Course syllabus

Japanese for Engineers
Japanska för tekniker

GEMA70, 15.0 credits, G1 (First Cycle)

Valid for: 2026/27
Faculty: Faculty of Engineering LTH
Decided by: PLED C/D
Date of Decision: 2026-04-16
Effective: 2026-05-18

General Information

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements: First cycle, has only upper-secondary level entry requirements
External elective for: B4, BI4, BME4, BR4, C4, D4, E4, F4, I4, K4, L4, M4, MD4, N2, Pi4, R4, RH4, V4, W4
Language of instruction: The course will be given in Swedish

Aim

- to give elementary knowledge in Japanese.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding
For a passing grade the student must

- show elementary knowledge about Japanese grammar and certain basic concepts in Japanese linguistics
- show elementary knowledge about the three writing systems, including the systematic construction of kanji characters

Competences and skills
For a passing grade the student must

- be able to master the two writing systems hiragana and katakana as well as certain kanji characters
- be able to demonstrate basic practical language skills with regard to pronunciation, elementary conversation and listening comprehension.

Contents

The course is primarily focused on practical language skills in Japanese, i.e. grammatical structure, vocabulary, hearing comprehension, reading of simpler texts as well as written and oral presentation. The writing systems hiragana and katakana are introduced as are certain basic kanji characters. The course also includes lectures on basic theory of Japanese grammar.

Examination details

Grading scale: UG - (U, G) - (Fail, Pass)
Assessment: Written and oral examination.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Modules
Code: 0110. **Name:** Japanese for Engineers.
Credits: 15.0. **Grading scale:** UG - (U, G).

Admission

The number of participants is limited to: 25
Selection: Credits awarded or credited within the study programme.
The course might be cancelled: if the number of applicants is less than 20.

Reading list

- Halpern, Jack: Kodansha Kanji Learner’s Dictionary: Revised and Expanded. Kodansha International, 2013, ISBN: 9781568364070. 2nd edition. Reference literature.
- Heisig, James W: Remembering the Kanji I: a complete course on how not to forget the meaning and writing of Japanese characters. Japan Publications Trading Company, 2011, ISBN: 9784889960754. Reference literature.
- Makino, Seiichi and Tsutsui, Michio: Dictionary of basic Japanese grammar: Nihongo kihon bunpo jiten. Tokyo: The Japan Times, 1986. Reference literature.
- Banno, Eri (red.): Genki: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese 1. Tokyo: The Japan Times, 2020, ISBN: 978-4-7890-1730-5.
- Hasegawa, Yoko: Japanese: A linguistic introduction. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2015, ISBN: 9781107611474.
- Banno, Eri: Kanji Look and Learn. Tokyo: The Japan Times, 2009, ISBN: 9784789013499. Reference literature.

Contact

Course coordinator: Rika Hayashi, rika.hayashi@ostas.lu.se
Course homepage: https://www.sol.lu.se/en/japanska

Further information

The course consists of evening lectures and seminars. The teaching is in Swedish, Japanese and possibly English.