



University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa)



If you would like to have distinctive experiences, this is the right place for you !

Studying in Okinawa surely gives you unique perspectives on Japan and Japanese culture.

■ Introduction

1. University of the Ryukyus

The University of the Ryukyus was founded in 1950 under the U.S. Administration. The university acquired a status as a national institution upon the reversion of Okinawa to Japan in 1972. The university is comprised of the Faculties of Law and Letters, Tourism Sciences and Industrial Management, Education, Science, Medicine, Engineering and Agriculture. In addition to the undergraduate programs, all the faculties have postgraduate programs. Locating in the subtropical region enables the various and fruitful studies on the surrounding ocean, nature, culture, and languages. In the vast campus, there are a pond and farm field and students can enjoy natural atmosphere around the year.

Faculty members: 855
Undergraduate students: 7,281
Graduate students: 903



2. International Exchange (as of March., 2016)

Number of inter-university agreement: 79
(32 countries and one area)

3. Number of international students (as of May., 2016) and students of Japanese Studies Program

2016: International Student 286 (44 countries and area)
Students of JSS 3 (3 countries)

2015: International Student 279 (43 countries and area)
Students of JSS 8 (7 countries)

2014: International Student 268 (42 countries and area)
Students of JSS 7 (7 countries)



4. Characteristics of Okinawa

Okinawa Prefecture is located in east of Asia, at the southwest terminus of the great arc of the Japanese archipelago. Japan's only island Prefecture, Okinawa used to be the Ryukyu Kingdom, which cultivated relations and interactions with other countries. Geographically destined to be a corner-stone of international exchange, Okinawa has been and will continue to be a Prefecture open to the world.

■ Course description

1. Purpose of the course

Improve Japanese language proficiency with supplementary study about Japan and Japanese culture



2. Characteristics of the course

This program is offered to achieve the following three goals: a) to train students to have a higher-level command of Japanese, which enables them to study Japan, b) to educate them to acquire techniques and knowledge of Japan study, and c) to help them to gain a deep insight into Japanese culture in general and Okinawan local culture.

We offer students to study with other international students with various background, which leads the students of this program to discover similarities and differences of Japan and other cultures. Besides, those courses such as Linguistics, Teaching Japanese as a second language, Japanese linguistics, Dialectology (Okinawan dialects), Japanese literature, Okinawan literature, History (Japanese and Okinawan), Cultural Anthropology, Folklore are offered. Students can take these courses with a permission from their supervisors.

Students are required to study their own field(s) of interest in Japan (or Okinawa); the results are presented orally and in written form. In the presentation session, students of this program are to discuss their own topics with Japanese students. Their studies presented in written form are compiled in a book, named "Study Reports", and the copies are published and distributed to other universities.

3. Number of students accepted

Total: 14
(Embassy Recommendation : 6,
University Recommendation : 8)



4. Qualifications and conditions of applicants

Those wishing to enrol in this course must be 3rd year undergraduate students or above enrolled in a university outside of Japan and must meet the following criteria.

- (a) It is preferred that the applicant should have passed the Japanese Proficiency Test Level 2 or have equivalent ability.
- (b) The applicant should be majoring in Japanese Studies with a good academic standing.

5. Course outline

There are compulsory courses and elective courses. These courses, Japanese language program of General Education and courses aimed at regular Japanese

students of the department of International Languages and Cultures in the Faculty of Law and Letters will also be available for international students. The elective courses are not limited to those listed below.



6. Period of the course:

Oct. 1. 2017 – Aug. 31. 2018

(Fall semester Oct. 1, 2017~Mar. 31, 2018)

Spring semester Apr. 1, 2018~Aug. 31, 2018)

7. Subject outline

In principle, classes usually run for 16 weeks during both fall and spring semesters. For each semester, the students have to study 235.5 hours (157 class periods).

1) Compulsory courses

Subject title	Description
Basic Seminar I, II	Learning report writing and presentation.
Japanese culture I, II	Experiencing Okinawan and Japanese culture through pottery, dyeing, and textile. Also visiting historical sites in Okinawa.
Japanese sentence structures and expressions (only 1 semester)	Development of composition writing and sentence structure skills including Questionnaire making, report compilation and presentation on a specific topic.

Elective courses

* Students are required to take at least two subjects from below in each semester.

