MASTER OF ARTS IN JAPANESE STUDIES

The Programme aims to provide a rigorous education in Japanese studies from inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary perspectives for students who have not majored in Japanese studies or Japanese language programmes, and for students who have majored in Japanese studies and who would like to build upon their knowledge with advanced study in specialized topics. The Programme offers language-related courses for students who have already achieved high levels of Japanese language proficiency (N1 on the Japanese Language Proficiency Exam).

At the conclusion of the program, students will be able to:
- identify and critically analyze major social science theories and approaches in the study of Japanese society and culture
- identify and articulate key social and cultural issues affecting modern Japan
- recognize and apply appropriate approaches in understanding a variety of social and cultural issues in Japan, think critically and constructively about Japan, and be able to apply critical thinking to analyze other societies and take positive actions in everyday situations

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ADMISSION
All applicants shall have:
- graduated from a recognized university and obtained a Bachelor's degree, normally with honours not lower than Second Class, or
- graduated from an honours programme of a recognized university with a Bachelor's degree, normally achieving an average grade of no lower than "B" in undergraduate courses, or
- completed a course of study in a tertiary educational institution and obtained professional or similar qualifications equivalent to an honours degree.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
All students should fulfill the English Language Proficiency Requirement prescribed below before they are admitted:
- Possess a pass grade in English in one of the following examinations:
  - Hong Kong Advanced Level Exam;
  - Hong Kong Higher Level Exam;
  - CUHK Matriculation Exam;
  - General Certificate of Education Examination A-Level/AS-Level;
  - achieve level 4 or above in the HKDSE;
  - have a degree from a university in Hong Kong or an English speaking country;
  - submit one of the following scores for assessment by the programme concerned:
    - TOEFL
    - GMAT (Verbal);
    - IELTS, or
    - (TOEFL and IELTS are considered valid for two years from the test date.)
- have obtained a recognized professional qualification awarded in Hong Kong or an English speaking country.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
Students are required:
- to complete 24 units of courses with at least 3 units selected from the core course list.
- to achieve a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0

DURATION (PART-TIME)
Normative Study Period: 2 years
Maximum Study Period: 4 years

TUITION
HK$50,000 per annum

APPLICATION DEADLINE
26 February 2018

INQUIRIES
- E-mail: Japanese-studies@cuhk.edu.hk
- Telephone: 3943-6479 / 3943-9466
- Website: http://www.jas.cuhk.edu.hk/en-GB/programmes
LIST OF ELECTIVE COURSES

JASP5522 (3 units)
CHINESE-JAPANESE INTERPRETATION
CHINESE JAPANESE PROFICIENCY N1 REQUIRED
This course aims to enable students with a good knowledge of Chinese to develop their skills and techniques in interpreting Chinese into Japanese. Different text types will be used in the class, and basic techniques of interpretation will be provided in stages. Special attention will be given to the fundamental differences between Chinese and Japanese, especially grammatical, syntactical and cultural differences.

JASP5611 (3 units)
JAPANESE HISTORY
This course examines key issues in Japanese history and provides basic training in textual and comparative analysis. Students are trained in how to use primary and secondary sources to study Japanese history. Western and Japanese scholarship on Japanese history will be introduced. Besides lectures and discussions, topical essays and group projects may be required.

JASP5612 (3 units)
JAPANESE POPULAR CULTURE
This course discusses major theories, approaches and writings on Japanese popular culture. Japanese popular culture will be examined through the lens of globalization, fandom, media studies, cultural industry, and cultural diplomacy. Both theoretical and empirical research methods and representative works will be introduced. A fieldwork based group project may be required.

JASP5613 (3 units)
JAPANESE FILM
This course provides basic theoretical training and historical background about Japanese films. Approaches and designs from film studies, media studies, cultural studies and gender studies will be introduced. Selected themes about Japanese films will be discussed in class and students are required to write essays or conduct a group project.

JASP5614 (3 units)
JAPANESE LITERATURE
This course introduces students to the main themes of Japanese literature from the ancient to the modern period. The texts covered include major poets, playwrights, and fiction. The social and cultural context in which the work was produced will be discussed. Students are expected to have completed all reading assignments before class so that the assigned reading may be discussed during the class.

JASP5620 (3 units)
JAPANESE CULTURAL IDENTITY
This course explores how the Yamato nation and the Japanese language were formed based on hypotheses in related fields. How Japanese society arose through the localization of foreign cultures will be dealt with from a cultural historical point of view. Attempts will be made to identify nation-wide characteristics, if any, and investigate the overlapping with the past centuries. Special attention will be paid to the similarities that can be found between the major social reforms in modern Japanese history i.e. the Meiji Restoration and postwar reform. The course also discusses how these reforms influenced modern Japan society.

JASP5630 (3 units)
SPECIAL TOPICS IN JAPANESE STUDIES
This course will focus on specific topics in Japanese studies that are not covered in the regular course offering. These topics will reflect academic needs/interests and faculty expertise.

JASP5531 (3 units)
SPECIAL TOPICS IN JAPANESE CULTURE
This course will focus on specific topics on Japanese language that are not covered in the regular course offering. Subject to the approval of the Programme Director, students are allowed to take this course more than once and gain the units each time they pass the course.

JASP5700 (3 units)
INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT
This course enables MA students to independently investigate a research topic with the assistance of a supervising professor. The research question, research methods, length of the paper and frequency of meetings will be decided at the start of the course through discussion and agreement between the student and the supervisor.