

East Asian Society

Code: 101525
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500244 East Asian Studies	OB	2	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Irene Masdeu Torruella

Prerequisites

To take this subject, students should ideally have obtained all the programme's first-year credits. Students must be able to read and understand academic texts in English.

Objectives and Contextualisation

East Asian Society focuses on the elements key to a sociocultural understanding of the contemporary Japanese and Chinese societies, with particular emphasis on their representational discourses on collective identity formation in the context of globalisation. The main objective of the subject is to provide students with knowledge and understanding of the current reality of the Japanese and Chinese societies by considering their discourses, practices and institutions through the theoretical lens of Anthropology and Cultural History. Its ultimate purpose is to contextualise the content of other subjects that are part of the programme. To that end, East Asian Society involves lectures and practical classes in which students work on academic texts, participate in debates and discussions, watch documentaries, and use complementary materials.

Competences

- Comparing and critically assessing the different social environments in the field of East Asia.
- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Developing self-learning strategies.
- Ensuring the quality of one's own work.
- Having interpersonal skills.
- Know and understand the characteristics of society and social processes in East Asia.
- Knowing and understanding the social relations, protocol and negotiation in the decision making process in East Asia.
- Knowing and using the information and communication technology resources (ICT) in order to collect, produce, analyse and present information related to the East Asian Studies.

- Knowing the ethnic and cultural diversity of East Asia, the identity management policies of East Asia and their evolution.
- Knowing the history, values, beliefs and ideologies of East Asia in order to understand and critically assess social issues, phenomena, and processes related with that region.
- Promoting the sustainable development.
- Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Respecting the gender equality.
- Solving conflict situations.
- Solving problems of intercultural communication.
- Students must be flexible and capable of adapting to new circumstances.

Learning Outcomes

1. Assessing the obtained results in the search information process in order to update the knowledge about political sciences, economy and sociology.
2. Comparing and critically assessing the different social environments in the field of East Asia.
3. Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
4. Developing self-learning strategies.
5. Ensuring the quality of one's own work.
6. Having interpersonal skills.
7. Know and understand the characteristics of society and social processes in East Asia.
8. Knowing and understanding the social relations, protocol and negotiation in the decision making process in East Asia.
9. Knowing the ethnic and cultural diversity of East Asia, the identity management policies of East Asia and their evolution.
10. Knowing the history, values, beliefs and ideologies of East Asia in order to understand and critically assess social issues, phenomena, and processes related with that region.
11. Promoting the sustainable development.
12. Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
13. Respecting the gender equality.
14. Solving conflict situations.
15. Solving problems of intercultural communication.
16. Students must be flexible and capable of adapting to new circumstances.
17. Using different tools for specific purposes in the fields of political sciences, economy and sociology.
18. Using the specific terminology of political sciences, economy and sociology.

Content

Japanese society

Topic 1. Society and the individual

Topic 2. Social structure and life cycle: family culture / religious culture

Topic 3. Social production and reproduction

Topic 4. Social and political construction: work culture / school culture

Topic 5. Collective identity and globalisation

Chinese society

Topic 6. Social structure

Topic 7. Life cycle and ritual practices

Topic 8. Social production and reproduction

Topic 9. Collective identities

Topic 10. Globalisation, social control and contemporary debates

Methodology

To achieve the established objectives, this subject involves both lectures and practical classes. Given that its teaching is shared, the lecturers will inform students of the characteristics of assessment activities on the first day of class. The work students carry out mainly consists of lectures, individual/group presentations in class, debates and discussions in class based on selected readings, watching documentaries, documentation searches, reading assignments, written assignments, and a series of exams. Students must keep abreast of the news and information published on the Virtual Campus / Moodle.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	50	2	2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 4, 3, 11, 15, 14, 12, 13, 16, 6, 17, 18, 5
Type: Supervised			
Written assignment	34	1.36	2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 4, 3, 11, 15, 14, 12, 13, 16, 6, 17, 18, 5
Type: Autonomous			
Study and reading	45	1.8	2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 4, 3, 11, 15, 14, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 5

Assessment

Assessment is continuous. Students must provide evidence of their progress by completing tasks and tests. Task deadlines will be indicated in the course schedule on the first day of class. All activity deadlines are indicated in the subject's schedule and must be strictly adhered to.

