Kyushu University and Japan in Today’s World

Founded as one of Japan’s seven imperial universities, Kyushu University has a proud tradition dating back to 1911. Over the decades it has grown into a prestigious institute of higher education, playing today a leading role in numerous fields of research. At Kyushu there are now more than 18,000 students taking a wide variety of courses offered by some 2,300 academic staff. Twenty years ago, as part of our constant efforts to encourage open cultural exchange, we created “Japan in Today’s World” (JTW), an innovative short-term living/learning experience that allows international students to study in Japan using English as the medium of instruction. The first program of its kind to be introduced at a national university in Japan, JTW has evolved to meet the diverse and changing needs of a growing number of participants from around the world.

The JTW program gives English-speaking students access to academic life in Japan and also offers a full range of Japanese language courses. Beyond developing their communicational skills, JTW provides students rich, first-hand cultural exposure to Japan through a variety of courses, study trips, and other participatory opportunities, including home visits and extra-curricular activities, each designed to broaden understanding and appreciation of Japanese society. Moreover, program components such as independent study projects and individually tailored laboratory research enable students to build expertise in specialized areas. They will find themselves stimulated, challenged, and deeply gratified, no matter what their field of concentration, both by the intellectual experience and by the experience of adapting to everyday life in one of Japan’s fastest growing and friendliest cities. JTW invites applications from highly motivated, academically successful international students with the foresight to take advantage of its unique and exciting promise.

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A Greeting from Our President

As President of Kyushu University, I am delighted to extend an invitation to students from around the world to apply to the "Japan in Today's World" (JTW) program. A unique and deeply gratifying experience awaits you.

Kyushu University, the first of Japan's national universities to offer a year-long study opportunity for non-degree international students, established JTW in 1994. Our mission from the beginning, in which we proudly can claim much success, has been to provide an accessible, high-quality academic introduction to life in contemporary Japan, to our country's history, and to its broader engagement with global society, in combination with intensive language training and a rich variety of co-curricular activities designed to enhance cultural learning and to encourage the building of meaningful, enduring relationships with Japanese.

Over the years hundreds of visiting students representing dozens of leading higher education institutions in Asia, Europe, and the Americas have benefitted from JTW in important ways, gaining the confidence and competence needed for responsible, effective participation in our interdependent world. Indeed, by virtue of their different backgrounds, perspectives, and goals, they have contributed significantly to the classroom and community diversity that make JTW an ideal environment for personal growth and achievement.

Kyushu University, founded in 1911 as one of Japan's original Imperial Universities, has a long-standing tradition of educational excellence that includes a strong commitment to international exchange. Challenging and stimulating, transformative and memorable, the JTW experience exhibits and continues this tradition. It just may be the opportunity that you are seeking...

Sincerely,

Setsuo Arkawa, D.Sc.
President
Kyushu University

Words from the Director of the International Student Center

Since its establishment in 1994, JTW has gone from strength to strength and accommodated more than 740 students from all over the world. I feel very proud to see that this program is contributing to international understanding to a degree that goes well beyond our initial expectations.

"Japan in Today's World" is an academic program for undergraduate level Japanese studies taught mainly in English. Our aim is to enable highly motivated students from overseas to pursue their academic interests and gain a deeper understanding of issues relating to modern Japan in a global context. Participating in the "Japan in Today's World" Program will allow students to study diverse subjects within Japanese studies in English, without language barriers. From the past 20-year experience of running this program, we strongly believe that this unique structure has enabled JTW to become one of the most distinguished study abroad programs in Japan.

Lectures are structured so as to enable the students to acquire knowledge on subjects that may well be remote from the student's major in their home university, as well as providing students with the chance to specialize in a specific academic field. In addition, Japanese language education of diverse levels, the key for a good understanding of the country, will be offered.

The "Japan in Today's World" Program has been historically successful and I sincerely hope that this program may in the future become even more of a bridge between your country and Japan.

