



University of Tsukuba (Ibaraki)



Learning Japanese and Japanese Culture in Tsukuba Science City
– A Global City blessed with beautiful Nature and Culture –

■ Introduction to University of Tsukuba

① Distinctive Characteristics and Overview of the University

University of Tsukuba aims to be an open university both domestically and internationally. It was established in October, 1973 on the principles of flexible education and a research structure that meets the needs of the times. In a world where the social and economic environment is undergoing vast changes, the university positions itself as a frontrunner in conceptualizing the future, and its foremost mission is to become a global center for academic and research pursuits that produces both new knowledge and experts who tackle global concerns.

Academic Community (as of May 1, 2019)

- **Undergraduate colleges:** School of Humanities and Culture, School of Social and International Studies, School of Human Sciences, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, School of Science and Engineering, School of Informatics, School of Medicine and Medical Sciences, School of Health and Physical Education, School of Art and Design.



-Number of faculty members:

Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors, Research Associates Total: 1,860

-Number of students:

Undergraduate (9,840), Graduate (6,685) Total: 16,525

② International Academic Exchange

-Number of international students:

2,372 from 116 countries (as of May 1, 2019)

-Number of exchange agreements with other universities: 386 (as of September. 1, 2019)

③ Number of Japanese Studies Students for the past 3 years

2019: 2,587 International Students and 1 JSSs

2018: 2,683 International Students and 4 JSSs

2017: 2,426 International Students and 12 JSSs

④ Characteristics of Tsukuba City

Tsukuba is located 60 km northeast of Tokyo and 40 km northwest of the New Tokyo International Airport (Narita). With Mount Tsukuba (877 m) to the north and Lake Kasumigaura to the east, the surrounding area is rich in natural beauty.

Tsukuba Science City was established in Tsukuba by the national government in the early 1970's, in order to create a structured hub for research and education outside the Tokyo metropolitan area. At that time, many national research institutes and institutes of higher learning were relocated or newly constructed in Tsukuba. A number of private research and educational institutions followed as well.

The Tsukuba Express train connects Tsukuba Science City to central Tokyo in only 45 minutes.

■ Outline of our Program

① Learning Objective

(a) A course intended mainly to study about Japan and Japanese culture

② Features of Program

(a) This program offers subjects designed specifically for the students in the Japanese Studies Program (henceforth referred to as "JSS"). JSS may also select other subjects, according to their individual interests.

(b) This program places special emphasis on learning about Japanese language and culture both inside and outside the classroom.

(c) JSSs are required to write and submit a Final Report.

(d) JSSs will receive personal attention and individual guidance from advisors and tutors, those who are able to respond to various research contents.

③ Enrollment Quota

8 participants (6 consulate recommendations and 2 university recommendations)

④ Qualifications and Requirements

Applicants to the Japanese Studies Program must satisfy the following conditions.

i) Qualifications

At the time of arrival in Japan, applicants must be enrolled in an overseas (non-Japanese) university in a faculty or department that offers studies related to Japanese language and culture. Applicants who do not major in such fields, but have a strong interest in Japanese language and culture are also eligible for application. First-year students are not eligible to apply.

ii) Japanese language proficiency

Applicants must be able to understand lectures, read reference materials, write reports, and make oral presentations in Japanese. Applicants should have a level of Japanese proficiency equivalent to or higher than N2 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test.

⑤ Objectives for Achievement

The aim of this program is for students to deepen their knowledge of Japan by studying a broad range of topics related to Japanese language and culture. This in turn will help to improve their Japanese language skills.

⑥ Period of Study (Period of Enrollment)

Early of October, 2020 to the late of September, 2021
(October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021)

⑦ Period of Scholarship

October 2020 to September 2021

⑧ Calendar of Events

Late September: Arrival (2019: Sept 24-25)

Late September: Orientations

November: Party for international students

Late November: "Experimental Fieldwork in Japanese Language and Culture" (off-campus)

December: Final Report proposal presentations

April: Final Report mid-term presentations

May: Gathering with Japanese students

July: Final Report presentations

Early September: Closing Ceremony (2019: Sept 10)

Mid September onwards: Departure

⑨ Program-completion Requirements

A certificate of completion will be given to students who have obtained a total of 20 or more course credits and successfully submitted a final report on a chosen research topic related Japanese language and culture.

