GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Bungo III (A005336)

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 2026-2027

A (semester 1)	Dutch	Gent	seminar
			independent work

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Pinte, Klaus	LW21	staff member
Uhl, Christian	LW21	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027	**crdts**	**offering**
Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan)	5	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Classical Japanese (*bungo*), Japanese language

Position of the course

This course is the second of four subsequent courses (Bungo II, III, IV, and V) that form an integral whole and introduce you in 16 exercises in total into the most significant grammatical phenomena and structures that distinguish *bungo* (so-called “classical Japanese”) from the spoken language or *kōgo* (so-called “modern Japanese”; on the distinction of the two, please, consult the section "Position of the course" for the course "Bungo I").
In this course, Bungo III, you will be made familiar with conditional clauses, the use of certain particles and auxiliary verbal suffixes, and other grammatical phenomena. By means of extensive practical exercises you will learn to analyse and understand shorter *bungo* texts and text fragments from ancient times to the modern period, that are on a more advanced level of grammatical complexity. These texts will also serve as vehicles to make excursions into the realm of social, cultural and intellectual history in order to expand your general knowledge about modern and pre-modern Japan. Moreover, you will deepen your insight into the grammatical theory and logic of Japanese in general, and of *bungo* in particular.

Contents

In the four exercises of the course Bungo III (exercises 5-8) you will be made familiar with the formation of real and hypothetical conditional clauses and the use of the particle “*ba*” (exercise 5), with the particle “*ga*” in *bungo* and the old copula *nari* (exercise 6), with the formation of the past tense by means of the *jodōshi* “*ki*” (exercise 7); and with the perfective aspect by means of the *jodōshi* “*nu*” and “*tsu*” (exercise 8).
You will also encounter additional particles and other parts of speech, that are likewise exquisite features of *bungo*, but do not deserve whole exercises of their own, and you will deepen your insight in the grammatical theory and logic of Japanese in general, and of *bungo* in particular. Our exercise texts range from the oldest *Manyōshū*-poetry to modern *haiku* and *tanka* describing the nuclear holocaust of 1945, or the Japanese version of Schubert's song, *The Linden Tree*. Thus, here too we will use *bungo* again as a time machine to jump back and forth through the millennia, and to visit historically, culturally and philosophically interesting sites and issues, that are indispensable building blocks for a decent

body of Japan-related knowledge.

Initial competences

- This course is based on the knowledge acquired in the courses Bungo I and II.
- To have a passive knowledge of English.

Final competences

1 Being able to systematically understand of more complex grammatical structures of classical Japanese.
2 Analysing and translating original source material by using dictionaries and other linguistic tools
3 Grasping significant texts in their historical, religio-philosophical, social and cultural contexts
4 Knowing (Classical) Japanese vocabulary and characters, as well as grammatical terms and concepts to analyze and tackle bungo
5 Being able to explain the evolution of the Japanese writing system and written Japanese.
6 Useing digital toels and recourses (online toos, dictionairs, etc.).

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

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

On campus, participation is mandatory.

Study material

Type: Other

Name: Ufora course material and online dictionaries
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
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 : intensive
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally
Additional information: Laptop required.

References

Course content-related study coaching

Guidance via Ufora and Teams.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

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

Oral assessment

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

Oral assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Participation, Written assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

- Non-periodical assessments: written assignments and active participation
- Periodical assessment: oral examination (on campus)

Calculation of the examination mark

- Non-perodical assessments: 25%
- Oral examination: 75%

Facilities for Working Students

1. Participation in the educational activities is required
2. The examination cannot be rescheduled.
3. Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours.