

Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	University of London				
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College				
3	Programme Title(s)	Graduate Diploma Japanese Studies				
4	Programme Code(s)	GDGJAPAN_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A				
6	Home Department	Languages, Cultures and Applied Linguistics				
7	Exit Award(s)	Grad Cert				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year full-time or 2 years part-time				
9	Mode of Study	FT	x	PT	x	DL
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	6				
11	Other teaching depts or institution	N/A				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details (or not applicable)	N/A				
13	QAA Benchmark Statement	Languages, Cultures and Societies				

14	Programme Rationale & Aims
	<p>This Graduate Diploma in Japanese Studies is designed to develop Japanese language skills through small-group language classes, to increase a student's knowledge of Japanese culture in optional modules, as well as improving research and study skills.</p> <p>The course has been designed for those who want to expand their knowledge of Japanese and Japanese Culture in preparation for a Master's degree. This course is also aimed at those who do not have a BA honours qualification in Japanese Studies and those with a qualification at, or near, BA level who would like to take a one-year qualification.</p> <p>This is an undergraduate-level qualification that will prepare students for postgraduate study. Students study this programme in a one-year full-time, two-year part-time or three-year decelerated mode, which helps us to meet Birkbeck's mission to educate working Londoners.</p>

15	Entry Criteria
	<p>Normally a first degree in a subject other than Japanese Studies or modern languages. Language skills in Japanese equivalent to A-level or JLPT N4 (also equivalent to a pass in Japanese 3).</p> <p>We welcome applicants without traditional entry qualifications as we base decisions on our own assessment of qualifications, knowledge and previous work experience. We may waive formal entry requirements based on judgement of academic potential.</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:</p> <p>If English is not the applicant's first language or they have not previously studied in English, our usual requirement is the equivalent of an International English Language Testing System (IELTS Academic Test) score of 6.5, with not less than 6.0 in each of the sub-tests.</p>

16	<p>Learning Outcomes</p> <p><i>On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:</i></p> <p>Subject Specific:</p> <p>A. Use of the target language</p> <p>1. Our Japanese language courses have been mapped to the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) as follows:</p> <p>Stage 4 N3/2 Stage 5 N2</p> <p>The aims and objectives for each of these stages are defined for each corresponding module.</p> <p>2. Communicate fluently and appropriately, maintaining a high degree of grammatical accuracy, in Japanese.</p> <p>3. Be able to exploit for a variety of purposes and, as appropriate, to contextualise a broad range of materials in written or spoken Japanese appropriate to the level attained.</p> <p>4. Be able to apply effectively and appropriately language skills in a professional context.</p> <p>B. Explicit knowledge of language</p> <p>5. Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the structures, registers and, as appropriate, varieties of Japanese.</p> <p>6. Demonstrate a detailed knowledge and effective understanding of the linguistic principles required to analyse Japanese. (This aim applies to certain modules only.)</p> <p>C. Knowledge of related studies</p> <p>7. Demonstrate an ability critically to evaluate through appropriate methodologies one or more aspects of the arts, cultures, histories, institutions or linguistic situation of Japan.</p> <p>8. Demonstrate a broad knowledge and, using appropriate methodologies, a critical understanding of Japanese culture and society gained through one or more of the creative media of Japan.</p> <p>D. Intercultural awareness and understanding</p> <p>9. Demonstrate a reasoned awareness and critical understanding of the diversity of Japanese society and culture; this includes the existence of different cultures within Japan as well as Japanese culture abroad.</p> <p>10. Demonstrate an ability to describe, analyse and evaluate the circulation and consumption of Japanese culture abroad, including students' own local context.</p> <p>Intellectual:</p> <p>11. Identify and describe problems and to devise effective strategies for their resolution.</p> <p>12. Learn theoretical tools and epistemological keys to be able to identify the contradictions regarding the myth of the "Japanese homogeneity" and the "only-one race".</p> <p>Practical:</p> <p>See Subject-specific skills, plus the following:</p> <p>13. Gather, process and evaluate critically information from a variety of paper, audio-visual and electronic sources.</p> <p>14. Develop skills to handle critically material related to Japanese culture and society both in English and Japanese language.</p> <p>Personal and Social:</p>
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	<p>15. Communicate information, ideas and arguments cogently and coherently both orally and in writing with due regard to the target audience.</p> <p>16. Be an effective and self-aware independent learner.</p>
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17	<p>Learning, teaching and assessment methods</p> <p>Learning and teaching methods vary between Language modules and ‘Content’ modules, but in all cases the programme builds on tried and tested methods, and the collective experience and expertise deployed in existing modules within the Department of Cultures and Languages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classes (90 minutes) adopt a mixed-mode delivery, part lecture, part student activity either singly or in small groups, part open discussion. The range of methods deployed is effective in retaining students’ attention after a day’s work. Varied use is made of the full range of available support materials and technologies, including Moodle. Supervised group and pair-work and short student presentations serve to vary the pace of classroom activity. Presentations also offer the opportunity for formative feedback, and may be used to prepare a written assignment. • Language classes are 3 hours long. Activities are varied and are designed to promote student participation. Regular homework is given and returned to students, with extensive feedback, usually within a week. Assessment takes place at regular intervals throughout the academic year and takes a variety of forms as appropriate to the language-level of the module, including in-class tests, oral presentations, essays and other written tasks. • Assessment for ‘content’ modules is via a combination of assessed essays and in class tests.
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18	<p>Programme Description</p> <p>Students need to obtain 120 credits at Level 6 for the award of this Graduate Diploma. There are no core or compulsory modules. However, student must take at least 60 credits from the Japanese ‘content’ modules and at least 30 credits from the Japanese language modules. Additionally, they might also take up to 30 credits from the ‘culture option’ modules.</p> <p>‘Japanese ‘content’ modules (at least 60 credits) Advanced Seminar in Japanese Culture and Society Manga and Anime Extended Essay in Japanese Studies</p> <p>Japanese language modules (at least 30 credits) Japanese 4 Japanese 5</p> <p>Culture Option Modules (up to 30 credits) Film and Politics Industry Placement Representations of Love, Desire and Sexuality</p>
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19	<p>Programme Structure</p>
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1 year full-time sample programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ARMC186S6	Japanese 4	30	Option
6	ARMC203S6	Advanced Seminar in Japanese Culture and Society	30	Option
6	ARMC187S6	Manga and Anime	30	Option
6		Option	30	Option
2 year part-time sample programme				
Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ARMC186S6	Japanese 4	30	Option
6	ARMC203S6	Advanced Seminar in Japanese Culture and Society	30	Option
Year 2				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
6	ARMC167S6	Japanese 5	30	Option
6	ARMC187S6	Manga and Anime	30	Option
Students must take at least 60 credits from the Japanese 'content' modules and at least 30 credits from the Japanese language modules				

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; *COMPULSORY* – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; *OPTIONAL* – Student can choose to take this module

20	Programme Director	Marcos Centeno
21	Start Date (<i>term/year</i>)	Autumn 2021
22	Date approved by Education Committee	Autumn 2020
23	Date approved by Academic Board	Autumn 2020
24	Date(s) updated/amended	November 2020