



LUND
UNIVERSITY

Faculties of Humanities and Theology

COSB55, 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 2021-12-10 to be valid from 2021-12-10, spring semester 2022.

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 key issues 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 course is offered as a distance learning course with the support of a web-based learning platform and/or digital tools. Students are required to participate under these conditions, and to have access to a computer with an Internet connection. The teaching consists of online lectures, seminars, and discussions.

Assessment

The assessment is based on a seminar paper (3 credits) and a written home exam (4.5 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 completed in the past 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, Pass, Pass with distinction.

The grade of Pass requires a grade of Pass on all assessed components. For the grade Pass with Distinction, the grade Pass with Distinction is required for more than 50 percent of the credits.

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 COSB55, Asian Studies: Contemporary Japanese Society

Applies from H22

- 2201 Individual seminar paper, 3,0 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction
- 2202 Individual home exam, 4,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with distinction