



# Osaka University

(Osaka Prefecture)



Attentive instruction, varied class offerings and courses to support individual student objectives

## ■ Introduction to our university

### ① Profile of Osaka University

Osaka University has a long legacy, having been founded as Osaka Imperial University in 1931. In October 2007, it merged with Osaka University of Foreign Studies to become the new Osaka University. Its current efforts are focused on not merely educating students in a single field of study, but producing talented persons with advanced specializations and a broad, interdisciplinary perspective.

The university currently has 11 academic departments, as well as 16 graduate programs, five research institutes, four libraries, two hospitals, and more than 26 educational research institutes. It has an enrollment of over 24,400 students and some 6,400 staff members. Osaka University has three campuses: Suita, Toyonaka, and Minoh. Its Japanese Studies program is conducted mainly at the Center for Japanese Language and Culture (CJLC) on the Minoh campus.

### ② Results of international exchange

(as of May 1, 2016)

Inter-university exchange agreements: 110  
International students: 2,184



Minoh Water Fall

### ③ Foreign exchange students and Japanese Studies students accepted over the last three years

2016: International students 2,184  
Japanese Studies students 54  
2015: International students 2,094  
Japanese Studies students 62  
2014: International students 2,012  
Japanese Studies students 65

### ④ Local features

Minoh City lies in the north of Osaka Prefecture in a region referred to as Hokusetsu. The Saito area in Minoh city is welcoming to international students and functions as an international culture park; developments are underway for a host family system and other forms of exchange programs. Minoh Water Fall, which near our university, is famous for its autumn foliage.

## ■ Course overview

### ① Learning objectives

To learn about Japan and Japanese culture, supplemented by studies to improve Japanese language abilities

### ② Course features

#### ★Attentive individual instruction

All students are assigned to one teacher, who becomes their advisor. In addition to advising students on their studies and lives, the advisor will hold small-group classes for one class every week. During these classes, the advisor will provide each student with instruction based on their study theme.

#### ★Wide selection of class offerings

Over 100 weekly classes have been established entirely for Japanese Studies students. These classes are intended to improve their skills and proficiency in Japanese, as well as develop knowledge required for their research in various fields of Japanese Studies. Students may freely choose subjects according to their levels and academic objectives.

#### ★Two Courses in support of individual objectives

This program includes two courses.

○ **Research course:** Students decide on their own theme and conduct their own research. Guidance on the knowledge of their theme and research methods is provided by their advisors. At the end of this course, students complete a thesis paper or research report.

○ **Practical Japanese course:** Students participate in various forms of training. Under the guidance of their advisor, students improve their Japanese language abilities and skills and acquire various knowledge about Japanese language and culture. At the end of this course, students complete a report on the results of their training.

### ③ Total Number of Students: 60

(40 students with embassy recommendation, 20 students with university recommendation)

#### ④ Qualifications and Conditions of Applicants:

Foreign exchange students satisfying the following requirements may apply for this course. The student should have

1. Applicants must be an undergraduate at a foreign (non-Japanese) university majoring in fields related to Japanese language or Japanese culture at the time of arriving in and leaving Japan.
2. Applicants are expected to have studied Japanese for over two years.
3. Applicants are expected to have fundamental cultural background knowledge of Japan.

#### ⑤ Program Goals

1. To be able to acquire proficiency in Japanese necessary for academic research as well as for community life by taking Consolidation Subjects.
2. To be able to acquire broad knowledge and methodologies of various fields of Japanese studies by taking Research Subjects on Japanese language and culture.
3. To be able to write a research paper or a report in Japanese as well as make an oral presentation based on the result of the research and study during the program.

NOTE: Most students reach a degree of proficiency in Japanese equivalent to level N1 of JLPT or more at the time of completion of the program.

#### ⑥ Period of Program

October 2017 – September 2018

NOTE: The orientations will start at the end of September, therefore you need to arrive to Japan before that.

#### ⑦ General Outline of Subjects Offered

Classes in J program are given for 15 weeks in each semester. All classes are held in Japanese. One class period lasts 90 minutes. Students should take a placement test for every semester. There are three levels in Japanese proficiency, intermediate, Upper-intermediate, and advanced levels.

#### 1. Required Subjects

Students are required to take three types of subjects: Directed Research and Reading, Japanese Language Subject, Research Subject.

##### ★ Directed Research and Reading

Students are assigned to classes of Directed Research and Reading (JDR) depending on the courses they belong to. JDR is exclusive to this program. It is held for 30 hours in a semester. This subject offers attentive guidance to students in preparation for reports and research papers according to their own study fields.

This is a unique point in this program.

##### ★ Japanese Language Subject (approximately 60 classes per semester)

This subject is designed to improve students' skills and proficiency in Japanese. These classes consist of small number of students. They are divided into 3 levels: intermediate, upper-intermediate and advanced. Students are offered 6 categories of Japanese Language Subject:

Reading: To improve reading skills

Listening: To improve listening skills

Writing: To improve writing skills

Speaking: To improve speaking skills

Grammar & vocabulary: To improve vocabulary (the basis of all Japanese language abilities) focusing on grammar and sentence patterns.

Kanji & vocabulary: To improve vocabulary (the basis of all Japanese language abilities) focusing on Kanji and Chinese loan words.

