A comprehensive, integrated living/learning program for international students offering a rigorous undergraduate Japanese studies curriculum, with instruction in English, and rich opportunity for encounters with Japanese people and culture.
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.

Contents

1 Kyushu University and Japan in Today’s World
3 A Greeting from Our President
4 Words from the Director of the International Student Center
5 Is JTW for you?
6 Academic Program
7 Courses and Projects
9 Study Trips
  Credit Transfer
  Academic Calendar
10 Tuition, Fees, and Waivers
  Scholarships
  Housing
  Campus Resources and Facilities
11 Club Activities
  Home Visits
  Tutors and Conversation Partners
  Health Insurance
  Estimated Living Costs
12 Sentiments
13 Applying to JTW
14 Partner Institutions
15 Living in Fukuoka
16 JTW Life (2013-2014)
17 Kyushu
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 America’s 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 Arikawa, D.Sc.
President
Kyushu University

Since its establishment in 1994, JTW has gone from strength to strength and accommodated more than 780 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 principally 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
"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;
- will 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.

Postgraduate students may apply, but should bear in mind that JTW is designed for undergraduates, who receive admission priority. Kyushu University offers other programs conducted in English and specially designed for postgraduates in the fields of law, politics, and administration. For further information, see the following webpage:
http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/intweb-e/admission/index.htm

Is JTW for you?

Japanese Language and Culture Course
(日本語・日本文化研修コース)
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.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/loc/Japanese/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.isc.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.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/astw/

Other short-term programs at Kyushu University

Japan in Today’s World (JTW)
JTW is designed for undergraduates, who receive admission priority. Kyushu University offers other programs conducted in English and specially designed for postgraduates in the fields of law, politics, and administration. For further information, see the following webpage:
http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/astw/

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 tongue
- 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.

Courses and projects are discussed below.
Courses and Projects

(All the assignment of credits to each course unit 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

Independent Study Projects (ISP)

All JTW students have the option to research in depth a topic in Japanese studies of their own choosing, for which they will be expected to present their findings in written and oral form. Projects, supervised by JTW or other University instructors, are typically one term in length, but may be extended to two terms with approval and under certain conditions. Science or engineering ISPs that further your understanding of Japan are encouraged if you have the appropriate major or background. Projects are assessed for effort and achievement at the end of each semester. (2 credits/semester, 4-year)

Advanced Laboratory Research (ALR)

If you are majoring in science or engineering and at least in your third year of study, you may opt to do an ALR project, in which you design and carry out intensive laboratory research. Your first step is to formulate a specific plan with your own training in mind. Once this is approved, you will be assigned to work in a laboratory setting under the guidance of an appropriate specialist in any of the faculties of Engineering, Sciences, Agriculture, or Pharmacy. We will ask you to decide on a research topic before coming to Japan to allow time for locating a suitable advisor. An ALR counts as two courses toward the required six per term. (Laboratory: 90 hours and 2 credits/semester)

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 vary 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 can experience a Kyushu student’s lecture hall for yourself. 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)

Japanese 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 numbers 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 kanji-learning), and/or speaking. If you have had some experience learning Japanese 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 page at http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/center/home.htm (2 credits/course)

Half-term Course

JTW also includes half-term 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 (Butoh) performing arts, Japanese fandom, 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

Initial Japanese studies, the seminar/lecture in Japanese. Topic and historical perspectives, and topics related to verbs and particles.

Modern History of Japan

Continues first semester survey of Japanese history, with focus on political, economic, 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 socioeconomic implications of Japan’s low birth rate.

Japanese Politics Today

Covers major Japanese political institutions, including parties, elections, legislature, 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, embodied, and gendered modalities, and with respect to its social significance, mass media influences, and consumption.

Contemporary Japanese Literature

Examines late-Showa popular and innovative short stories and novels, with analytical attention to how literature supports and subverts the idea of national culture.

Local Production in Kyushu

Surveys the range of material culture and practices used to support Hakata identity, giving thematic attention to the discourses 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

Examines 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 early childhood training and formal education.