Sincerely,

OGATA Kazuo, PhD
Director of the International Student Center
Kyushu University
Is JTW for you?

"Japan In Today's World" (JTW) gives you the opportunity to experience life and study at a major Japanese university without requiring proficiency in the Japanese language. We provide an integrated, multi-disciplinary program with flexibility of choice across a broad range of courses. Regardless of your major, special interests, or level in Japanese, you can assemble a portfolio of study suited to your needs. You can also stay for a full academic year (10 months) or just one semester.

JTW offers a culturally diverse environment in which you can meet and exchange ideas with people from around the world. You will be part of a group of about 45 students drawn from leading universities around the world. Classes are conducted primarily in English, but they are open to our Japanese degree students as well. Those with the needed Japanese skills may take regular University courses. You will be assigned your own "tutor," a Japanese student who will be on hand to help you settle in.

JTW plays a key role in Kyushu University’s wider efforts to enhance inter-cultural understanding and communication skills. Our aim is to enable you to gain a deeper appreciation of modern Japan so that you can better meet the challenges of living and working in today’s global environment.

You are eligible for JTW if you...

- are enrolled in an accredited undergraduate degree program outside Japan, and will remain so for the duration of your JTW participation;
- have completed at least one academic year of college before starting at JTW;
- have a strong academic record (successful applicants usually have a GPA of 3.2 or higher);
- have the necessary English proficiency—non-native speakers must achieve minimum TOEFL scores of 550 (PBT), 213 (CBT), or 79 (IBT) or minimum IELTS score of 6.0, indicating skill levels in listening, reading, writing, and speaking required for successful program participation.

Other short-term programs at Kyushu University

Japanese Language and Culture Course
(日本語・日本文化研究コース)

This program is for undergraduate students majoring in Japanese studies who have passed Level-1 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test or who possess the equivalent proficiency in Japanese language and are ready to take classes offered in Japanese at Kyushu University. For details, please visit [http://www.lsc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/lsc/learning/index.html](http://www.lsc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/lsc/learning/index.html)

Asia In Today's World (ATW)

ATW is a 6-week summer program for undergraduate and graduate students from abroad. Courses are offered in Japanese language and area studies, and held between late June and early August. See the ATW homepage for further information: [http://www.lsc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/atw/](http://www.lsc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/atw/)

ASEAN in Today's World (AsTW)

AsTW is a 2-week international program focused on ASEAN studies and Asian languages & cultures, and is designed for university students from around the world. Kyushu University (Japan) and Mahidol University (Thailand), two of most prestigious universities in Asia, have co-organized the program with the strong support from the ASEAN Secretariat. The medium of instruction is English. See the AsTW Website for further information: [http://www.lsc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/astw/](http://www.lsc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/astw/)

Academic Program

You can plan your own course of study from a range of options to suit your schedule and meet your individual needs.

Study Period Options

Academic year (recommended): October-July
One semester: October-February or April-July

Enrollment Requirements and Choices

All JTW students must enroll in at least six courses each semester (or five courses if also undertaking a semester-long independent study project).

More specifically, you may satisfy the enrollment requirement by taking at least one JTW core course in combination with any of the following, providing your choices add up to the equivalent of six courses:

- as many as five additional core courses
- an independent study project (which will substitute for one course)
- one advanced laboratory research project (which counts as two courses)
- two regular faculty courses (whether taught in English or Japanese)
- one Japanese language course or one language course other than Japanese or your native language
- two half-term courses (these count together as one full-term course)

Certain restrictions apply, however. You may, if you wish, take for credit additional core, faculty, language, and/or half-term courses, but these will not count toward the six-course requirement. Also, study of another language will meet the requirement only if you can demonstrate advanced proficiency in Japanese. Credit is not awarded for English training classes.

And only science and engineering majors may do advanced laboratory research projects.