Table 1 Course Subjects and Credits

| | Course Subjects | Credits |
|-----------|---|---------|
| (I) | Basic Research on Japanese Language and Culture | 1 |
| | Special Research on Japanese Language and Culture | 2 |
| | Final Report on Japanese Language and Culture | 2 |
| | Experimental Fieldwork in Japanese Language and Culture | 1 |
| (II) * | (a) Introduction to Japanese Literature | 1 |
| | (b) Introduction to Study of Japanese Language I | 1 |
| | (c) Introduction to Linguistics | 1 |
| | (d) Introduction to Japanese Language Pedagogy | 1 |
| | (e) World Literature and Japanese Literature I | 1 |
| | (f) World Literature and Japanese Literature II | 1 |
| | (g) Joint Research on Japanese Language and Culture I | 1 |
| | (h) Joint Research on Japanese Language and Culture II | 1 |
| | (i) Joint Research on Japanese Language and Culture III | 1 |
| | (j) Language Education Practicum through Dialogue I | 1 |
| | (k) Language Education Practicum through Dialogue II | 1 |
| | (l) Communication Theory | 1 |
| | (m) Culture and Media in Consumer Society | 1 |
| | (n) Introduction to Communication and Culture | 1 |
| (III) | Comprehensive Japanese | ** |
| (IV) | Electives | ** |

* Subject to change yearly.

** The number of credits will vary depending on the subjects selected.

⑩ Overview and Features of Course Subjects

1) Features of Subjects

JSSs could select subjects mainly related to Japanese language and culture according to individual interest. Japanese Language courses could also be selected in order to improve their Japanese language skills. Subjects related to the Final Report are designed with emphasis on academic writing skill in Japanese.

2) Subjects offered

(I) Compulsory subjects (60-Lesson, 90-Credit Hour)

Subjects offered specially for JSSs.

"Basic Research on Japanese Language and Culture" - Preliminary study for final report

"Special Research on Japanese Language and Culture" - Study for final report

"Final Report on Japanese Language and Culture" - Final report and presentation on a chosen research topic

"Experimental Fieldwork in Japanese Language and Culture" - Field study

(II) Required electives (40-Lesson, 60-Credit Hour)

JSSs are required to take subjects worth a total of 4 credits from the list of subjects in (II).

List of subjects (tentative) and the outlines:

(a) - Japanese literature, mainly classical poetry.

(b) - Phonology, vocabulary, grammar of Modern Japanese.

(c) - Methodology for scientific study of language.

(d) - Japanese language education for non-native speakers focus on course design.

(e), (f) - Japanese literatures translated and introduced abroad.

(g), (h), (i) - International and Japanese students' joint session over topics on Japanese culture, grammar and literature.

(j), (k) - International and Japanese students' team teaching via participation in mock foreign language lessons.

(l) - Adoption of social communication and culture.

(m) - Contemporary advertising culture through media history.

(n) - Modern media society through comparative media history.

(III) Comprehensive Japanese Language courses

JSSs will be assigned to classes based on their level of proficiency according to the results of a placement test. Japanese language courses, which included advanced classes in academic Japanese are offered by the Center for Education of Global Communication (CEGLOC) at our university.

(IV) Electives

These may be freely chosen from subjects offered by the College of Japanese Language and Culture or any other college in the university, according to individual interest.

3) Participatory Subjects (Field Study, Regional Exchange and etc.) and the Outlines

“Experimental Fieldwork in Japanese Language and Culture” in (I) is field study. Together with Japanese tutors, JSSs participate experimental fieldwork conducted outside the university to gain first-hand experience in Japanese culture and Japanese people's life.

4) Opportunities to study with Japanese students

Subjects in (II) and (IV) are regular subjects enrolled also by the Japanese students. By choosing these subjects, JSSs will have opportunities to study and work together with the Japanese students. For instance, in “Joint Research on Japanese Language and Culture I, II, III”, both JSSs and Japanese students do research, presentation and discussion together over topics on Japanese culture, grammar and literature.



A scene from off-campus field trip

⑪ Advisor System

i) A faculty advisor and an associate faculty advisor will be assigned to each student.

Advisor KIM, Inhwa Assoc. Professor

Assoc. Advisor IMADA, Mizuho Asst. Professor

ii) An undergraduate student from the College of Japanese Language and Culture will be assigned to each student as a student tutor, to assist with his/her lifestyle needs.

iii) For the final report, each student will be assigned an academic advisor (in addition to the faculty advisors as described above), as well as an academic tutor (a graduate student).

■ Accommodation

All applicants are eligible to stay in the student residence hall (single room). Students need to pay 1-month rent and a deposit (JPY30,000) upon their check-in. Alternatively, applicants can rent privately-owned apartments off campus.

■ Post-Program Follow-up

The “Nikkensei E-Newsletter” is published annually and sent via e-mail to all JSSs who have completed the program. We also keep in contact with former JSSs via our website and Facebook.



The Completion Ceremony for JSS

■ Contact Information

<Departments in-charge>

◆ Program

College of Japanese Language and Culture
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◆ General

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College of Japanese Language and Culture :
<http://www.japanese.tsukuba.ac.jp/jss/>



Cycling on campus with Japanese tutors