIAN CULTURES
700565P History of East Asia 6 credits
700566P Society and politics of East and Southeast Asia* 6 credits
700567P Business in East and Southeast Asia* 7 credits
700568P Language and Communication in East and Southeast Asia* 6 credits
700572P India in World Politics* 6 credits
* Teaching provided by the Finnish University Network for East and Southeast Asian Studies (www.asianet.fi).

VI 700569A Popularization of scholarly writing 6 credits
(compulsory for students completing the Intermediate Studies)

Learning Objectives

Students can compile the studies in the Basic and Intermediate Studies according to their own wishes and emphasise, for example, studies in Japanese, the culture and history of Japan or the cultures of East and Southeast Asia. After completing the study modules in Japanese Studies, students will have the competence to work in an area which requires both expertise in the students’ main subject and the knowledge of Japan and the cultures and languages of East Asia in general.

After completing the Basic Studies, students will be familiar with the essential elements of Japanese culture from the viewpoint of history, language and the contemporary society. They will be able to increase their knowledge and skills in organising information and in written and oral communication within the cultural sphere of Eastern Asia. Students
will be especially oriented to dealing with the challenges of cultural interaction and the differences and similarities between Japanese and Western cultures.

After completing the Intermediate Studies, students will have deep insights into the culture, history, social system and language of Japan. They will have accumulated the skills needed to study in Japan and work in situations in which there is a need for cultural literacy in the Japanese or East Asian context. In particular, students will be capable of applying their oral and written skills to ensure the success of cultural interaction.

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomat opintokokonaisuudet ja -jakset

700560P: Basic Course in Japanese Culture and Society, 3 op
700567P: Business in East and Southeast Asia, 7 op
451525S: Contemporary Japanese Architecture, 5 - 10 op
700565P: History of East-Asia, 5 - 6 op
700572P: India in World Politics, 3 op
700563P: Interaction between Japanese and Western Culture, 6 op
451521A: Introduction to Japanese History of Art, 5 op
451522S: Japanese Aesthetics, 5 op
451523S: Japanese Architecture, 5 op
451526S: Japanese Architecture Studio, 2 - 10 op
700571P: Japanese Economic System, 3 op
700568P: Language and Communication in East and Southeast Asia, 6 op
700570P: Politics in Japan, 3 op
700569A: Popularization of Scholarly Writing, 6 op
700561P: Religion in Japan, 3 op
700566P: Society and Politics in East and Southeast Asia, 6 op
700564P: Special Course in Japanese Culture, 3 - 9 op
451524S: Traditional Japanese Architecture and Garden Art, 5 - 10 op

Opintojaksojen kuvaukset

Tutkintorakenteisiin kuulumattomien opintokokonaisuuksien ja -jaksojen kuvaukset

700560P: Basic Course in Japanese Culture and Society, 3 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Leikkaavuudet:

ay700560P Basic Course in Japanese Culture and Society (OPEN UNI) 3.0 op
ECTS Credits:
3 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Learning outcomes:
The student will be able to describe and explain the central phenomena and customs of contemporary Japanese society.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Lecture course 'Gate to Japan' or book examination.

Recommended or required reading:
Fält-Nieminen-Tuovinen—Vesterinen, Japanin kulttuuri (1994 or later); or equivalent literature in English.

Assessment methods and criteria:
Written examination and exercises, or book examination

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Juha Saunavaara
ay700565P  History of East-Asia (OPEN UNI)  5.0 op

**Voidaan suorittaa useasti**: Kyllä

**ECTS Credits**: 6 credits
**Language of instruction**: Finnish, English
**Learning outcomes**: The student will be able to describe and explain the key cultural developments of East Asian history.
**Learning activities and teaching methods**: Book examination or a course in the University Network.

**Recommended or required reading**:

a) Book examination: Fairbank-Reischauer-Craig, East Asia. Tradition and Transformation (1976), OR
b) The course Cultural History in East and Southeast Asia provided by the Finnish University Network for East and Southeast Asian Studies ([www.asianet.fi](http://www.asianet.fi)).

**Grading**: 0-5

**Person responsible**: Juha Saunavaara

---

**700572P: India in World Politics, 3 op**

**Voimassaolo**: 01.08.2009 -
**Opiskelumuoto**: Basic Studies
**Laji**: Course
**Vastuuysikkö**: Faculty of Humanities
**Arvostelu**: 1 - 5, pass, fail
**Opintokohteen kielet**: Finnish

**Voidaan suorittaa useasti**: Kyllä

Ei opintojaksokuvauksia.