Courses and projects are discussed below.
Courses and Projects

(The assignment of credits to each course is based on Kyushu University’s credit system.)

JTW Core Courses

The JTW Program draws on Kyushu University’s diverse resources to offer a wide variety of courses in English. In the field of Japanese Studies supervised by teaching staff from various faculties. Classes are held at the International Student Center on our main Hakozaki Campus. Each course lasts for fifteen weeks (i.e., one semester), with one ninety-minute class meeting every week. Although designed specifically for JTW students, classes are also open to regular Kyushu students. You can choose to earn extra credits as well, as long as you arrange with the course supervisor to complete the required amount of extra assignments. If you have the skills you may opt to use Japanese language materials with your instructor’s permission. The 2014-15 curriculum will be similar to the 2013-14 course offerings, which are listed below.

(Lecture; 2 credits/course, 3rd credit optional)

Faculty Courses

Some faculties at Kyushu (Economics, Humanities, and Engineering, for example) also run their own special courses in English designed for international students. Although these are considerably from year to year. Eligibility for JTW students is subject to approval by the course supervisors concerned. If you are fluent enough to follow a regular faculty course in Japanese, you may experience a Kyushu student’s lecture half as you can. You may want only to audit such a class, to find out what it is like, but with permission of the supervisor, you may also take a course for credit. Bear in mind that no more than two faculty courses may be applied to the six-course requirement. (Lecture; 2 credits/course, 3rd credit optional in some cases)

Language Courses

As a JTW student you have access to Kyushu University’s renowned Japanese language courses held at the International Student Center. Developed primarily for the needs of Kyushu’s large number of graduate students from abroad, these run as successive, six-week sessions, with two (12 weeks of consecutive study) offered per semester and counted together as one course. There are eight levels of general courses, catering for absolute beginners to advanced learners. At most levels there are also skills-oriented courses that focus on reading, writing (including kana-learning), and/or speaking. If you have had some experience learningJapanese already, you will need to take a placement test at the start of your first semester so that you can be assigned to the class level most suitable for you. Only one course each term may be applied toward the required six, though it is permissible to take additional ones. For more information, see the Japanese Language Courses web pages at http://www.jsi.kyushu-u.ac.jp/icenter/home.html (2 credits/course)

Half-term Courses

JTW also includes half-semester course options in its curriculum. These provide intensive focus on selected topics and are intended to diversify further the student’s academic experience. Offerings for 2013-14 explore traditional Noh and contemporary Kabuki performing arts, Japanese feminism, research progress in the life sciences, and strategies for successful adjustment to life in Japan. (1 credit/course)

JTW 2013-2014 Core Course Offerings

Linguistic Description of Japanese
Investigates fundamental features of the Japanese language, with a focus on the phonetics and writing systems, cultural aspects, and topics related to verbs and particles.

Modern History of Japan I
Continuing the second semester survey of Japanese history with focus on political economy, social, and other developments of the contemporary period.

Japanese Economy in Transition
Considers recent issues in Japanese economy, with discussions on the causes and consequences of the 2008 financial crisis, and sustainable implications of Japan’s future birth rate.

Japanese Politics Today
Covers major Japanese political institutions, including parties, elections, legislatures, bureaucracy, judiciary, and media, as well as policy and issue areas, and various analytical approaches.

Contemporary Japan and Popular Culture
Examines contemporary Japanese popular culture in its visual, encoded, and gendered modalities, with a focus on its social significance, mass media influences, and consumption.

Contemporary Japanese Literature
Explores modern and contemporary short stories and novels, with analytical attention to how literature supports and subverts the ideas of nature and culture.

Local Production in Kyushu
Surveys the range of material culture and practices used to support Island identity, giving thematic attention to the discussions of local production.

Introduction to International Finance
Introduces concepts and theories of international finance and relevant contemporary issues, with special attention to Japan’s participation in global capital systems.

