

Mariko Muramatsu

Short note on the current status of Renaissance studies at the University of Tokyo

At the University of Tokyo a certain number of scholars and students are interested in Renaissance studies. Most of the students who read Renaissance related topics usually belong to the Faculty of Letters, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the Faculty of Laws, the Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, the Graduate School of Law and Politics and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences while their topics are especially in the fields of research like Western History, Art History, Science History, Philosophy, History of Legal Thought, History of Political Thought and Occidental Literature (especially Italian Literature and French Literature).

Although there neither is a dedicated research center nor an independent education program on the topic, during the academic year 2012-2013 twenty-four courses on Renaissance-related subjects are offered to both graduate and undergraduate students^[1] by each institute/department. This autumn a new undergraduate program was activated within the Italian / Mediterranean Culture Course in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences to provide undergraduate students with subjects traditionally classified under the etiquette of Italian Literature, Italian History, Occidental History or Classics. In this new undergraduate course, characterized by an interdisciplinary approach, Renaissance studies play an important part.

In each field of this research area no major change was noticed in students' interest for Renaissance studies for the last decade, while the academic relevance and standing of Renaissance as a field of study was maintained more or less like before notwithstanding the general tendency of reducing teaching university positions.

Notes

1. In Japan, where the Bologna system is not in place, undergraduate students enroll in a four years curriculum.

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Title

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