---

**700563P: Interaction between Japanese and Western Culture, 6 op**

**Voimassaolo**: 01.08.2005 -
**Opiskelumuoto**: Basic Studies
**Laji**: Course
**Vastuuysikkö**: Faculty of Humanities
**Arvostelu**: 1 - 5, pass, fail
**Opettajat**: Fält, Olavi Kaarlo
**Opintokohteen kielet**: Finnish

**Voidaan suorittaa useasti**: Kyllä

**Leikkaavuudet**:

ay700563P  Interaction between Japanese and Western Culture (OPEN UNI)  6.0 op

**ECTS Credits**: 6 credits
**Language of instruction**: Finnish, English
**Learning outcomes**: The student will be able to interpret the interaction between cultures as an ongoing phenomenon with historical roots that still have an effect on its development.
**Learning activities and teaching methods**: Lectures or Book examination
**Recommended or required reading:**

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Written examination or book examination

**Grading:**
0-5

**Person responsible:**
Olavi K. Fält

---

451521A: Introduction to Japanese History of Art, 5 op

Voimassaolo: - 31.07.2011
Opiskelumuoto: Intermediate Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Department of Architecture
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Minna Eväsoja
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

Ei opintojaksokuvauksia.

451522S: Japanese Aesthetics, 5 op

Voimassaolo: - 31.07.2011
Opiskelumuoto: Advanced Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Department of Architecture
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opettajat: Minna Eväsoja
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

Ei opintojaksokuvauksia.

451523S: Japanese Architecture, 5 op

Opiskelumuoto: Advanced Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Department of Architecture
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish

Leikkaavuudet:

- ay451523S Traditional Japanese Architecture and Garden Art (OPEN UNI) 5.0 op

Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

Ei opintojaksokuvauksia.

451526S: Japanese Architecture Studio, 2 - 10 op

Voimassaolo: - 31.07.2011
ECTS Credits: 3 credits
Language of instruction: Finnish, English
Learning outcomes: The student will be able to describe and explain the main features of the contemporary Japanese economic system, and understand its functions.
Learning activities and teaching methods: Book examination or an essay about a topic to be agreed upon separately.
Assessment methods and criteria: Book examination or essay
Grading: 0-5
Person responsible: Juha Saunavaara

700568P: Language and Communication in East and Southeast Asia, 6 op

Voimassaolo: 01.08.2005 -
Opiskelumuoto: Basic Studies
Laji: Course
Vastuuysikkö: Faculty of Humanities
Arvostelu: 1 - 5, pass, fail
Opintokohteen kielet: Finnish
Voidaan suorittaa useasti: Kyllä

Ei opintojaksokuvauksia.

700570P: Politics in Japan, 3 op
**Politics in Japan**

ECTS Credits:
3 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish, English

Learning outcomes:
The student will be able to describe and explain the key developments and main features of the contemporary Japanese political system.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Book examination or an essay on a topic to be agreed upon separately.

Recommended or required reading:

Assessment methods and criteria:
Book examination or essay

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Juha Saunavaara

---

**Popularization of Scholarly Writing**

ECTS Credits:
6 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Learning outcomes:
The student will learn to produce a popular text which will be published, on a topic related to Japan.

Learning activities and teaching methods:
Writing an article which will be published in Harukaze, the online journal of Japanese Studies.

Target group:
The course is compulsory for students aiming to complete the intermediate studies.

Assessment methods and criteria:
Workshop, independent work and personal tutoring.

Grading:
0-5

Person responsible:
Juha Saunavaara

---

**Religion in Japan**

ECTS Credits:
3 credits

Language of instruction:
Finnish

Learning outcomes:

Assessment methods and criteria:

Grading:

Person responsible:
Religion in Japan (OPEN UNI) 3.0 op

ECTS Credits: 3 credits
Language of instruction: Finnish, English
Learning outcomes: The student will be able to describe and explain the historical development of religions and their significance for Japanese people.
Learning activities and teaching methods: Book examination or an essay on a topic to be agreed upon separately.
Assessment methods and criteria: Book examination or essay
Grading: 0-5
Person responsible: Juha Saunavaara

700566P: Society and Politics in East and Southeast Asia, 6 op

ECTS Credits: 
Language of instruction: Finnish
Learning outcomes: 
Learning activities and teaching methods: 
Recommended or required reading: 
Assessment methods and criteria: 
Grading: 
Person responsible: 

700564P: Special Course in Japanese Culture, 3 - 9 op

ECTS Credits: 
3-9 credits

**Language of instruction:**
- Finnish
- English

**Learning outcomes:**
The student will acquaint him/herself more thoroughly with some phenomenon/phenomena of Japanese culture, and be able to interpret them as part of Japanese social and cultural development.

**Learning activities and teaching methods:**
To be agreed upon separately with the teacher responsible for the course.

**Assessment methods and criteria:**
Lectures, essays or book examination according to agreement

**Grading:**
0-5

**Person responsible:**
Juha Saunavaara

---

451524S: Traditional Japanese Architecture and Garden Art, 5 - 10 op

**Voimassaolo:** - 31.07.2012

**Opiskelumuoto:** Advanced Studies

**Laji:** Course

**Vastuuysikkö:** Department of Architecture

**Arvostelu:** 1 - 5, pass, fail

**Opettajat:** Broner-Bauer Kaisa

**Opintokohteen kielet:** Finnish

**Voidaan suorittaa useasti:** Kyllä

Ei opintojaksokuvauksia.