

Classical East Asian Literature

Code: 101539
ECTS Credits: 6

2025/2026

Degree	Type	Year
East Asian Studies	OB	2

Contact

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Teachers

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Teaching groups languages

You can view this information at the [end](#) of this document.

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites to take this subject, but it requires prior knowledge obtained through the Classical East Asian Thought and Premodern East Asian History subjects. It also requires a native or near-native level of Spanish and Catalan. Students must be able to read and understand academic texts in English.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The objective of this subject is to offer a panoramic view of the major artistic and literary trends that moulded the literatures of East Asia from their origins to the beginning of modern times. At the end of the subject, students should be familiar with and recognise the main works of Chinese and Japanese classical literature and the aesthetic and literary codes that have shaped them. They should also be able to analyse (translated) Chinese and Japanese classical texts in depth, and to defend their own arguments. Catalan, Spanish and English translations of texts will be used.

Competences

- Applying knowledge of the values, beliefs and ideologies of East Asia in order to comprehend and assess written texts in the languages of East Asia.
- Differentiating the literary genres and determining its specific characteristics.
- 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 great literary, philosophical, and artistic movements of East Asia.

- Knowing, understanding, describing, analysing, and assessing the history, thought and literature of East Asia.
- Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
- Students must be flexible and capable of adapting to new circumstances.

Learning Outcomes

1. Applying knowledge of the values, beliefs and ideologies of East Asia in order to comprehend and assess written texts in the languages of East Asia.
2. Assessing the obtained results in the information search process in order to update the knowledge about history, literature, linguistics, thought and art.
3. Carrying out the documentary search in the specific languages of East Asia.
4. Differentiating the literary genres and determining its specific characteristics.
5. Knowing the great literary, philosophical, and artistic movements of East Asia.
6. Knowing, understanding, describing, analysing, and assessing the history, thought and literature of East Asia.
7. Respecting the diversity and plurality of ideas, people and situations.
8. Students must be flexible and capable of adapting to new circumstances.
9. Using the specific terminology of history, literature, linguistics, thought and art.
10. Utilising different tools for specific purposes in the fields of history, literature, linguistics, thought and art.

Content

This subject examines the classical period of East Asian literatures, from the first literary manifestations to the end of the pre-modern era. Attention will be paid to the major trends that shaped Chinese and Japanese literature during the period in question, and specific works that represent them will be studied and discussed. Emphasis will also be placed on how each period's literary manifestations reflect the society, thought and aesthetic principles from which they arise.

Activities and Methodology

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	25	1	6, 5
Text analysis	22.5	0.9	6, 4
Type: Supervised			
Reading (dossiers)	21	0.84	7, 8
Type: Autonomous			
Independent reading	30	1.2	2, 3, 10, 9
Individual study (primary and secondary sources)	47.5	1.9	6, 5

This subject will be divided into two parts of equal duration. The first will be devoted to Chinese literature and the second to Japanese literature. In each part, the great literary movements that took place in China and Japan during the classical period will be presented and works or passages of specific works discussed.

Each lecturer will upload dossiers of texts containing the subject's fundamental reading materials and recommended bibliography to the Virtual Campus.

Students are expected to use the recommended reading materials to carry out unsupervised study to complement the information they receive in directed sessions.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Assessment

Continuous Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Exam 1 (contents of Chinese literature)	25%	1	0.04	1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 9
Exam 2 (Chinese reading materials)	25%	1	0.04	1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 9
Exam 3 (contents of Japanese literature)	25%	1	0.04	1, 2, 6, 5, 4, 3, 10, 9
Exam 4 (Japanese reading materials)	25%	1	0.04	1, 2, 6, 5, 4, 3, 10, 9

Continuous assessment

Students must provide evidence of their progress by completing various tasks and tests. These activities are detailed in the table at the end of this section of the Study Guide.

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.

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. Under no circumstances may an assessment activity worth 100% of the final mark be retaken or compensated for. In case of retaking, maximum grade will be 5(Pass).

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 student involved will be given a final mark of "0" for the subject. Assessment activities in which irregularities have occurred (e.g. plagiarism, copying, impersonation) are excluded from recovery.

Single assessment

This subject may be assessed under the single assessment system in accordance with the terms established in the academic regulations of the UAB and the assessment criteria of the Faculty of Translation and Interpreting.

Students must make an online request within the period established by the faculty and send a copy to the teacher responsible for the subject, for the record.

Single assessment will be carried out in person on oneday during week 16 or 17 of the semester. The Academic Management Office will publish the exact date and time on the faculty website.

On the day of the single assessment, teaching staff will ask the student for identification, which should be presented as a valid identification document with a recent photograph (student card, DNI/NIE or passport).

Single assessment activities

The final grade for the subject will be calculated according to the following percentages:

Exam 1 (test on contents of Chinese literature): 25%

Exam 2 (Chinese reading materials): 25%

Exam 3 (test on contents of Japanese literature): 25%

Exam 4 (Japanese reading materials): 25%

Grade revision and resit procedures for the subject are the same as those for continual assessment. See the section above in this study guide.

Bibliography

Chinese literature

Essential references:

- Mair, Victor H. *The Columbia Anthology of Chinese Literature*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2001.
- Martínez-Robles, David; Prado-Fonts, Carles (coords.); Llamas González de Amezúa, Regina; Relinque Eleta, Alicia; Suárez Girard, Anne-Hélène. *Literatura xinesa*. Barcelona: UOC, 2004.
- Prado-Fonts, Carles; Martínez-Robles, David (eds.), Alicia Relinque Eleta. *Narrativas chinas: ficciones y otras formas de no-literatura* (Catalan edition: *Narratives xineses: ficcions i altres formes de no-literatura*). Barcelona: UOC, 2008.

The lecturer will upload to the Virtual Classroom the compulsory readings to be discussed during the sessions.

Japanese literature

The following books will be used as basic reference works:

- Keene, Donald. *Seeds in the Heart: Japanese Literature from Earliest Times to the Late Sixteenth Century*. Nova York: Columbia University Press, 1999.
- Keene, Donald. *Dawn to the West: Japanese Literature in the Modern Era*. Nova York: Columbia University Press, 1998.
- Konishi, Jin'ichi; Miner, Earl (ed.); Teele, Nicholas John; Gatten, Aileen Patricia. *A History of Japanese Literature*. New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1984, 1986, 1991. (3 volums, disponibles en versió digital a la biblioteca de la UAB)
- Rubio, Carlos. *Claves y textos de la literatura japonesa. Una introducción*. Madrid: Cátedra, 2007.
- Shirane, Haruo; Suzuki, Tomi; Lurie, David (eds). *The Cambridge History of Japanese Literature*. Nova York, Columbia University Press, 2015. (Disponible en versió digital a la biblioteca de la UAB)

At the beginning of the part of the subject on Japanese literature, the lecturer will upload a dossier containing the compulsory reading materials that will be discussed in class to the Virtual Campus.

Software

No specific software will be used.

Groups and Languages

Please note that this information is provisional until 30 November 2025. You can check it through this [link](#). To consult the language you will need to enter the CODE of the subject.

Name	Group	Language	Semester	Turn
(TE) Theory	1	Catalan	second semester	morning-mixed