Akira Kurosawa’s Japan

Presents an overview of director Akira Kurosawa’s films from 1943-1993, with specific focus on themes, concepts, and techniques in his cinematographic representations of Japan.

Local and National Representations: Noh (half-term)

Introduces the history, practice, and aesthetic theories of Noh, with exploration of Noh music and practical instruction in singing and dancing.

Performing Japan: Embodied Cultural Patterns (half-term)

Provides a basic introduction to Japanese performance arts through the lens of various academic and cultural interpretations, and includes a Butoh dance workshop.

Adjusting to Japan(half-term)

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

Semester 1 (October – February)

Japanese Cultural Patterns

Examines cultural principles and practices—of classification, socialization, production, organization, etc.—in contemporary Japanese society, applying multidisciplinary perspectives.

Introduction to Japanese Economy

Provides overview of the nature, history, and characteristics of the Japanese economy, with an emphasis on the relative importance of demand-and-supply-side dynamics.

Modem History of Japan I

Survey of Japanese history from the late Tokugawa (Edo) period to the end of World War II, covering the major historical trends and events, with emphasis on political and economic developments.

Japanese Life through Tea Ceremony

Examines the politics and poetics of tea and tea ceremony through English-language scholarship and representative 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 propriety and interaction protocols.

Japanese Digital Culture and the Law

Looks at the emerging digital landscape in Japan and its intersection with existing Japanese law, focusing on privacy concerns, illegal 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 definition, 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 work in those media, with case study of several of his acclaimed films.

Topics in the Study of the Languages of Japan

Examines the positions of the languages of Japan in space, time and the minds of their speakers, emphasizing that languages change through time in response to various conditions.

Japanese Fandom (half-term)

Approaches fandom through consideration of interaction between fans/consumers, idols, sponsoring companies, media, advertising, and marketing cultures.

Japanese Research Progress in the Life Sciences (half-term)

Presents selected efforts and recent advances in 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 aesthetic production from proto-historic 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.

Tuition and Waiver

Tuition and Fees: You will be charged 14,800 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

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 varies 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.
Health Insurance

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 a 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 tournaments, kendo, rugby, aikido, and baseball! If you are interested in adding a highly rewarding extra-curricular dimension to your JTW experience, and you will be encouraged to do so, your JTW tutor will help you become involved.

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 surrounds, accompany you on program outings, arrange informal parties and trips, introduce you to local orchestras, kendo, rugby, aikido, and baseball! If you are interested in adding a highly rewarding extra-curricular dimension to your JTW experience, and 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.

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: 30,000 yen
- Local transportation: 10,000 yen
- Books and supplies: 5,000 yen
- Health insurance: 2,000 yen
- Personal expenses: 20,000 yen

Sentiments

Throughout the program year, JTW invites frequent and extensive feedback from 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 to constantly improve our efforts. Below is a sampling of comments submitted anonymously from recent participants, whom we asked for evaluations as their program period concluded.

On JTW overall:

“The program structure was good, the opportunities were plentiful and well-planned.” “My experience overall was a wonderful one which I will carry with me for the rest of my life.” “I loved 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. Will never forget it.” “A very good-structured program for foreign students who have not yet mastered Japanese.” “... a good experience and challenge for me.” “... is the strongest point of the program.” “... structure of the program is excellent. I like the length/periods of classes... free time to do other things... a perfect mixture.” “... an excellent program... everything is organized for you.” “... a really good program... would recommend it to anyone.” “... an unpractised experience.” “... everyone was really nice and... friendly.” “... structure of the program was impressive, providing a wide range of topics.” “... a really memorable year.”

On the JTW core courses and ISPs:

“Very fun and excellent.” “very positive and responsive to the needs of the students.” “Interesting readings... eye-openers.” “I learned a lot of things about Japan.” “... readings are really insightful.” “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 have learnt a lot.” “Extremely relevant, interesting lectures. Very, very, very nice class.” “... the 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 kind.” “I had a very good year with my supervisor.” “Supervisor was... always willing to help me find my way throughout the year.” “... my supervisor has been extremely kind and helpful... gave me much valuable advice and support.”