Asian-Pacific Political Economy
Explores the interplay of domestic politics and international forces in the East Asian region, highlighting issues of development, post-war democratization, and security.

Enculturation and Education in Japan
Examines pre-modern and contemporary socialization practices, focusing on character and identity formation through childhood training and formal education.

Nihon Koe no Studies
Presents an overview of director Akira Kurosawa’s films (1943-1983), with specific focus on themes, images, and techniques in his cinematographic representations of Japan.

Local and National Representations: Nihon (half-credit)
Introduces the history, practice, and aesthetic theories of Nihon, with exploration of Nihon music and practical instruction in singing and dance.

Performing Japan: Embodied Cultural Patterns (half-credit)
Provides a basic introduction to Japanese performance arts through the lens of cultural embodiment, and includes a workshop on dance.

Adjusting to Japan (half-term)
Introduces some of the most important requirements, both practical and social, for effective functioning in everyday social contexts, with focus on appropriate and interaction protocols.

Semester 1 (October–February)

Japanese Cultural Patterns
Examines cultural materials and practices—in classifications, socialization, production, organization, etc.—of contemporary Japanese society applying multidisciplinary perspectives.

Introduction to Japanese Economy
Provides overview of the nature, history, and characteristics of the Japanese economy, with focus on fundamental issues, including the relative importance of external and supply-side dynamics.

Modern History of Japan I
Surveys Japanese history from the late Tokugawa to the period at the end of World War II, covering the major trends and events, with emphasis on political and economic development.

Japanese Life Through Tea Ceremony
Explores the politics and palettes of tea and tea ceremony through English-Language scholarship and replications of tea in Japanese cinema.

Adjusting to Japan
Introduces some of the more important requirements, both practical and social, for effective functioning in everyday social contexts, with focus on appropriate and interaction protocols.

Japanese Digital Culture and the Law
Looks at the emerging digital landscape in Japan and its interaction with existing Japanese law, focusing on privacy concerns, legal downloading issues, cyber-war, and more.

Two Murakami in Today’s Japan
Examines, through reading of works by Murakami Haruki and Murakami Ryu, the dialogue between literature and other forms of self-representation.

Gender in Contemporary Japan
Looks at various issues related to the analysis of gender in the Japanese context such as role expectation, employment and marriage trends, care of children and the aged, etc.

Miyazaki Hayao’s World
Reviews the development of manga and anime through focus on Miyazaki Hayao’s works in these media, with close study of some of his animated films.

Topics in the Study of the Languages of Japan
Examines the position of the language of Japan in space, time, and the minds of their speakers, emphasizing that languages change through time in response to various conditions.

Japanese Food (half-term)
Approaches food through consideration of interaction between taste/sensory intake, ideals, sponsoring companies, media, advertising, and marketing cultures.

Japanese Research Progress in the Life Sciences (half-term)
Presents selected efforts and recent advances by Japanese life science researchers studying viruses, microorganisms, plants, and animals.

Semester 2 (April–July)

Cultural Evolution of Japan
Surveys changing patterns of subsistence, kinship organization, governance, religious activity, and artistic production from paleolithic through early medieval periods.
Study trips periodically take you off campus and outside Fukuoka to experience fascinating aspects of Japanese culture and history. Destinations for 2013-14 include a sumo stable, a Shinto shrine, Kyushu National Museum, terraced paddy fields which you will help plant and harvest in spring and fall respectively, the Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum, a kabuki (traditional performance art) theater, a Buddhist temple and garden where you will practice Zen meditation, a local elementary school, and an automobile assembly plant, among others. Lectures held before each outing provide background and orientation. Participation is optional though strongly encouraged, and a small fee to defray meal and venue admission costs occasionally may be charged.

Credit Transfer

If your home university has an academic exchange agreement with Kyushu University, it may be possible to arrange for the transfer of credits that you receive for your courses on the JTW Program. This is subject to the terms of each agreement, and each case of credit transfer needs to be authorized by the home university.

