



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

1. 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.

Center for Liberal Arts and Language Education provides Japanese language courses to international students and Institute of Global Human Resource Development supports their living in Japan.

2) Number of Students (as of May 1, 2019)

Academic Staff: 1,466

Undergraduate Students: 10,113

Graduate Students: 2,899

2. International Exchanges (as of May 1, 2019)

International Exchange Agreement

University Level : 163 Faculty Level : 169



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

2019: International Students: 768, Japanese Studies Students: 4

2018: International Students: 710, Japanese Studies Students: 3

2017: International Students: 685, Japanese Studies Students: 2

4. 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

1. Course Objectives:

(b) A course intended mainly to improve Japanese language proficiency

2. 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.

3. Number of Students to be Accepted: 5

(3 recommended by Embassy and 2 recommended by University)

4. 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)

5. 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.

6. Period of the Course:

From October 1, 2020 to late August, 2021
(October 1st, 2020 – August 31st, 2021)

7. Period of the Scholarship

From October 2020 to August 2021

8. 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
 Middle August: Submission of Research Paper
 Late August: Completion Ceremony
 Return

9. Requirements for Completion of the Course and Certificate:

Students must take 6 credits or more from the elective classes in 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.

10. Course Outlines:

1) Characteristics of the course

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.

2) Curriculum

Electives

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)

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

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

Course	Course Description	Study Hours/ Term	Credits/ Term
Japanese 1 a/b (The 1st - 4th Term)	Advanced novel-reading class	15 hrs	1
Japanese 2 a/b (The 2nd and 4th Term)	Advanced grammar and listening	15 hrs	1
Japanese Studies a/b (The 1st and 3rd Term)	Discuss topics concerning the Japanese culture	15 hrs	1
Superior Japanese (The 4th Term)	Research Japanese language based on the professional perspective and learn academic Japanese	15hrs	1
Japanese Economic Affairs I A/ I B/ II A/ II B (The 1st - 4th Term)	Study Japanese economic affairs	30 hrs	2
General Guidance on Japanese Law and Politics a/b (The 1st - 4th Term)	Introductory class on Japanese law and politics	15 hrs	1

3) Fieldwork/Regional Exchange

Course	Course Description	Study Hours/ Term	Credits/ Term
Study of Japan (The 1st - 4th Term)	Learn Japanese culture such as education, food and local community through hands-on experience.	15 hrs	1

4) Co-Learning Courses with Japanese Students

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

11. 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)
Takashi NARIHIRO (Faculty of Law)



■ Accommodations

Japanese Studies Students have a priority to reside in dormitories for international students during their studies.

The rent of the dorms are follows. The bill for rent and utility will be sent to you after you move-into the dorm. Admission fee of 30,000 yen (one time/stay, non-refundable) will be charged as well.

• Kuwanoki Dormitory : Rent : 14,000-16,000 yen/month

• International Student Shared House :
Rent 23,000 yen per month

• International House : Rent : 27,000 yen/month

• Fukui Dormitory : Rent : 28,000 yen/month

* Rent is subject to change.

* Dormitories are no smoking in all locations whether shared areas or private rooms.

* If spouse of trainees lives in Okayama prefecture, trainees cannot stay at the dormitory.

○ Facilities

a desk, a chair, a bed, bath, toilet, kitchen,
a refrigerator, an air-conditioner

○ Information for daily life

Dormitories are located within about 10-15 minutes walk from the Campus of the University. Shopping mall/supermarket is also available within walking distance.

Kuwanoki Dormitory



International Student Shared House



■ 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.

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



■ Contact

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