

This biannual learning is being organized in 2026-2027

Teacher(s)	Vielle Christophe (coordinator) ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	Series of conferences on the Far Eastern, Indian or Buddhist world. The Chair will propose an in-depth analysis of a theme relating to the Far Eastern, Indian and Buddhist world, in its widest sense, in history as well as in the contemporary world. This theme will change each year, and may treat, without this list being restrictive or exhaustive, religious, philosophical, socio-anthropological, cultural, historical, philological or literary questions. Established in 1927 thanks to the patronage of Baron Satsuma Jirôhachi, this chair, originally dedicated to Japanese studies, was expanded in 1955 (under the professorship of Msgr. Étienne Lamotte) to include other civilisations of Buddhist Asia.
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : 1 identify the sources, methods and results, notably in terms of logic and/or structure, of an in-depth analysis of a question relating to the Far Eastern, Indian or Buddhist world, in its widest sense; 2 reproduce the analyses proposed in the disciplinary production and provide an appropriate summary of them.
Evaluation methods	The evaluation of the student is based on a written work, whose exact subject and modalities will be fixed by the annual holder of the Chair.
Teaching methods	The Chair consists of four two-hour lectures, illustrated with original works from UCLouvain's Japanese Donation.
Content	The Satsuma Chair is intimately linked to the exceptional Donation of precious books by Japan to the university, a collection now kept at the Central Library in Louvain-la-Neuve. The current holder of the Chair, Freya Terryn, japanologist and art historian, in charge of research for the Japan Mirai Fund set up to promote this extraordinary collection of Japanese books, offers a four-year lecture cycle providing a historical and cultural introduction to Japan, illustrated by works from the Donation. The first year of this four-year cycle, the 2026-2027 Chair, will focus on: Japanese Narrative Art : how Japan told its stories in text and image, from courtly romance to the popular printed fiction of Edo, by way of war tales and supernatural legends. Abstract: The 2026-2027 Satsuma Chair explores Japanese narrative art — the long tradition that combines text and image to tell a story — from courtly romances and epic war tales, through legends populated by monsters and supernatural phenomena, to the mass-produced illustrated fiction of the Edo period. Drawing on original works held in UCLouvain's Japanese Donation, students will discover how narrative art shaped the ways stories were told, read, and shared throughout Japanese history — and how this same tradition of visual storytelling survives today in manga and anime, among Japan's most widely recognized cultural exports.
Inline resources	Provided by the holder of the Chair.
Bibliography	Fournie par le titulaire de la Chaire./ Provided by the holder of the Chair.
Other infos	Session dates: • Wednesday, March 17, 2027, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. • Wednesday, March 24, 2027, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. • Wednesday, April 7, 2027, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. • Wednesday, April 14, 2027, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. <i>This is an English-friendly course, with supporting materials provided in English and discussions also possible in English.</i>

Faculty or entity in charge	EHAC
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Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Bachelor in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	HORI1BA	5		
Minor in Antiquity: Egypt, Eastern World, Greece, Rome	MINANTI	5		