##### ★ Research Subject (approximately 40 classes per semester)

This subject is designed to provide knowledge about Japanese language and culture. Students are offered 2 levels: upper-intermediate and advanced. They are divided into "Lecture" (designed to help students develop the knowledge necessary for conducting research), "Seminar" (designed to help students learn research methods and how to handle materials within their research fields) and "Research" (designed to help students learn slightly more advanced contents within their research fields). It is a major feature of this program that international students are offered so many exclusive classes.

100 classes or more of Japanese Language Subjects and Research subjects per week are provided for each semester. Students may choose approximately 20 classes (600 hours) or more in two semesters according to their Japanese levels and objectives.

The main courses offered in the research course are as follows.

[Research Subject on the Japanese language]:

Introduction to Japanese linguistics/ Introduction to Japanese pedagogy/ Japanese linguistics seminar/ Phonetics and phonology/ Morphology and syntax/ Pragmatics/ Semantics/ Linguistic Typology/ Dialectology/ Japanese language history /Japanese pedagogy/ etc.

[Research Subject on the Japanese culture]:

<Humanities> Introduction to Japanese literature/ Introduction to Japanese culture/ Introduction to Japanese history/ Introduction to Japanese traditional performance arts/ The way of tea ceremony and Japanese culture/ Japanese history/ Japanese clothing history/ Japanese classical literature/ Japanese modern literature/ Japanese art/ Japanese Religion and culture/ Comparative culture, etc.

<Social sciences> Introduction to Japanese economics/ Introduction to sociology/ Japanese economics/ Japanese business administration/ Sociology of Japan/ Women's studies/ International relations theory, etc.

#### 2. Off Campus

Some research classes offer a variety of off campus activities necessary for their objectives.

(Example: art museum field trips for History of Japanese art, Noh performances for Introduction of classical performing arts, etc.).

JDR also offer some field trips and workshops.

(Example: sake brewery field trips, merchant house field trips, interpretation and translation seminars, etc.).

The students will have opportunities to watch some theater performances to deepen their understanding of Japanese culture.

(Example: training trips, Takarazuka performances, kabuki performances, bunraku performances, etc.).

#### 3. Other Classes

Students may take some classes about the Japanese language and culture offered in the Schools of Foreign Studies, Law, Economics, etc. according to their levels of Japanese.

## ⑧ Yearly events

(2015-16 examples)

- Oct Tutor-host family meeting, International students welcome party (Fall)
- Nov University festival, Practical Japanese course field trip (sake brewery), Field trip (overnight, Himeji Castle, etc.)
- Dec Research course interviews
- Jan Theater Visits (Takarazuka, Kabuki), Examination term(Fall)
- Feb Examination term(Fall), Research course interviews, Mid-term presentations, Field trip (one-day, Ise Jingu Shrine, etc.)
- Mar Joint event with Nara University of Education (Sumo tournament)
- Apr Field trip (overnight, Kompira Kabuki, etc.), International students welcome party (Spring)
- May Icho festival (University festival), Tutor meeting, Practical Japanese course interpretation-translation workshop
- Jun Field trip (overnight, Gujō Hachiman, etc.), Lecture meeting of former J Program students, Theater Visit (Bunraku), Visit to Buddhist Sculpture Studio for the Practical Japanese course Students
- Jul Examination term(Spring)
- Aug Research paper or report submission
- Sep J Program final presentations and program completion ceremony



Field trip  
Kompira Shrine



Theater Visit : Kabuki  
Osaka Shochiku-za  
Theater

## ⑨ Academic Advising

1. Persons in charge of the program :  
Yoshinari SHIBATA, Kaoruko MATSUMURA,  
Mari KOMORI, Masafumi SANO, Kiyoyuki TSUTA,  
Akiko MIZUNO
2. Academic advisors and students' enrollments:  
Japanese Studies Program students belong to the CJLC.  
CJLC teaching staff, including the aforementioned  
persons, serve as academic advisors for Japanese  
Studies Program students.  
NOTE: Academic assistance by Japanese tutors will be  
available to students who need it.

## ⑩ Requirements for Program Completion

1. Complete the prescribed number of credit hours.
2. Submit a research paper or a report in Japanese based on the result of the research and study during the program.

NOTE: The judgment of the approval of completion is made by the meeting of the CJLC professors.

NOTE: Credit Transfer: Transfer of credit will be subject to the regulations and procedures of students' home universities. Students who need credit transfer should make inquiries about details of the curriculum prior to application.

## ■ Accommodations

There are several dormitories on campus (Minoh Foreign Students Dormitory, 117 single rooms total; fee: 19,200 yen per month [\*]) available for Japanese Studies Program students. In cases where they are not available, the university will help students to find a room in a private apartment house near the campus (rent: 30,000~50,000 yen per month).

\* This is the fee as of 2016. In case the dormitory fee is revised in 2017, the revised fee is applied.

## ■ Follow-up of Alumni

Every year the CJLC Alumni Survey Project strives to obtain information about the progress of students post-graduation, many of whom go on to become graduate students, university professors, embassy personnel, and figures in Japanese industry. Transcripts or certificates of completion will be issued to alumni as need demands. Alumni living and working in Japan are also invited to participate in the annual 'Graduates Lecture' event, providing current students with an opportunity to learn about the various possibilities after graduation.

## ■ Enquiries

(Contact)

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Osaka University website

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Osaka University Center for Japanese Language and Culture(CJLC)

<http://www.cjlc.osaka-u.ac.jp/>

Japanese Studies program homepage

<http://www.cjlc.osaka-u.ac.jp/program/j/>

