

## East Asian Ideologies (A003043)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 5.0** **Study time 150 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2025-2026**

Offering	Language	Location	Teaching Methods
A (semester 2)	English	Gent	lecture independent work
B (semester 2)	English	Gent	independent work lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2025-2026**

Name	Code	Role
Anderl, Christoph	LW21	lecturer-in-charge
Andreeva, Anna	LW21	co-lecturer
Dessein, Bart	LW21	co-lecturer
Uhl, Christian	LW21	co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2025-2026**

Programme	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (China Track))</a>	5	A, B
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China (UGent Track))</a>	5	A, B
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject India)</a>	5	A, B
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)</a>	5	A, B
<a href="#">Micro-credential China in Context</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Exchange Programme Cultures and Languages in Context</a>	5	A, B
<a href="#">Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Elective Set Culture and Society</a>	5	A, B
<a href="#">Elective Set Religion Studies</a>	5	A, B

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

East Asia, ideologies, philosophy, religion, Confucianism, Daoism, Mohism, Legalism, Shinto, Japanese Buddhism, Modern Chinese philosophy, Modern Japanese philosophy

**Position of the course**

This advanced course helps students understand the different philosophical systems of East-Asia. The course gives the students insight into how the different philosophies of East Asia were formed by East-Asian culture and how they have shaped these cultures. The course shows students the importance of these philosophies for contemporary China and Japan.

**Contents**

East Asia philosophies are explained in their socio-political context. For China, the philosophies discussed are Confucianism, Daoism, Mohism, Legalism, Neo-Confucianism, and modern developments of Chinese philosophy. For Japan, Shintoism, Buddhism, early Confucianism, Neo-Confucianism, its main critics, and some of the main ideologies of the modern period, such as Liberalism, Nationalism, Socialism, or Feminism.

The importance of these traditional philosophical systems for a good understanding of the contemporary political, social and economical situation of East-Asia is

illustrated. The adaptation of these different systems to historical and contemporary situations is explained.

### **Initial competences**

To have successfully completed the courses 'History of Philosophy' (BA1, for Sinology and Japanology), 'History of China' (BA1, for Sinology) and 'History of Japan' (BA1, for Japanology), or to have acquired the necessary skills by other means.

### **Final competences**

- 1 To be able to explain the different philosophical systems of East Asia.
- 2 To be able to explain the mutual influence the different philosophical systems have had.
- 3 To be able to explain social and political phenomena in the history of East Asia from the philosophical traditions of East Asia.
- 4 To be able to explain the present-day social, economical and political phenomena of East Asia from the philosophical traditions.

### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

### **Conditions for exam contract**

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

### **Teaching methods**

Lecture, Independent work

### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

In formal lectures, philosophical content and social and political importance of the different philosophical systems and their interaction are addressed.

### **Study material**

Type: Syllabus

Name: Syllabus

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Slides

Name: Powerpoint presentations

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

### **References**

not applicable

### **Course content-related study coaching**

The classes are organized in the form of lectures and discussions are moderated by the lecturer.

### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment

### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment

### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

### **Extra information on the examination methods**

*Assessment moment*

Periodical: exam (100%)

*Assessment form*

A written examination (open and closed questions) tests the student's comprehension of the philosophical statements discussed during the classes and philosophical statements from the reading list. The examination focuses on the understanding of philosophical statements and on their understanding of the mutual interactions of philosophies and their social impact.

There is a separate examination for sinology and for japanology students.

**Calculation of the examination mark**

Both for sinology and for japanology students, the examination amount to 100 % of the final mark.

Students have to pass **both parts** of the periodical assessment (Japan: classical Chinese philosophy / religion + Japanese philosophy / religion; China: classical Chinese philosophy / religion + post-Song Dynasty until modern Chinese philosophy / religion).

Students who obtain a mark of less than 10/20 for one of the two parts cannot pass the course evaluation. Should the average mark be higher than 10/20, the final mark will be reduced to the highest non-pass mark (= 9).

**Facilities for Working Students**

1. Student attendance during educational activities is required
  2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year
  3. Feedback can be given by email or during an appointment during office hours
- For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy