GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Modern Japanese: Advanced Language Proficiency 1 (A005120)

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

Credits 6.0 **Study time 180 h**

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	English	Gent	independent work
			peer teaching
			group work
			lecture

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Deneckere, Mick	LW21	staff member
Oguma, Rie	LW21	staff member
Uhl, Christian	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Teaching in Languages(main subject Oriental Languages and Cultures)	6	A
Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)	6	A
Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures	6	A

Teaching languages

Japanese, English

Keywords

Modern Japanese, literary Japanese, newspaper Japanese

Position of the course

The focus of the course is on the advancement of the students' command of Modern Japanese. Authentic texts, literature, newspaper articles, infoprative texts, etc. – as well as other material such as movies, anime, news broadcasts etc., are used in order to enhance the participants' command of the Modern Japanese language.

Contents

The course is designed to enhance the students' command of the Modern Japanese language. In general, the course focuses on a variety of literary and academic texts which cover colloquial as well as modern written Japanese on an advanced level. The course furthermore aims at improving the participants' conversational and listening skills, and the students are encouraged to speak Japanese as much as possible in the classroom.
The course also has a JLPT selfstudy module.

Initial competences

The course requires a thorough knowledge of 'Modern Japanese' (BA 3 level), and a good knowledge of the history, society, politics, culture and economy of Japan and East Asia. Moreover, an advanced command of the internet and online resources is required.

Final competences

1 To be able to translate, analyze and interpret texts written in Modern Japanese.
2 To be able to voice opinions and to speak about related subjects on an advanced level of Japanese.
3 To be able to use academic secondary literature.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Group work, Lecture, Independent work, Peer teaching

Extra information on the teaching methods

Advanced language exercises on the basis of selected original texts written in modern Japanese, which are interactively related to previously acquired knowledge, and are explored in guided exercises and work groups, and discussed in the class room. Students are intensively involved, and receive guidance for the interpretation of primary sources. Students receive training to enhance their vocabulary and character knowledge, their command of grammar as well as their conversation and listening skills.

Study material

Type: Other

Name: scans, handouts, pdf-files
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Other
Author : various authors
Alternative : none
Oldest Usable Edition : none
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : one-time
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : not

References

- Advanced dictionary Japanese-English as a book or in digital form. Recommended: Kenkyusha's New Japanese English Dictionary (ISBN-13: 978-0785971283). Price hardcover: from ca. 90 euro used to 450 euro new.
- Advanced dictionary English-Japanese as a book or in digital form. Recommended: Kenkyusha's New English Japanese dictionary (ISBN-13: 978-4767410258). Price hardcover: from ca. 65 euro used to 450 euro new.
- Advanced Japanese-Japanese dictionary. As a book or in digital form, for example Kôjien (newest edition, ISBN-13: 978-4000801218). New ca. 135 euro.
- Advanced Japanese-Japanese or Japanese-English character dictionary. Recommended: Nelson New Japanese English Character Dictionary (ISBN-13: 978-0804820363). Price hardcover: ca. 40 euro.

Course content-related study coaching

Discussions in class provide a constant feedback. Interactive support via Minerva, consulting on appointment.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

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

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Assignment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

The oral examination focuses on the knowledge of the texts studied in class as well as unknown texts. The written exam focuses on translation and reading abilities and especially in the JLPT part also listening skills, grammatical and kanji knowledge will be tested.
The use of generative artificial intelligence applications for the preparation of an individual assignment ("werkstuk") such as a presentation is not advised, since the objective of this course is language acquisition. The evaluation will focus merely on the actually acquired language skills and will happen on-campus and under controlled conditions.

Calculation of the examination mark

Oral examination (30%), written exam (40%), individual work 30%.
In case one does not participate in one or more parts of the evaluation, one cannot pass the course. If the average final score totals 10/20 or more (despite not participating in one part), the score will be reduced to the highest non-pass score (= 9).
If you pass a designated part of the exam, this part does not have to be redone in the second sit. However, you are entiteled to do all parts of the examination in the re-sit, including the parts you have passed. The last obtained grades will be used to calculate the final exam score.

Facilities for Working Students

Facilities:

1 Student attendance during educational activities is required
2 Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same academic year in case of illness, etc.
3 Feedback can be given during an appointment during and after office hours