Academic Calendar

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>Late September</td>
<td>Academic year and Semester One students arrive</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st-2nd week of October</td>
<td>Orientation, Opening Ceremony</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Start of Semester One</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th week of December to 1st week of January</td>
<td>WINTER BREAK</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Independent study project and presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>End of Semester One</td>
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<tr>
<td>Through 3rd week of February to 4th week of March</td>
<td>SPRING BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late March</td>
<td>Semester Two students arrive</td>
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<tr>
<td>1st week of April</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Start of Semester Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd week of July</td>
<td>Independent study project and presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>End of Semester Two, Closing Ceremony</td>
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Tuition and Fees

Tuition and Fees: You will be charged 14,600 yen* (as of 2013) for each registered credit—a total of 177,600 yen (for 12 credits) per semester, payable at the start of the term.

*Rate is subject to change.

Waiver: You may be exempt from paying tuition, however, if your home university has a student exchange agreement with Kyushu that includes a mutual waiver arrangement.

Scholarships

If your home university has a student exchange agreement with Kyushu University, you may apply for one of a small number of scholarships funded by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO). You must indicate your interest when you apply for admission to JTW.

The JASSO award provides:

- a monthly allowance of 80,000 yen, disbursed during your period of enrollment at JTW.

You are eligible to be considered for the JASSO scholarship if:

- your home university has a formal student exchange agreement with Kyushu University;
- you will not be receiving other substantial financial support to study in Japan.

Please note that mere eligibility for the JASSO scholarship does not assure the award, and that not all eligible applicants will be granted the scholarship due to limited available funding. See JASSO’s website for further details:

http://www.jasso.go.jp/index_e.html

Campus Resources and Facilities

Most JTW classes are held at the International Student Center on Hozukai Campus, which has a lounge for study and informal gatherings. Foreign newspapers, international magazines, and a wealth of academic books in Japanese, English, and other languages are available at the main university library just across the road, where you will also find multimedia computers that allow full electronic access to thousands of online academic journals published from around the world. A medical clinic for addressing minor health issues is located just next door to the Center; in case of more serious problems, several hospitals, including the University’s highly regarded medical center, are conveniently close by. There are several cafeterias on campus open for lunch and dinner that serve typical, everyday Japanese dishes at affordable prices, around 300 to 500 yen; discount tickets for these meals can be bought at the adjacent snack shops. And you will have use of the University’s athletic facilities, including gym, with its weight-training and martial arts rooms, basketball court, and more.

Housing

As a new arrival at Kyushu University, you are guaranteed an air-conditioned single or shared room in an international student residence. Laundry is also available. Shopping for food and other necessities is found conveniently nearby. Occupancy fees, covering rent, electricity, gas, and water vary by room size and location. Though public phones can be found, most JTW students obtain mobile phones soon after arriving, and come to rely heavily on them.
Club Activities

The University offers a wide range of club activities from classical music and tea ceremony to archery, swimming, volleyball, and the martial arts, including judo and karate. These meet on regular basis and are an excellent way to make Japanese friends. In the past, some JTW students have gone on to represent the university in local orchestras, kendo, rugby, aikido, and baseball. If you are interested in adding a highly rewarding extra-curricular dimension to your JTW experience, you will be encouraged to do so, your JTW tutor will help you become involved.

Home Visits

If you are interested, we can introduce you to a Japanese family in the Fukuoka City area, typically with children, who will host you on periodic weekend visits to their home throughout the year as well as take you out to enjoy popular local sites and events. If you want to experience traditional Japanese New Year activities at first hand, too, we will try to place you with a family during the holiday week. Some JTW students, in fact, end up staying with more than one host family, developing warm, lasting friendships.

