

Culture in Perspective: South and East Asia (A005127)

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 2) | English | Gent | lecture | |
| B (semester 2) | English | Gent | lecture | 0.0h |

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

| | | |
|----------------|------|--------------------|
| Torck, Mathieu | LW21 | staff member |
| Heirman, Ann | 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 |
| Virtual Mobility | 6 | B |
| Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject China) | 6 | A |
| Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject India) | 6 | A |
| Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Japan) | 6 | A |
| Master of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures(main subject Middle East Studies) | 6 | A |
| Master of Arts in Global Studies | 6 | A |
| Exchange Programme Cultures and Languages in Context | 6 | A |
| Exchange Programme Global Studies and World Societies | 6 | A |
| Exchange Programme in Political and Social Sciences | 6 | A |
| Exchange Programme Oriental Languages and Cultures | 6 | A |

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

South and East Asian culture, Japan, China, India

Position of the course

Based on several topics of the South and East Asian cultural traditions provided by internal and external expertise, insight is gained in the cultural, philosophical, social, and historical context of South and East Asia, with attention being paid to the relevant methodology.

Contents

A general overview of different research fields of cultural evolutions in South and East Asia is offered. These evolutions are placed against their historical, philosophical and social backgrounds. Emphasis is put on the relevant methodology and research results. Relevant scholarly literature is introduced. Each research field also presents a reader. The student selects two readers for the written examination.

Initial competences

Knowledge of the history of South and East Asia, and methodological skills at BA level are recommended.

Final competences

- 1 To possess specialized knowledge with respect to a number of specific topics from the South and East Asian cultural traditions placed against a historical, philosophical and social background
- 2 To have a thorough insight into methodological problems in connection with one or more topics from the South and East Asian cultural traditions
- 3 To be able to deal with cultural research areas and to understand relevant scientific literature.
- 4 To be able to develop a critical approach of current theories and insights regarding the South and East Asian cultural areas.
- 5 To be able to elaborate a well-argued opinion with respect to South and East Asian cultural traditions set against their historical, philosophical and social backgrounds.

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

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods

After the methodological data have been explained by the teacher, they will be interactively analysed and discussed. The students can receive guidance for their personal study of two readers which they choose on an individual basis. Lectures are recorded as a standard practice, but the recordings are only made available in exceptional cases: to students with special status for whom access to recordings is part of that status; due to illness; and in exceptional cases (after consultation with the instructors).

Study material

Type: Reader

Name: Culture in perspective: background literature

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes

References

References will be communicated at the start of the courses.

Course content-related study coaching

Interactive teaching conversations provide constant feedback.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

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

Written assessment with open-ended questions

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

The examination consists of five main questions:

- three questions concern the lectures

- two questions have to be chosen among a list of questions related to the readers that have been provided.

Calculation of the examination mark

The examination consists of five questions which each count for 20% of the total result.

Facilities for Working Students

1. Livestream + lecture recordings are provided.
2. Possible rescheduling of the examination to a different time in the same examination period, with a preference for the extra catch-up date provided.
3. Feedback can be given by appointment during or after office hours, also online.