

STUDY SUBJECT DESCRIPTION

Subject code	Subject group	Credits	Subject certified	Subject certification valid until	Reg. No.
RRS6011	C	5	2011 06 01	2013 06 01	

Course type (compulsory or optional)	optional
Course level (study cycle)	Master
Semester the course is delivered	Spring or autumn
Study form (face-to-face or distant)	Face-to-face

Title

JAPONIJOS KULTŪRA: PAVELDAS IR DABARTIS

Title in English

JAPANESE CULTURE: THE HERITAGE AND THE PRESENT SITUATION

Subject annotation in English

This course introduces the society and culture of Japan through historical perspective, emphasizing several different „cultures“. The similarities and differences with other East Asian countries are also presented.

Necessary background knowledge for the study of the subject

Courses to be completed (recommended): „Politics and International Relations in Far East“ and „National Policy in East Asian Countries“

Study outcomes of the subject

The aim of the course is to introduce students to Japanese society and culture: relationship to other East Asian countries and underlying features of its national mentality and thinking. Most of this features has formed during the long history and, therefore, the origin of contemporary cultural phenomena is to be founded in history. At the end of the course students will be able to identify the main features of Japanese society.

Subject contents

1.Introduction to Japanese history: from oldest times to now; 2. Japanese culture of seasons.Climate, nature, Shinto, other cultural phenomena; 3. Chinese impact on Japanese culture. Japan as a member of East Asia; 5. Aristocratic culture: aesthetics and minimalism; 6. History of Japanese Buddhism: From Buddhism in Nara to reformation of Buddhism; 7. Zen culture: Manifestations of meditation in Japanese culture; 8.Samurai culture: its origin, principles and contemporary manifestations; 10. Urban culture: epicureanism and openness; 12. Western culture in Japan; 13. New challenges for Japan in XX-XXI centuries.

Study hours

Lectures 30 hours, team work 15 hours, individual work 75 hours.

Evaluation of study achievements

Colloquium – 30% Paper – 20%
Examination - 50%

Literature

1. Gordon, Andrew, A Modern History of Japan : from Tokugawa times to the present. New York, Oxford University Press, 2003.
2. Reischauer, E.O. Japonai šiandien : permainos ir tęstinumas. Litterae universitatis, 1996.
3. Ruth B., The chrysanthemum and the sword: patterns of Japanese culture. Tokyo: Tuttle, 1997.
4. Hanayama Sh., A history of Japanese Buddhism. Tokyo: Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai, 1991.
5. Allinson G.D. The Columbia guide to modern Japanese history. New York: Columbia University Press, 1999.
6. Hendry J. Understanding Japanese society. London New York: Routledge, 1996.

Programme prepared by

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