



## MSc and MPhil in Japanese Studies 2022/2023

### ***Classical Japanese Language***

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*This course begins in Michaelmas Term and continues until partway through Trinity Term.*

Lecture/translation class: MT/HT/TT Monday 9am, HT/TT Friday 9am

**Prerequisites:** Modern Japanese at level 2 or higher.

#### **Course description:**

This course offers an intensive year-long introduction to classical Japanese language for those with little or no prior background, beginning with an overview of classical Japanese grammar and continuing with readings from the *Hōjōki*, *Essays in Idleness*, the *Pillow Book*, and a range of other well-known early and medieval works.

Teaching will be in the form of weekly text translation classes throughout MT, HT, and four weeks of TT, with additional weekly classes in unprepared classical translation in HT (8 hours) and TT (4 hours). (Students should take note that since this is a language course aiming to give them reading proficiency in classical Japanese, the teaching and assessment formats are different from those of essay-based options).

#### **Course Assessment:**

The main assessment will be through a three-hour examination (involving prepared and unprepared translation) in Trinity Term.

#### **Suggested introductory reading:**

- Haruo Shirane, *Classical Japanese: a Grammar* (Columbia University Press, 2005)
- Haruo Shirane, *Classical Japanese Reader and Essential Dictionary* (Columbia University Press, 2007)
- Bjarke Frellesvig, *A History of the Japanese Language* (Cambridge University Press, 2010)

**Statement of Coverage**

This document applies to students starting the MSc and/or MPhil in Japanese Studies in Michaelmas Term 2022. The information in this handbook may be different for students starting in other years.

**Disclaimer**

The information in this document is accurate as at 02 September 2022, however it may be necessary for changes to be made in certain circumstances, as explained at [www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges](http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges). If such changes are made the department will publish a new version of this handbook together with a list of the changes and students will be informed.