Health Insurance

It is extremely important to have health (injury and sickness) insurance coverage during your participation in the JTW Program, especially given the potentially high costs of medical care in Japan. You of course may take out your own policy before you arrive, but note that whether you are spending the full academic year or a single semester in Kyushu, you are required to sign up for Japanese national health insurance. This costs about 19,000 yen annually, with premium payments comfortably spread out over monthly installments. The program covers 70% of medical bills (hospital fees and related medical expenses). An additional mandatory insurance program, costing 5,000 yen for the year, provides phone-based Japanese-English translation help when receiving medical treatment and assistance locating treatment centers anywhere in Japan.

Estimated Living Costs

Living costs are significantly lower in Fukuoka than in Tokyo, Kyoto or Osaka, not least because the easy access to campus cuts down on transport costs. You will need something like 80,000-100,000 yen a month to get by (this would not cover tuition and other academic fees). We estimate a monthly budget as follows:

- Housing and utilities: 15,000-30,000 yen
- Food: 10,000-20,000 yen
- Local transportation: 5,000-10,000 yen
- Books and supplies: 2,000-4,000 yen
- Health insurance: 2,000 yen
- Personal expenses: 20,000-30,000 yen

Tutors and Conversation Partners

Both JTW tutors and conversation partners are Japanese students at Kyushu University who provide one-on-one assistance to JTW students. Tutors will be friend and look after you in a variety of ways. They will pick you up from the airport, help you to settle in, explore with you Fukuoka City and its surroundings, accompany you on program outings, arrange informal parties and trips, introduce you to the university club of your choice, and otherwise offer their support throughout the year. Of course interacting with tutors will help you improve your Japanese conversation skills, but you have in addition the option of being assigned one or more conversation partners should you wish to have more regular and informal occasions to practice. In the typical arrangement, conversation partners talk with you in Japanese at least one hour every week. Many of the tutors and conversation partners are thinking of studying abroad next year themselves, and so are highly motivated to work with you.

Sentiments

Throughout the program year, JTW offers frequent and extensive feedback to its students. This gives you an important voice, allows us to stay in close touch with what you are feeling about the program and your experience, and helps us constantly to improve our efforts. Below is a sampling of comments submitted anonymously by recent participants, when we asked for evaluations of our program period conducted.

On JTW overall:

- "The program structure was good. The opportunities were plentiful and well planned. My experience award was a wonderful one which I will carry with me for the rest of my life." (I found meeting so many people from around the world. "A well-structured program that brings lots of insights into Japan." "JTW gave me a great opportunity. I never forget it." "A very good-structured program for foreign students who have not yet mastered Japanese." "A good opportunity to experience and challenge for me." "Fun is the strongest part of the program." "Structure of the program is excellent. I like the two periods of classes. ... free time to do other things... perfect mixture." "An excellent program. Everything is organized for you." "A really good program... would recommend it to anyone." "An organized experience." "Everyone was really nice and friendly." "Structure of the program was impressive. Provided a wide range of topics." "A really good experience.

On the JTW core courses and ISP's:

- "Very fair and excellent." "Very positive and responsive to the needs of the students." "Incredibly kind and..." "Incredibly kind..." "A lot of things about Japan." "Readings are really interesting." "Two different teachers on different topics so interesting." "Thank you for holding such a wonderful class." "Everything is perfect. Well-structured, very good course." "Really informative and engaging. I feel that I learnt a lot." "Extremely relevant. Interesting lectures. Very, very, very nice class." "Best class that I have ever attended in my life. The teacher is passionate... it’s all been really good and relevant." "I greatly enjoyed my research, and I learned a great deal." "ISP has given me valuable knowledge about Japan, its culture and its language." "My supervisor was super helpful and super nice." "I had a very good time with my supervisor." "Supervisor was always willing to help me and was very responsive throughout the year." "My supervisor has been extremely kind and helpful... gave me a lot of help and advice." "Very helpful and kind... very professional and helpful." "Very professional and helpful." "... one of the best aspects of the program." "They took good care of us always and treated us all equally well." "I really appreciate all the hard work you put in." "Wonderful support for the whole year." "It’s nice to know that they are there."

