**BA in Japanese Studies**

We are proud to be one of the most competitive, attractive and effective BA programs in the field of Philology not only in Bulgaria but also in the entire Balkan region.

**Qualification characteristics**

***Major: Japanese studies***

**Aim, educational goals**

Our Department is the only academic unit in Bulgaria where regular academic training in Japanese studies is carried out at all three levels of tertiary education – BA, MA and PhD. The BA program aims for the future Japanese specialists to obtain thorough knowledge and a very high level of written and spoken Japanese. We provide comprehensive Oriental education, and strive to train highly qualified Japanese specialists able to professionally integrate themselves not only in Bulgaria, but also in different countries around the world.

**Education (knowledge and skills necessary for successful professional activity; general theoretical and special training, etc.)**

The teaching methodology conforms to its main purpose. The curricula and syllabi are prepared in accordance with the objectives of the ACS in the professional field of Philology and is also in accordance with the state requirements for the training of competent specialists. The academic subjects taught in the four-year course can be divided into three thematic groups:

* **Japanese Language** – Theory and practice of Japanese Language and linguistics;
* **Japanese Literature and Culture** – Classical and Contemporary Japanese Literature; Japanese fine and performing arts; religious thoughts and philosophies; Japanese Ethnography; Contemporary culture;
* **Japanese Society** – Japanese Politics & Economics; Japanese Society and Social rules; Japanese International relations; Classical and Modern Japanese history;

The practical Japanese language classes are methodologically combined with the study of traditional and contemporary spiritual and material culture of the Japanese society, its economic and political models, and other similar Oriental sciences. Modern interactive teaching methods are used in accordance to the latest trends in teaching. Some of the practical Japanese language classes are held by native speakers - Japanese guest lecturers dispatched under the official agreement between SU “St. Kliment Ohridski” and the Japan Foundation for Cultural Cooperation.

**Professional competences and further studies**

Students completing the BA course in Japanese Studies are able to continue with their studies in different universities around the world. Our department also offers a Master’s program in Japanese Studies, which aims to broaden the horizons of Japanology specialists.

Graduates are able to enter different professional fields, such as:

* Education – as teachers in Japanese language and/or culture; specialists in the fields of Linguistics, History, Culture, Literature, etc.;
* Business and Public administration – as experts in the administrative structures of various government agencies and companies;
* Translation - as translators and interpreters in the private and public sectors or the publishing industry, tourism, international relations, etc.;
* Others – as journalists; as researchers in various institutes around the world; and others;