



**LUND**  
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

## **COSB20, Asian studies: Contemporary Japanese Society, 7.5 credits**

*Asienstudier: Dagens japanska samhälle, 7,5 högskolepoäng*  
**First Cycle / Grundnivå**

---

### **Details of approval**

The syllabus was approved by The pro-dean for First-Cycle Studies at the Faculties of Humanities and Theology on 2019-11-27 to be valid from 2019-11-27, spring semester 2020.

### **General Information**

The course is offered as a freestanding course. It can normally be included in a first or second cycle degree.

*Language of instruction:* English

*Main field of studies*

Asian Studies

*Depth of study relative to the degree requirements*

G1F, First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

### **Learning outcomes**

On completion of the course, the students shall be able to

#### **Knowledge and understanding**

- account for issues of society and politics in Japan from a perspective of contemporary history
- account for the development in different social and political areas in Japan such as the environment, immigration, aging, gender, and other current affairs

#### **Competence and skills**

- identify and analyse current affairs in present-day Japanese society from a perspective of contemporary history

- identify and analyse how different issues and problems are related and mutually influential
- critically analyse current affairs and different views of how Japanese society has developed
- collect, evaluate and use relevant sources for a written analysis of a specific topical issue concerning Japanese society

### **Judgement and approach**

- analyse and critically assess a key issue in Japanese society

### **Course content**

The course provides students with basic knowledge of key issues of present-day Japanese society. The focus is on post-Cold War Japan, with special emphasis on the period after the earthquake, the tsunami and the nuclear accident in 2011. Apart from discussing a number of critical issues, the course highlights the interrelationship of these issues and problems. In order to understand, for example, the debate about Japan as an aging society with low fertility, it is necessary to understand the Japanese position with regard to immigration, gender and hi-tech robotics. The course also addresses more conventional issues affecting society. The topics discussed include the success of the Liberal Democratic party that has led the country since 1945 and Japan's role and status in an increasingly uncertain East Asian region and on the global arena.

### **Course design**

The teaching consists of lectures.

### **Assessment**

The assessment is based on a written assignment (7.5 credits)

The course includes opportunities for assessment at a first examination, a re-sit close to the first examination and a second re-sit for courses concluded during the past academic year (catch-up exam).

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

*Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.*

### **Grades**

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

At the start of the course, students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

## **Entry requirements**

General entry requirements and at least 30 higher education credits.

Oral and written proficiency in English equivalent to English 6/B from Swedish upper secondary school is a requirement. International qualifications will be assessed in accordance with national guidelines.

A general exemption from the requirement of proficiency in Swedish is applied.

## **Further information**

1. The course is offered at the Department of History, Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies, Lund University.
2. The credits allocated for course content that in whole or in part is commensurate with another course can only be credited once for a degree. For further details see the current registration information and other relevant documentation.

## Subcourses in COSB20, Asian studies: Contemporary Japanese Society

Applies from V20

2001 Individual Take-Home Exam, 7,5 hp  
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A