Regarding the JTW staff:

“So helpful! Always happy! They know about everything!” “They made this year a really good year.” “I love them so much!” “Always helpful when I went to them.” “Very competent and helpful.” “Their kindness is really unbelievable.” “... did a very great job. They were always there and helped with all possible problems.” “... understanding, accommodating, and really encouraging.” “... very friendly and helpful... one of the best points of this program.” “They took good care of us always and treated us all equally well.” “I really appreciate all the hard work and effort.” “Wonderful support 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 saw more.” “Study trips were all good and they provided me fun memories and experiences here.” “…perfect, no improvement needed.” “During study trips, I learned a lot of 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 nice! The most enjoyable part of the JTW program!” “Enjoyed every field study. They are very fun and meaningful.” “...an absolutely fantastic opportunity.” “...provide an opportunity to visit places one does not have chances to...” “...provide 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.” “I’m very Thankful.” “We met once a week, and would have lunch, go to movies, talk, talk, talk...” “... Really good! Works so well to integrate oneself into Japanese society.” “Such a nice and friendly person.” “... went out, stopped, did stuff like normal teenager friends.” “She always came to my help.” “...helped me with my ISP and also shared my worries.” “... very kind, friendly and reliable.” “... it was a good opportunity to practice Japanese.” “I gained a lot of useful vocabulary.” “It was the best source of practicing Japanese while I was here.” “I now made many Japanese friends because my partner always helpful with my Japanese.”

On home visits:

“I’m really thank you for my host mom. I have a good time with my host family.” “I love them 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.” “...invited me to their home to have Japanese meals, took me sightseeing. It is a very good system for gaining deeper understanding of Japanese culture.” “My family was very friendly despite my poor Japanese.” “... really enjoyed spending time and interacting with...their children.” “I could experience the real and day-to-day life of a local family.” “They took me in as a really part of the family. It’s a fantastic experience.”

Books and supplies

Local transportation

Food

Housing and utilities

Personal expenses

On home visits:

“I’m really thank you for my host mom. I have a good time with my host family.” “I love them 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.” “...invited me to their home to have Japanese meals, took me sightseeing. It is a very good system for gaining deeper understanding of Japanese culture.” “My family was very friendly despite my poor Japanese.” “... really enjoyed spending time and interacting with...their children.” “I could experience the real and day-to-day life of a local family.” “They took me in as a really part of the family. It’s a fantastic experience.”
To be considered for the JTW Program, you must arrange for your application and supporting documents to reach us by February 10, for October enrollment, or by November 10, for April enrollment. 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 7351
fax: +81 92 642 2144
e-mail: inttr-JTW@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

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**
- Amherst College*
- Arizona State University
- Berea College, Kentucky
- Duke University
- Hampshire College*
- Hunter College, City Univ. of New York
- Kenyon College
- Princeton University
- 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
- Queen’s University

**Chile**
- Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
- The University of Sheffield
- University of Birmingham*
- University of Bristol
- University of Cambridge
- University of London (SOAS)
- University of Newcastle upon Tyne

**U.K.**
- École Nationale Supérieure des Mines de France
- École Polytechnique
- Institut National des Sciences Appliquées de Lyon
- Laboratory of Applied Thermodynamics
- National University of Singapore
- University of British Columbia
- University of Cambridge
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Oxford
- University of Warwick

**France**
- Grenoble Institute of Technology
- INSA of Lyon
- University of Bordeaux 1
- University of Lyon 2
- University of Montpellier 2
- University of Poitiers
- University of Strasbourg
- University of Toulouse
- University of Tours
- University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines

**Germany**
- Heidelberg University*
- Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
- Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München
- Technische Universität München

**Belgium**
- Catholic University of Louvain

**Partner Institutions**

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*exchange partner
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 MSDBC-Newsweek named Fukuoka a “city of substance,” ranking it among the “ten most dynamic cities” in the world! And Monocle 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 Yahoo 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 Dontaku and Yamakasa 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 nightlife quarter of Nakasu 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.
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.