



KANAZAWA UNIVERSITY (ISHIKAWA PREFECTURE)



ACQUISITION OF JAPANESE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY THROUGH INDIVIDUAL RESEARCH, JOINT STUDIES AND HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES WITH JAPANESE SOCIETY AND CULTURE

◇ University Overview

① Outline of Kanazawa University

1) History and Features

Kanazawa University was founded in 1949 as one of the new national universities, by uniting and reorganizing eight of the high education institutions then in operation, including Kanazawa Medical College, which dates back to 1862. The university has continued to expand since, and now has a total of 3 colleges and 16 schools on its two campuses (Kakuma and Takaramachi) : (1) College of Human and Social Sciences consisting of the School of Humanities, School of Law, School of Economics, School of Teacher Education, School of Regional Development Studies and School of International Studies, (2) College of Science and Engineering consisting of the School of Mathematics and Physics, School of Chemistry, School of Mechanical Engineering, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, School of Environmental Design and School of Natural System, (3) College of Medical, Pharmaceutical and Human Sciences consisting of the School of Medicine, School of Pharmacy, School of Pharmaceutical Sciences and School of Health Sciences. It also has six graduate schools offering degrees in Socio-Environmental Studies, Natural Science and Technology, Medical Science, and Advanced Preventive Medical Science, Law and Professional Development in Teacher Education.

2) Number of Academic Staff and Students

(As of May 1, 2017)

【Number of Academic Staff】: 1,035

【Number of Students】: 10,427

(Undergraduate: 7,851, Graduate: 2,341, Other and Non-degree: 235)

② International Links (As of May 1, 2017)

Partner Institutions: 234 (44 countries, 1 region)

University-Level: 166, Department-Level: 68,

Number of international students:585

Total number of Japanese Language and Culture Program students accepted: 303(including students of year 2017)

③ Number of Japanese Language and Culture Program students

	Accepted students
2017	13 (Embassy nominees:1、 University nominees:10, Non-scholarship students:2)
2016	11 (Embassy nominees:1、 University nominees:9, Non-scholarship students:1)
2015	18 (Embassy nominees:4、 University nominees:13, Non-scholarship students:1)

④ Features of the city

Kanazawa is one of the largest cities on the Japan Sea coast, which still retains the calm atmosphere of an old castle town through its old architecture and rich traditional culture. It is well known for its traditional arts and crafts, classical performing arts and for the famous Japanese garden at Kenrokuen. The four seasons adorn Kanazawa, with the surrounding sea and mountains further emphasizing its natural beauty.

◇ Program Outline

Name of the Program: Japanese Language and Culture Program, Kanazawa University

① Purpose of the course

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

② Unique aspects of the course

This program aims to provide students from overseas with an opportunity to improve their proficiency in Japanese language and to deepen their understanding of Japanese culture and society. It is a one year program conducted solely in Japanese.

③ Number of Students to be accepted : 15 (Embassy nominees:5、 University nominees:10)

④ Qualifications and Requirements for Application

Applicants must satisfy the following conditions:

(1) Applicants must have sufficient Japanese language ability to converse, read and write basic Japanese (a level equal to that of Japanese Language Proficiency Test Level N2).

(2) Applicants should be majoring in a field relevant to Japanese language or culture in their home university.

(3) Applicants must be a junior or a senior student at their home university.

(4) Applicants should be prepared to devote themselves to studies of this program throughout the year. Enthusiasm regarding research work and class participation is a must.

⑤ Aim of the Course

Students should strive to master their field of research and have an aptitude in Japanese equivalent to N1 at the completion of their stay.

⑥ Course Duration

From October 1, 2018 to August 31, 2019 (including the independent research period)

Semesters :

October - February (Autumn Semester)

April - August (Spring Semester)

Oral Presentation Practice and Report Writing Period

:August 1 - August 31

⑦ Outline of Courses Offered

(length of 1 course = 15 weeks, length of one lecture = 90minutes)

COMPULSORY COURSES	Class Hours		
	Autumn	Spring	Total
Japanese	90	90	180
Specific Skills in Japanese	30	30	60
Kanji	30	30	60
Japanese Culture Seminar I	30	30	60
Japanese Culture Seminar II	30	30	60
Program for the Studies on Japanese Culture and Society	30	Elective	30
Survey and Training Seminar	30	Elective	30
Completion Research Seminar	30	-	60
Completion Research Paper and Presentation	-	60	60
Total	300	300	600

1. Compulsory Courses

1) Japanese Culture Courses

(a) Japanese Culture Seminar I (Autumn and Spring)

This course provides the students with a general view of Japanese society and culture, ranging from politics, economics, education and gender issues to the youth culture of today. Lessons take the form of lectures given by specialists from each respective field. This course aims to not only provide students with firsthand knowledge of present day Japan, but also to have them attain an objective view of society at large which would be applicable to their own countries of origin and, also, to themselves as members of those societies.

Since each section consists of a presentation session followed by a debate, active class participation is a prerequisite.

(b) Japanese Culture Seminar II (Autumn and Spring)

This course is linked with the Japanese Culture Seminar I. It consists of presentations and discussions centered around each of the themes presented by the previous seminars. The goal of the course is to deepen students' understanding of the composition of Japanese society and the various social issues that affect it. Whereas the initial Culture classes are intended to impart the necessary information to the students, this second stage is geared towards solidifying this knowledge on a more personal basis. Namely, by shaping it through the own personal beliefs and cultural background of each student during discourse with other class members.

