



# Okayama University (Okayama Prefecture)



This program aims at deepening your comprehension of Japanese language, culture, economy, law, and education.

The program offers the following classes;

(1) Japanese language classes with various levels and topics, (2) Special courses on Japanese culture, economy, law, and education, (3) Courses at the Faculties of Letters, Law, Economics and Education

## ■ University Overview

### Characteristics and Overview of Okayama University

#### 1) Characteristics and History

Okayama University was founded in 1949 on the basis of its predecessors Okayama Medical College and Sixth High School, which were founded in 1922 and 1900 respectively. Now, it has 11 faculties and 8 graduate schools and is one of the biggest national universities in Japan.

One of its characteristics lies in its emphasis on international exchanges.

The Language Education Center provides Japanese language courses to international students and the Center for Global Partnerships and Education supports their living in Japan.

#### 2) Number of Students (as of May 1, 2018)

Academic Staff 1,478

Undergraduate Students 10,157

Graduate Students 2,988

#### International Exchanges (as of May 1, 2018)

International Exchange Agreement

University Level : 156 Faculty Level : 151

#### Number of International Students & Japanese Studies Students (as of May 1, each year)

2018: International Students 710,  
Japanese Studies Students 3

2017: International Students 685,  
Japanese Studies Students 2

2016: International Students 602,  
Japanese Studies Students 5

## Characteristics of Okayama Prefecture

Okayama Prefecture is in the Chugoku region, which is located in the western part of the Japanese Islands, and faces the Seto Inland Sea. The Mizushima Industrial District and manufacturing industry are prosperous. It is also famous for farm products and marine products. Okayama city, where Okayama University is located, is the capital of Okayama Prefecture and one of major political, economic, commercial, educational and cultural centers of the Chugoku region. Okayama city's population is approximately 720,000.

It is a convenient key city in the transportation network. By using Super Express (Shinkansen), it is about 3.5 hours from Tokyo and 45 minutes from Shin-Osaka.



## ■ Overview of the Courses

### Course Objectives:

A course intended mainly to improve Japanese language proficiency with supplementary study about Japan and Japanese culture.

### Characteristics

Students will belong to the Faculty of Letters, Education, Economics, or Law, and will be supervised by academic advisors. They can attend classes offered for Japanese students in their faculty if their language proficiency is sufficient. They also can attend the seminars related to their research interest.

## Number of Students to be Accepted: 5

( 3 recommended by Embassy and  
2 recommended by University )

## Qualifications and Requirements:

Candidates are expected to have Japanese language ability equivalent to the N2 Level or above of the Japanese Proficiency Test (6,000 words, 1,000 kanji) .

## Purpose of the Course:

The aims of the courses are to aid students in improving their academic Japanese language skills as well as to deepen their specialized knowledge of Japan.

## Period of the Course:

From October 2019 to September 2020  
(including self-study period)  
Closing ceremony: September 16<sup>th</sup> 2020

## Course Outlines:

There are four terms in a year:

Each term consists of 8 weeks.

Students can take classes that suit their interests and Japanese language levels upon the consultation with their academic advisors. There are no required classes. The classes offered are as follows;



◆ **Japanese Language Courses**

Students will be assigned to Japanese language classes based on the result of the placement test. Japanese 5 is designed for students aiming for level N2 of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), and Japanese 6 is for those aiming for level N1. Applied Japanese and Advanced Japanese Courses offered in the Faculty of Letters are for those who have reached the level of JLPT N1.

◇ **Intermediate / Advanced Course  
(in the Center for Liberal Arts and Language Education)**

Japanese 5 (The 1st - 4th Term)	Integrated class for upper-intermediate students	60 hrs
Extensive Reading 2 (The 1st - 4th Term)	Training for extensive reading	15 hrs
Japanese through Films 2 (The 1st - 4th Term)	Learn Japanese through dramas and movies	15 hrs
Intermediate Kanji and Vocabulary (The 1st - 4th Term)	Reinforce Kanji and vocabulary	15 hrs
Intermediate Grammar 2 (The 1st - 4th Term)	Reinforce grammar	15 hrs
Japanese Culture and Society (The 1st - 2nd Term)	Learn about Japanese culture and society	15 hrs
Study of Okayama (The 3rd - 4th Term)	Learn about Okayama through project works	15 hrs
Media Literacy (The 3rd - 4th Term)	Learn media literacy in Japanese	15 hrs
Japanese 6 (The 1st - 4th Term)	Integrated class for advanced Japanese students	60 hrs
Applied Japanese (The 1st - 4th Term)	Skill-specific course focusing on reading, writing, listening and speaking for advanced learners	15 hrs each

