

5.00 credits

30.0 h




Q2



This learning unit is not being organized during this academic year.

Language :	English
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Prerequisites	/
Main themes	<p>An introduction to the principal aspects of contemporary Japanese society in the post-war period. The course touches on the following themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How to build a new national identity after the defeat of the WWII in political, economic and cultural contexts;</li> <li>2. How to impose as a high-developed country at an international stage and how to master the different problems due to its so fast developing strategy;</li> <li>3. How to react firmly in the case of diverse crises like natural disaster (earthquake, tsunami and typhoon) or the facts caused by human (economic crises, unstable political situation, pollution);</li> <li>4. How to keep hope in the future of the country in a harmonious way (not denying the country, nor neglecting the other countries' reactions).</li> </ol>
Learning outcomes	<p><b>At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to :</b></p> <p>1 At the end of this course, the student will be able to understand and to explain adequately topics the Japanese contemporary society presents as its features and/or problems. The student will also be able to deal with concerned subjects with a comparative point of view, in distinguishing between European and Japanese issues.</p>
Evaluation methods	<p>Continuous evaluation. The final marks will be based on :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• active participation in discussion in class (40%) ;</li> <li>• preparation of a report on the selected topic and oral presentation of group work (60%).</li> </ul> <p>As the evaluation is organized only during the course, the student has to sign up for the first session of the exam.</p>
Teaching methods	<p>Active learning : formal lectures, group discussions and presentations by the students of their works. Students will be obliged to read selected articles before lessons, with a view of talking about them in class.</p> <p>Course material : selected reading matter to download from iCampus, power point presentations by the lecturer.</p>
Content	<p>This course aims to describe and situate the Japanese contemporary society in a global context, in focusing on several important moments of the country that can be observed from different points of view. The course intends to consider not only the well known historical facts as capitulation, the speedy economic developing period after the WWII, but also the more recent facts that can be understood as universal facts. For instance, the economic bubble bursting in 1990s and its results (i.e., the terrorism in Tokyo subway by an sect « Aum » in 1995), the most recent economic crisis in 2008, the absence of the people's confidence in today's politics, the problems of Nuclear energy and questioning on other potential energy sources, the lack of freedom of thought and communication (the 3 last topics are the consequences of the North-East Japan Earthquake in March 2011).</p> <p>The course respects a priori a chronology of these actual facts. However, certain intemporary aspects of the Japanese culture, like Japanese people's behavioral tendencies, the notions of ambiguity, of generosity and of politeness, are constantly mentioned, since these cultural features are indispensable to understand the Japanese Society in general.</p>
Inline resources	iCampus

Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pierre Souyri (2010) <i>Nouvelle histoire du Japon</i>, éd. Perrin ;</li> <li>• Joy Hendry (2003) <i>Understanding Japanese Society</i>, 3rd edition , Nissan Institute /Routledge Curzon Japanese Studies Series,</li> <li>• Karyn Poupée (2012) <i>Les Japonais</i> "", Tallandier ;</li> <li>• Barthélémy Courmont (2013) <i>Géopolitique du Japon</i>, Argos ;</li> <li>• Elena Janvier (2011) <i>Au Japon</i>, éd. Arléa.</li> </ul>
Other infos	The course will be given in English and in French.
Faculty or entity in charge	FIAL

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in Political Sciences: International Relations	SPRI2M	5		
Master [120] in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	HORI2M	5		
Master [60] in Political Sciences: General	SPOL2M1	5		
Master [120] in Political Sciences: General	SPOL2M	5		