On the study trips:

- "I think the trips are the best aspect of JTW." "I loved the study trips-I wish we took more!" "Study trips were all good and they provided me with memories and experiences here." "Perfect! No improvement needed." "(During study trip, I learned a lot about Japanese culture and had good memories with program mates.)" "Very satisfactory and appropriate." "A very good variety to learn about every aspect of Japanese culture." "Very interesting... I was able to get a better understanding of Japanese culture through them." "Very short: The most enjoyable part of the JTW program." "Enjoyed every field trip, they are very fun and meaningful." "... an absolutely fantastic opportunity." "... provide an opportunity to visit places where you do not have chances to..." "A fantastic chance to experience Japanese culture from different angles.

Regarding tutor and conversation partners:

- "My tutor is perfect." "Especially in the difficult beginning of JTW, my tutor helped me a lot." "100% OK." "We met once a week, and would have lunch, go to movies, talk, talk, talk..." "Really good idea! Works as well to integrate myself into Japanese society." "Such a nice and friendly person... we went out, shopped, did a lot of activities..." "Always came to my trips." "Helped me with my ISP and also shared my worries." "Very kind, friendly and helpful." "It was a great opportunity to practice Japanese." "I gained a lot of useful vocabulary." "It was the best experience I have ever been in my life..." "I have made many Japanese friends and my partner always helps me with my Japanese.

On home visits:

- "I’m really happy for my host mom, I have a great time with my host family." "I have met so much, host family is the best part of JTW." "Every aspect of them I loved very much, BRAVO!" "We were able to develop a really good relationship." "I think my family for their kindness and warmth." "I visited my home to have Japanese meals, and met a few of their children. I once experienced the ritual and daily life of a local family." "They took me in as a real part of the family. It’s a fantastic experience."
Applying to JTW
To be considered for the JTW Program, you must arrange for your application and supporting documents to reach us by February 10, for October enrolment, or by November 10, for April enrolment. The materials to submit include:
1) A completed JTW Application Form
2) An 800-word typed essay on “Why JTW is for me”
3) An independent study project proposal (if you intend to undertake a project)
4) An advanced laboratory research proposal (if you are choosing this option)
5) Two letters of recommendation
6) Your official academic transcript(s)
7) A copy—this is required—of your most recent TOEFL or IELTS score report (if you are not a native speaker of English).

For application instructions and forms, and further program information, see:
http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/jtw/

Please send applications and all inquiries to:
Japan in Today's World Program
Kyushu University International Student Center
6-10-1 Hakozaki, Higashi-ku
Fukuoka, 812-8581, JAPAN

tel: +81 92 642 7381
fax: +81 92 642 2144
email: intir-jtw@imu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

Partner institutions
Kyushu University has student exchange agreements with many institutions around the world.
To date, universities that have sent students to the JTW Program include:

U.S.A.
Rice University
San Jose State University
University of California, San Diego*
University of California, Berkeley*
University of Georgia
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
University of Washington, Seattle
University of Wisconsin at Madison
Yale University

Canada
University of Toronto
Queens University

Chile
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
The University of Sheffield

U.K.
University of Birmingham*
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of London (SOAS)
University of Newcastle upon Tyne
Grenada Institute of Technology
St Andrews University
University of Bordeaux 1, 3, 4, Bordeaux
University of Joseph Fourier Grenoble
University of Louis Pasteur Strasbourg
University of Marc Bloch, Strasbourg
University of Paris, Panthéon 1
Grenoble University of Provence Aix-Marseille
University of Robert Schuman, Strasbourg
Heidelberg University
Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich
University of Heidelberg
Technical University Munich
Catholic University of Leuven
Catholic University of Louvain