◇ **Advanced Course  
(in the Faculty of Letters, Law and Economics)**

Japanese 1 a/b (The 1st - 4th Term)	Advanced novel-reading class	15 hrs
Japanese 2 a/b (The 2nd and 4th Term)	Advanced grammar and listening	15 hrs
Japanese Studies a/b (The 1st and 3rd Term)	Discuss topics concerning the Japanese culture	15 hrs
Japanese Economic Affairs (The 1st - 4th Term)	Study Japanese economic affairs	15 hrs
General Guidance on Japanese Law and Politics (The 1st - 4th Term)	Introductory class on Japanese law and politics	15 hrs



◆ **Optional Courses  
(Fieldwork/Regional Exchange)**

Study of Japan (The 1st - 4th Term)	Learn Japanese culture such as education, food and local community through hands-on experience.	8 hrs each
Homestay (The 2nd or 3rd Term, Intensive)	Learn Japanese values and customs through a homestay.	15 hrs

◆ **Completion of Research Studies**

Students will develop their own research under the direction of an assigned academic advisor. Students are required to give presentations on their research during the course, and to submit a final report.



### ◆ Co-Learning Courses with Japanese Students

Hours listed above represent the total hours one would receive upon completion of each course.

Students can attend classes offered for Japanese students in their faculty if their language proficiency is sufficient.

### Academic Calendar and Events:

#### The 3rd – 4th Term

Late September: Arrival in Japan

October: Orientation for New Students,  
Welcome Party, Classes begin

November: University Festival

February: Classes end

#### The 1st – 2nd Term

April: Classes begin

August: Classes end

September: Submission of Research Paper,  
Farewell Party

Mid September: Return home

### Academic Guidance:

Academic advisors will be assigned to each student. They will provide an academic guidance and an everyday life support.

Coordinators:

Yukako UCHIMARU (Center for Liberal Arts and Language Education),

Ryoichi TSUTSUMI (Faculty of Letters),

Yoshitsugu HIRATA (Faculty of Education),

Yoko HIROTA (Faculty of Economics)

Naozumi KUROKAMI (Faculty of Law)

### Requirements for Completion of the Course and Certificate:

Students must take 10 classes or more per week each term and submit a final research paper.

A certificate of completion will be given upon the completion of the course.

An academic transcript will be also issued.

### ■ Accommodations

Okayama University has four dormitories for International students (Kuwanoki Dormitory, Fukui Dormitory, International Student Shared House and International House). They are conveniently located within a five or ten minute walk from Tsushima Campus, the main campus of the University.

Students enrolled in the Japanese studies course have priority in residing in one of these dormitories during their studies.

< Dormitory Admission fee, Rent and Utility Bills >

【Dormitory Admission Fee】 30,000 yen

【Rent】

●Kuwanoki Dormitory :

Rent North Wing 16,000 yen per month

South Wing 14,000 yen per month

●International Student Shared House :

Rent 23,000 yen per month

●International House : Rent 27,000 yen per month

●Fukui Dormitory : Rent 28,000 yen per month

\* Electricity, water and gas will be charged.

**\*Rent is subject to change.**

Kuwanoki Dormitory      International Student Shared House      Fukui Dormitory



### ■ Follow-up

Okayama University organized the Okayama University International Alumni Association in 2011 and the general meeting is held once a year. The Okayama University International Alumni Association will serve as a way to disseminate information between alumni association members and students of Japanese Studies at Okayama University in addition to providing alumni who do not belong to the association a way to stay connected with Okayama University.

After studying Japanese Studies at Okayama University, some students have returned to continue their research.



### ■ Contact

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Center for Global Partnerships and Education:

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