



MSc and MPhil in Japanese Studies 2021/2022

Japanese Linguistics (The History and Structure of Japanese)

Bjarke Frellesvig, Professor of Japanese Linguistics, Faculty of Oriental Studies

Tuesdays 4.00 - 5.00 pm Michaelmas and Hilary Terms at the Oriental Institute

Objectives:

The primary objectives of this course are for students: (1) to get a comprehensive overview over the main features of and approaches to the study of the Japanese language; (2) to get a working knowledge of the relevant research tools and literature; and (3) to identify topics and subjects areas for independent research. The teaching for this course will take place in Michaelmas and Hilary Terms (under the titles *Japanese Linguistics* (MT) and *The history of the Japanese language* (HT)), with one lecture a week. Core readings will be assigned for each meeting.

Lectures will address topics such as the following: phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, vocabulary and loanwords, dialects, writing.

Course Assessment:

Assessment will be through a three-hour examination in Trinity Term.

Students will be invited to submit an essay on an assigned topic for assessment by the end of week 4 in either of the two terms in which the classes are taught. Details will be given during the first class of the term.

Recommended introductory reading:

Frellesvig, Bjarke. 2010. *A history of the Japanese Language*, Cambridge University Press.

Kuno, Susumu. 1973. *The structure of the Japanese Language*, MIT Press.

Miller, Roy A. 1967. *The Japanese Language*, University of Chicago Press.

Shibatani, Masayoshi. 1990. *The Languages of Japan*, Cambridge University Press.

Tsujimura, Natsuko. 2007. *An introduction to Japanese linguistics*, Blackwell Publishers.

Unger, J. Marshall. 1996. *Literacy and script reform in occupation Japan: Reading between the lines*, Oxford University Press.

Statement of Coverage

This document applies to students starting the MSc and/or MPhil in Japanese Studies in Michaelmas Term 2021. The information in this handbook may be different for students starting in other years.

Disclaimer

The information in this document is accurate as at 29 September 2021, however it may be necessary for changes to be made in certain circumstances, as explained at 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.