France

Germany

Belgium

Sweden
Uppsala University
Royal Institute of Technology
Stockholm University

Ireland
University of Ireland
St. Petersburg State University

Russia
University of Sydney
University of Queensland

Australia

Brazil
Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Chuangan National University
Brahwa Woman University

Korea
Kyung Hee National University
Sogang University

Japan

China
Nanjing University
Nankai University
Shanghai Jiaotong University
Tongji University
Tsinghua University
University of Hong Kong
Zhengzhou University

China, R.
National Taiwan University
National Yang Ming University

Singapore
National University of Singapore
Singapore Management University

Malaysia
Malaysia University

Thailand
Thammasat University

Indonesia
Gadjah Mada University
University of Indonesia

Philippines
Ateneo de Manila University
University of the Philippines
Living in Fukuoka

One of the JTW Program’s strengths is our unique location in Fukuoka. A pleasant coastal city of 1.4 million people and the largest metropolis on the island of Kyushu, Fukuoka is Japan’s gateway to continental Asia. China and Korea are both close by—the city lies midway between Tokyo, Shanghai, and Seoul—and life here still reflects an ancient heritage of cultural exchange. At the same time the city enjoys a growing reputation as a modern, vibrant regional trade and production center. Most recently, MSNBC-Newsweek named Fukuoka a “city of substance,” ranking it among the “ten most dynamic cities” in the world! And Mensole magazine rated it one of the “world’s most livable.”

The signs of prosperity and energy are everywhere. Fukuoka boasts impressive new levels of investment in building and manufacturing, one of the country’s busiest domestic and international airports, a thriving port and shipping industry, excellent public transportation, a compelling skyline mixing traditional and modern architecture, the Yabeno Dome (Japan’s biggest entertainment and sports venue), numerous upscale shopping malls and boutiques, and a rich variety of amusements, including galleries, theaters, museums, and clubs. All set against a backdrop of thickly forested hills overlooking the superb natural harbor of Hakata Bay.

Host to national and prefectural government offices, and to the regional headquarters of many major companies, Fukuoka is Kyushu’s most active, and largest, business center. China, Korea, and the United States have established consulates in the city, too. An increasingly popular tourist destination, Fukuoka lures millions each year, many from abroad, who come to experience its colorful Dentaku and Yamaikasa festivals, visit its famous shrines and temples, wander through outstanding museums, or simply explore its lively markets and colorful streets. And Fukuoka’s many attractive, well-maintained parks and beaches appeal to Japanese and foreigners alike.

With eleven major universities and tens of thousands of students, Fukuoka is noted as a city of youthful verve and fashion. All parts of the urban area are easily accessible by subway, bus, or bicycle, and Fukuoka’s 24,000 foreign residents, most of them from China and Korea, find the bustling downtown district of Tenjin well-stocked with imported foods and foreign language books. The renowned night-life quarter of Hakata also offers a wide variety of restaurants with all kinds of traditional fare and international cuisine. The fresh seafood of Fukuoka is famous throughout Japan!

The best seasons here are the spring and fall when clear blue skies make a perfect backdrop for the abundant cherry blossoms and vivid red maple leaves. While generally mild in winter (with temperatures seldom falling below -3°), it can be quite humid in summer (though temperatures rarely rise above 33°), particularly during the short rainy season.

Foreign residents and visitors often comment on the friendliness and international outlook of the people of Fukuoka, making it the special place that it is. This reflects the city’s longstanding tradition of openness to the world, exhibited today in the city’s wide range of friendship societies and support services. You will find a warm welcome wherever you go, which is why Fukuoka is rated consistently as one of the best environments in Asia to live.
Kyushu

A land of mountains, hot springs, and historic treasures, Kyushu has always been at the center of Japan’s cultural contacts with the world outside. You can take advantage of winter and spring breaks to explore the island or other parts of Japan, while Korea and China are just a short trip away by hydrofoil or plane. It’s a great way to deepen your understanding of this fascinating part of Asia.