Subject title	Description
Japanese grammar seminar I, II	This course will introduce a number of grammatical issues of Japanese. Students will be required to observe real data and find regularities through integrating their previous knowledge on Japanese.
Special study of Ryukyuan Culture I, II	This course will introduce various (controversial) issues on Okinawa, such as culture and people in Okinawa through an experience of Ryukyu dancing and lectures about Ryukyu dialect.
International Affairs I, II	Reviewing the various events which occurred in the last fifty years of the 20th century, we will consider how these events are connected to the present states of the world.
Business Japanese I, II	Learning manners and Japanese used in business situations

2) Field trips and exchange with the local community

Subject title	Description
Okinawan Culture I, II	Okinawan Society & Culture
Japanese Culture I, II	Japanese Society & Culture



Local research trips to museums, historical sites, and old battlefields will also be taken, and once each year students will participate in a study trip farther afield (expenses inclusive).

Additionally, an international students get-together, local festivals, the university festival, and social exchanges within Okinawa will also be held. For those who would like to stay with/ visit a Japanese family for weekends, we will help to find a host family.

Students who would like to apply for internship could have an opportunity to work at companies located in Okinawa. Also, advice will be given to those who wish to have a job in Okinawa.

Study tours: Shuri Castle & Tamaudun, Peace Memorial Park & Museum, Newspaper Company, Okinawa prefectural Police HQ, Makishi Public Market, Awamori Company, Television Broadcasting Company, Okinawa Archaeological Center, Okinawa Prefectural Museum

3) Other subjects (Optional) Japanese language program

Subject title	Description
Japanese IIIA/ IVA	Listening & Vocabulary
Japanese IIIB/ IVB	Reading & Grammar
Japanese IIIC/ IVC	Writing & Presentation



Special subjects of UOR

*There are more subjects available.

Subject title	Description
Introduction of Sanshin	Learning how to play the Okinawan traditional musical instrument (sanshin).
Introduction of Okinawan language	Learning basic knowledge about Okinawan language and practice basic sentence patterns through conversation.
Nature and people in Ryukyu	Through the key words such as "tropical", "coral reef", and "islands", discussion will be held focusing on nature and people

8. Study tour, events and so on

- Oct.** Orientation,
Field trip to *Shurijo* Castle & Tamaudun
- Nov.** Party for international students in Okinawa
Appreciation of *Kumiodori*,
- Dec.** Calligraphy experience, Visit a newspaper company
- Jan.** Visit a *Awamori* company, Speech contest of UOR
- Feb.** Okinawa prefectural Speech contest
- Mar.** Tea ceremony
- Apr.** Mid-term presentation
- May** Study tour of Broadcasting company
- Jun.** Peace study Field trip to old battlefields & Peace Memorial Park
- Jul.** International Student Festival
- Aug.** Paper submission, Final presentation, Closing ceremony



9. System of instruction

Besides the below three instructors, five instructors of International Student Center (Japanese language and language education major) and other instructors of Faculty of Law and Letters can be the students' advisors. If needed, individual instruction will be given over and above regular classes. Additionally research plans, surveys, and research will be conducted under the supervision of your instructor. Individual studies should be presented orally and in written form.

Program Coordinators

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10. Guidance system

After completion of the designated classes (471 hours or more throughout the year), also those who write academic report or equivalent level report(s) will be issued with an academic transcript and a certificate of completion.

Credit acknowledgement and transfer

Acknowledgement of credits is at the discretion of the students' home university.

Housing

The students of this program are usually assigned rooms in the dormitory with Japanese students. A bed, a desk, a chair, and a locker are installed in each room.



They share a shower room, a laundry, a lounge, a dormitory shop, and a vending machine.

【Cost of accommodation (per month)】

Type of accommodations		Room rent	Water&Gas Charges	Electric Charges
dormitory	“Ippan-to”	¥4,300	¥4,400	According to quantity Consumed
	“Konju-to”	¥4,700	¥8,400	
	“Shin konju-to”	¥15,000	¥4,000	
Private apartment house		Approx. ¥35,000		



Follow-up for graduates

1. Those who finished our program are now...

Working at Japanese corporations (abroad), graduate students at University of the Ryukyus or other Japanese universities, employed as a member of JET program, working as translators

2. Follow-up activities:

- Each of the students keep in touch with each other via SNS (e.g. Facebook)
- The web site of the university has the record of the past students' activities

Contact

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(available both in Japanese and English)