- Exam on Japanese society (35%) and another on Chinese society (35%)

- Individual essay (30%)

Related matters

The above information on assessment, assessment activities and their weighting is merely a guide. The subject's lecturer will provide full information when teaching begins.

Review

When publishing final marks prior to recording them on students' transcripts, the lecturer will provide written notification of a date and time for reviewing assessment activities. Students must arrange reviews in agreement with the lecturer.

Missed/failed assessment activities

Students may retake assessment activities they have failed or compensate for any they have missed, provided that those they have actually performed account for a minimum of 66.6% (two thirds) of the subject's final mark and that they have a weighted average mark of at least 3.5. Under no circumstances may an assessment activity worth 100% of the final mark be retaken or compensated for.

The lecturer will inform students of the procedure involved, in writing, when publishing final marks prior to recording them on transcripts. The lecturer may set one assignment per failed or missed assessment activity or a single assignment to cover a number of such activities.

Classification as "not assessable"

In the event of the assessment activities a student has performed accounting for just 25% or less of the subject's final mark, their work will be classified as "not assessable" on their transcript.

Misconduct in assessment activities

Students who engage in misconduct (plagiarism, copying, personation, etc.) in an assessment activity will receive a mark of "0" for the activity in question. In the case of misconduct in more than one assessment activity, the students involved will be given a final mark of "0" for the subject.

Students may not retake assessment activities in which they are found to have engaged in misconduct. Plagiarism is considered to mean presenting all or part of an author's work, whether published in print or in digital format, as one's own, i.e. without citing it. Copying is considered to mean reproducing all or a substantial part of another student's work. In cases of copying in which it is impossible to determine which of two students has copied the work of the other, both will be penalised.

More information:

<http://www.uab.cat/web/study-abroad/undergraduate/academic-information/evaluation/what-is-it-about-13456700>

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Test: Chinese society	35%	2	0.08	2, 7, 9, 10, 5
Test: Japanese society	35%	2	0.08	2, 7, 9, 10, 5
Written essay	30%	17	0.68	1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 4, 3, 11, 15, 14, 12, 13, 16, 6, 17, 18, 5

Bibliography

Japanese society

Bestor, V.L.; T.C. Bestor & A. Yamagata eds. 2011. *Routledge Handbook of Japanese Culture and Society*. London; New York: Routledge.

Guarné, B. ed. 2017. *Antropología de Japón: identidad, discurso y representación*. Barcelona: Biblioteca de Estudios Japoneses CERAU-UAB, Ediciones Bellaterra.

Hendry, J. 2018. *Para entender la sociedad japonesa*. Barcelona: Biblioteca de Estudios Japoneses CERAU-UAB, Ediciones Bellaterra.

Kawano, S; G.S. Roberts & S.O. Long eds. 2014. *Capturing Contemporary Japan: Differentiation and Uncertainty*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

Martinez, D.P. ed. 2007. *Japanese Culture and Society*. London: Routledge.

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Sugimoto, Y. 2016. *Una introducción a la sociedad japonesa*. Biblioteca de Estudios Japoneses CERAU-UAB, Ediciones Bellaterra.

Chinese society

Beltrán Antolín, J. 2013. "Sociedad y cultura china", en Kepa Sodupe y Leire Moure, eds., *China en el escenario internacional: Una aproximación multidisciplinar*. Bilbao: Servicio Editorial Universidad del País Vasco, pp. 107-148.

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Khun Eng K.; G. Guiheux eds. 2009 *Social Movements in China and Hong Kong*. Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press.

Gamer, R.E. ed. 2003. *Understanding Contemporary China*. Boulder: Lynne Rienner.

Perry, E.J.; Selden, M. eds. 2000. *Chinese Society. Change, Conflict and Resistance*. Londres: Routledge.

Stockman, N. 2000. *Understanding Chinese Society*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

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