(c) Program for the Studies on Japanese Culture and Society (Autumn: Compulsory, Spring: Elective)

This course provides students with 'hands-on' experiences with Japanese culture. Students will have the opportunity to learn from experts in each respective field, who have devoted their lives to the perfection of their skills, and to give the students a glimpse at the philosophy governing their lives. Through experiencing Kutani pottery, Makie art of Wajima lacquer ware, Kaga Yuzen silk-dyeing, Japanese paper craft, gold leaf, traditional Kaga cuisine and the making of Japanese rice cakes, tea ceremony, Ikebana, Zen meditation, Noh drama, Koto, Haiku poetry, visits to Japanese schools and ateliers etc. students will hopefully acquire a firsthand knowledge of the culture.

2) Survey and Training Seminar (Autumn: Compulsory, Spring: Elective)

Students will conduct joint research relating to the Japanese language or culture, in mixed groups with Japanese students. Guidance is provided on research methodology and on improving presentation skills. Furthermore, interview surveys will be held with Japanese students leading up to discussions on current issues. Through joint surveys and research projects, this course aims to enhance the level of international exchange with the Japanese students.

3) Completion Research Seminar (Autumn and Spring)

Students will give presentations on a regular basis on their own research topics, in accordance with a set research plan enabling them to conduct their research step by step.

4) Completion Research Paper and Presentation (Spring only)

Students are required to conduct a research paper on a topic concerning Japan and to give a 15 minute-oral presentation along with submitting a 15 A-4 sized research paper on the same topic for the completion of the program. Guidance on research methodology will be given in the Survey and Training seminar in addition to individual advice given at the Completion Research seminar. The final oral presentation on students' respective topics will be held in August. Furthermore, a two day camping trip will be held during early April where each student will give an interim report on their respective research.

5) Japanese Language Course (5 classes per week)

Students will take Japanese courses offered by the Integrated Japanese Language Program with other international students according to their levels. In most cases, students of this program are assigned to D, E or F levels and they are required to take comprehensive classes and Kanji class. Also, they will choose one or two classes from skill-specific classes including reading, writing/academic writing, oral presentation and discussion.

2. Field Trip and Cultural Exchange (Extra-curricular)

1) Cultural Activities and Field Trips

In addition to cultural activities conducted as part of the Workshop in Japanese Culture, dressing up in kimono, Noh theater, calligraphy, pottery, participation in festivals, bus trips with Sato-oya families, etc. are arranged.

2) Exchange Activities with Sato-oya Families

Each Student will be introduced to a Japanese family who will serve as his/her 'Kanazawa Family' throughout the year. This program enables students to view Japanese lifestyle from an insider's perspective, and experience Japanese ways of thinking.



Class



Festival in Noto

3. Elective Courses

1) Courses offered by other faculties

In addition to the aforementioned compulsory courses, students are encouraged to take courses related to their field of research regularly offered by various faculties to the Japanese students. At the beginning of each semester guidance will be given on the registration procedures for these courses.



KagaYuzensilk-dyeing



Skiing in Hakusan

⑦ Events

October: Opening Ceremony, Program Orientation Meeting with Sato-oya, Field Trip to Noto

December: Bus Trip with Sato-oya

February: Presentation of Research Plan

April: Interim Presentation Camp

August: Oral Presentation of Completion Research, Trip to Festivals in Noto, Closing Ceremony

⑧ Advisory System

Hiroshi Yamamoto

(Associate Professor, International Student Center, Organization of Global Affairs, specialty : History, literature)

Masashi Mine

(Professor, International Student Center, Organization of Global Affairs, specialty : Linguistics)

Supporting Academic Staff: 30 (Japanese teaching staff and members of other faculties giving lectures in Culture Seminars)

The chief coordinator of the program serves as the academic supervisor and provides the students with guidance and academic advice on carrying out their respective research, preparing for presentations and writing their reports.

Assistance of faculty members from the College of Human and Social Sciences might be obtained in giving academic advice on certain research topics. Individual guidance is also provided on selecting elective courses each semester.

The chief coordinator of the program can provide the students with advice on student life. Furthermore, they are able to use the counseling system available to all international students.

⑨ Conditions for Completion of the program, and Completion Certificates

In order to complete the program successfully, students must pass all compulsory courses, give a public oral presentation at the end of the program on their respective research topics, and submit a research paper on the same topic.

A completion certificate will be issued to those who have successfully fulfilled the aforementioned conditions. In addition to this certificate, students will be provided with an academic transcript in which their grades for Japanese Language classes and compulsory courses of the program and other courses taken will be recorded.

◇ Follow-up

Every year, after obtaining a degree at their home universities, about half of the students who have completed this program come back to Japan and enroll in a graduate school of Kanazawa University or other universities. Also, most of the other students find a job as a translator or as an employee in a Japanese company.

◇ Accommodation

Students will stay in one of the two accommodation facilities given below.

1) Kanazawa University International House

Located within the campus, accommodating international students and researchers studying at Kanazawa University (only single rooms are available).

Rent and Utility fees : Approx. ¥30,000

2) Kanazawa University Student/International Student Dormitory "SAKIGAKE"

Located within the campus, accommodating international students and researchers studying at Kanazawa University (only single rooms are available).

Rent and Utility fees : Approx. ¥30,000

3) Kanazawa University Student/International Student Dormitory "HOKUMEI"

Located within the campus, accommodating international students and researchers studying at Kanazawa University (only single rooms are available).

Rent and Utility fees : Approx. ¥38,000

◇ Contacts

Kanazawa University, International Student Section, Global Affairs Support Office
Address: Kakuma-machi, Kanazawa 920-1192, Japan

TEL : +81-76-264-5293

FAX : +81-76-234-4043

E-mail: st-exch@adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp

Kanazawa University International Student Center Homepage

<http://www-isc.ge.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/eg/index.html>

NIKKEN Homepage

<http://www-isc.ge.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/eg/program/nikken/index.html>

Kanazawa University Homepage

<http://www.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/e>

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Kenroku-en

