

Course Syllabus

Japanese IV: Cultural Anthropology 15 Credits*, First Cycle Level 2

Learning Outcomes

After successful completion of the course, students shall be able to:

- display basic knowledge about various research methods used in anthropology
- apply various anthropological methods in studies relating to Japan using Japanese (in such forms as the observation, the survey and the interview)
- formulate a functioning research question and design a feasible research project to answer it
- discuss the ethical implications of anthropological research
- analyze quantitative data with computer-based tools
- critically evaluate their own research and that of their peers.

Course Content

Anthropology is the study of humankind, and its subfields (e.g., social/cultural anthropology, linguistic anthropology, physical anthropology, and archaeology) cover various aspects of what make us human. In this course, students get acquainted with various methods and theories used in this field, and get the opportunity to reflect over how these can be applied to the study of Japanese culture and society.

The seminar topics include the relationship between theory and method, defining researchable questions, research ethics, participant observation, sensory ethnography, writing fieldnotes, interview techniques (unstructured, semi-structured, structured), transcription, sampling, designing questionnaires, coding data, data analysis, research proposal evaluation criteria, peer review processes, interpersonal relations with fieldwork interlocutors, and other methodological topics such as oral histories, life histories, censuses, focus group interviews, and archival research.

Assessment

Grades will be based on class performance, written assignments, a final paper (a research proposal), and an oral presentation of the final paper.

Forms of Study

The course is taught in English and Japanese. Teaching takes the form of lectures, group discussions, and various online activities.

Grades

The Swedish grades A–F.

Reporting of grades:

- Module 1: Seminars and assignments (10 credits)
- Module 2: Final paper (5 credits)

Prerequisites

Japanese III: Language Proficiency, 15 credits, Japanese III: The Modern Short Story, 7.5 credits, Japanese III: Reading Manga, 7.5 credits, and Modern Japan: Culture and Society, 7.5 credits

Subject:

Japanese

Group of Subjects:

Japanese

Disciplinary Domain:

Humanities, 100%

This course can be included in the following main field(s) of study:

1. Japanese

Progression Indicator within (each) main field of study:

1. G2F

Approved:

Approved 15 April 2016

Valid from 15 April 2016