

Undergraduate Students Program [U]

1. Program Outline

The Undergraduate Students Program is a preparatory program for international students who come to Japan to study in Japanese universities on the Monbu-kagaku-sho scholarship. The program is designed to help students develop the knowledge and advanced skills in the Japanese language required for academic activities in universities.

This program is intended for students majoring in natural sciences. All the Monbu-kagaku-sho scholars should remember that the certificate issued to them upon successfully completing this program is a prerequisite to admission to their next universities in Japan.

Classes of the Modern Japanese Course start from elementary level, intermediate level, to advanced level. The level from which the student will start his or her class is apt to change depending on his or her Japanese level at the beginning of April. Students are required to enroll in not only Japanese Language subjects and a Japanese Cultural Background class, but also Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biology courses.

2. Requirements for [U] Program Certificate

- ① All the required subjects must be completed.
- ② The minimum rate of attendance for all the required subjects and electives is 80%.
- ③ Examinations are held for all subjects and must be taken during the scheduled examination terms in September, December and February. For the examination terms, see the Academic Calendar.

The average marks of the scheduled examinations must not be lower than 60%.

3. Outline of Subjects

| Category | Course | | | Class hours | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---|------|-------------|----|
| Required | Japanese | Modern Japanese* (Elementary/ Intermediate/ Advanced) | UJPN | 11 | 18 |
| | Japanese Cultural Background | | JC | 1 | |
| | Mathematics | | MATH | 2 | |
| | Chemistry | | CHEM | 2 | |
| Required Electives | Physics | | PHYS | 2 | |
| | Biology | | BIOL | 2 | |

* Modern Japanese Course

- (1) Students will study Elementary Japanese, Intermediate Japanese and Advanced Japanese. The level of Japanese that students will study shall be based according to the student's degree of Japanese proficiency as of April.
- (2) The Advanced Modern Japanese Course contains the following subjects: Grammar & Vocabulary, Kanji & Vocabulary, Listening Comprehension & Academic Listening, Written Presentation, Oral Presentation, and Academic Reading.

3-1. Japanese Language Subjects

Modern Japanese: Elementary Japanese [UJPN]

Eleven class hours per week (90 min. × 11)

Fundamentals of modern Japanese, including grammar (about 200 sentence patterns), vocabulary (about 4,000 words), present-day Japanese writing system and essential Kanji (about 600 Chinese characters), with emphasis on four basic language skills: reading and listening comprehension, speaking, and writing. Small tests of the vocabulary, rhetorical expressions, and Kanji covered in class will be given at the end of every lesson.

Modern Japanese: Intermediate Japanese [UJPN]

Eleven class hours per week (90 min. × 11)

Designed to develop sophisticated skills in modern Japanese through practice and analysis of about 250 basic sentence patterns and 5,000 essential words, with emphasis on reading comprehension and writing. Small tests of the vocabulary and rhetorical expressions covered in class will be given at the end of every lesson.

Modern Japanese: Advanced Japanese [UJPN]

Eleven class hours per week (90 min. × 11)

Grammar & Vocabulary

This class offers a study of linguistic knowledge which is the basis for all linguistic activity, with emphasis on word usage, vocabulary structure and the mechanism of vocabulary. Expressions intrinsic to the Japanese language, such as idiomatic expressions and idioms, and a wide variety of vocabulary and expressions deeply rooted in the culture as well as the history of Japan will be studied.

Kanji & Vocabulary

This class offers a study of linguistic knowledge which is the basis for all linguistic activity, with emphasis on the origin of kanji and the characteristics of kanji vocabulary. By organizing and re-examining Kanji according to its shape, sound and meaning respectively, a systematic study of kanji vocabulary will be attained .

Academic Reading

Various types of writing such as novels, essays and criticisms will be used, and reading ability will be improved through rapid, intensive, and extensive reading of literature. Furthermore, by carrying out intensive and extensive reading of writings of a particularly special field of study as well as by studying the terminology and expressions of that field, basic technical knowledge required for studying at Japanese universities will be acquired.

Listening Comprehension & Academic Listening

Designed to aurally develop and improve the skill to recognize only the necessary and appropriate items among the various types of information. Furthermore, the student will attend the necessary classes at the university, take memos and notes; thus, based on this, the ability to draw up appropriate answers for exams will be acquired.

Written Presentation

This class is designed to help students to develop basic composition skills for document preparation, with emphasis on the compilation of reports and papers required in Japanese universities. The method of description which most suits the purpose of the document as well as the method of constructing the unique pattern, literary style, vocabulary and theory of the report or paper are examined.

Oral Presentation

This class is designed to help students to develop communication skills, with emphasis on acquiring the basic skills for oral presentation required in Japanese universities. Designed not only to help recognize the manner of expressing one's opinion which best suits each field such as monologues, dialogues, discussions and so on, but also to help acquire the technique necessary when giving research presentations at the university.

3-2. Required Subjects Other Than Japanese Language

Japanese Cultural Background [JC]

One class hour per week (90 min. × 1)

General survey of Japanese culture and a comprehensive introduction to everyday life in Japan. Designed to help students understand both the Japanese way of thinking and various aspects of Japanese society.

Mathematics [MATH]

Two class hours per week (90 min. × 2)

Study of mathematics required for admission to Japanese universities, with emphasis on the mathematical way of thinking and the technical terms and major rhetorical expressions found in this field. Topics include: sets, equations, inequalities, figures, mappings, coordinates, graphs, transformations, radian system, functions, analytic geometry, sequences, series, mathematical induction, binomial theorem and limits.

Chemistry [CHEM]

Two class hours per week (90 min. × 2)

Study of chemistry required for admission to Japanese universities, with emphasis on Japanese chemical terminology, names of elements and chemical compounds, and the technical terms and major rhetorical expressions found in this field. Topics include: the composition of matter, periodicity of chemical properties, chemical reaction calculations, atomic and molecular structure and bonding.

Physics [PHYS]

Two class hours per week (90 min. × 2)

Study of physics required for admission to Japanese universities, with emphasis on the technical terms and major rhetorical expressions found in this field. Topics include: classical dynamics, wave mechanics, electricity, old quantum mechanics, electromagnetics and solid state physics.

Biology [BIOL]

Two class hours per week (90 min. × 2)

Study of biology required for admission to Japanese universities, with emphasis on biological knowledge, Japanese biological terminology and expression. Topics include: the function and structure of cells, reproduction and development, the laws of heredity, biotechnology, biocenosis and ecosystem.

4. Entrance into University

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Monbu-kagaku-sho) will decide on the university to which a student should apply for admission in consultation with the university concerned. The student's choice, academic achievement at this Center, the capacity of the university concerned and other factors will be taken into consideration in making this decision.

The student will apply for admission to the university on the basis of the above decision and be admitted to the university after passing the entrance examination required by the university.