

## Bungo II (A005335)

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

Credits 5.0 Study time 150 h

### Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

#### Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Uhl, Christian LW21 lecturer-in-charge

#### Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025

	crdts	offering
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Arabic and Islamic Studies)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (China Track))</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject China (UGent Track))</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject India)</a>	5	A
<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Oriental Languages and Cultures (main subject Japan)</a>	5	A

#### Teaching languages

Dutch

#### Keywords

Classical Japanese, bungo, Japanese language

#### Position of the course

This course is the first 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 (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 II, you will be made familiar with the verbs (*dōshi*) and their inflexion forms and classes, with the inflexion of adjectives (*keiyōshi*) and verbal adjectives (*keiyōdōshi*) and that of auxiliary verbal suffixes (*jōdōshi*), as well as a couple of additional minor issues. By means of extensive practical exercises you will learn to analyze and translate shorter *bungo* texts and text fragments from ancient times to the modern period. These texts will also serve us as vehicles to make excursions into the realms of social, cultural and intellectual history in order to situate the texts properly in their specific contexts.

#### Contents

In the four exercises of the course Bungo II you will be systematically introduced into the inflection of adjectives and verbal adjectives (exercise 1), of the verbs (exercise 2) and the auxiliary verbal suffixes "zu" (verbal negation, exercise 3) and "mu" (conjecture, exercise 4). You will also encounter a couple of particles and other parts of speech, that are exquisite features of *bungo* as well, but do not deserve whole exercises of their own. In addition you will be systematically introduced into the grammatical theory and the logic of *bungo* and of Japanese in general. The four exercises are composed of careful selections of shorter authentic *bungo* texts such as proverbs, aphorisms, book- and movie titles, *tanka* and *haiku* poems and shorter fragments from prose texts. These exquisite selections cover the entire *bungo* universe, stretching from poems in the oldest imperial poetry collection to the refrain of the Japanese version of the song of the Socialist International Students' Association as it was sung during the anti-Vietnam War protests in the late 1960s, and from early Japanese renderings of Confucius' *Rongo* (*Lunyu*) to passages from the modern protestant standard

translation of the Bible. These texts will also allow us to leave every now and then the realm of grammar and language, and to venture on the exiting territories of history, literature, religion, philosophy and politics in the pre-modern as well as in modern times.

### **Initial competences**

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

### **Final competences**

- 1 Having a more profound grasp of the fundamental logical and grammatical structure of so-called "classical Japanese" (bungo). Being familiar with the inflexion of the inflectable parts of speech, and the use and behavior of non-inflectables, also in comparison with the moden colloquial (kougo)
- 2 Being familiar with the use of inflexion tables and similar tools which will be useful also in the subsequent courses on bungo
- 3 Being able to analyze and translate shorter authentic texts situated within the horizon of the grammatical phenomena taught in the course
- 4 Having expanded your vocabulary and character knowledge and your arsenal of grammatical terms and concepts to analyze and tackle bungo
- 5 Having enriched your knowledge of literary and cultural history, religion, philosophy and political thought in pre-modern and modern Japan
- 6 Having established a sort of love relationship with so-called Classical Japanese

### **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**

Lecture, seminar, independent work

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

Blended: on campus en/of online, erhaps with rotating groups, class recordings online via Ufora.

Because of COVID19, changes may be made to the teaching forms, if necessary.

### **Learning materials and price**

- A Japanese-Duch, or Japanese-English dictionary, recommended:

*Kenkyusha's New Japanese English Dictionary*. Tokyo: Kenkyusha, 1974 (4th edition). New, \$ 140.- + shipping.

Alternatively, an online dictionary is available via the homepage of the Japan studies section of our department.

- Ufora-documents

- The teaching materials of Bungo I

### **References**

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

Via Ufora, Skype, and e-mail.

#### **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**

*Evaluation methods*

end-of-term evaluation

*Examination methods*

Written examination

**Calculation of the examination mark**

The periodical assessment (= written examination) counts for 100%

**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.