



HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY (Hokkaido)



Advance Japanese skills and discovery of Japan from unique angle

■ University Overview

1. Outline and characteristics of Hokkaido University

Hokkaido University began as Sapporo Agricultural College, which was founded in 1876 as the first educational institution for agricultural studies in Japan.

The College was also the first institution in Japan to grant bachelor's degrees.

On its establishment the College invited Dr. William S. Clark, then president of Massachusetts Agricultural College in the United States, to be its Vice President. From its inception the College offered an education stressing cultural richness as well as advanced knowledge and skills. The frontier spirit of the time, echoed in Dr. Clark's farewell words "Boys, be ambitious", has been inherited as the spirit of foundation of the University throughout its over 140 years' history.

In 1949 Hokkaido University underwent major reforms to become a university with seven faculties and one department of general education, and it has since developed into one of the most distinguished universities in Japan.

The University currently consists of 12 faculties, 21 graduate schools, and 22 research institutes and centers, and has 2,019 academic staff, 11,959 undergraduate and 6,669 graduate students.



2. International Academic Exchange

(As of May 1, 2019)

Exchange Agreements: 192 Agreements,
196 Universities/Institutions in 50 Countries / Regions

3. Number of Overseas Students

○Total :

2,223 (from 103 countries) in 2019

2,101 (from 96 countries) in 2018

1,851 (from 90 countries) in 2017

○Japanese Language and Culture Studies Students:

73 (2019-2020)

59 (2018-2019)

70 (2017-2018)

4. Characteristics of the area

Hokkaido University is located on the island of Hokkaido, in the northern part of Japan which is rich in nature. The stunning main campus is located in downtown Sapporo, within walking distance of almost everything the beautiful city has to offer. With an additional campus in the coastal city of Hakodate, Hokkaido is the frontier of real innovation in northern Japan.



■ Outline of the Program

1. Purpose of the Program

- (a) A course intended mainly to study about Japan and Japanese culture
- (b) A course intended mainly to improve Japanese language proficiency

2. Characteristic objectives of the program

The objectives of this program are:

- (1) to improve students' Japanese language proficiency in order to enable them to interact with Japanese speakers and to conduct research in Japanese;
- (2) to acquire basic knowledge and methodologies for Japanese studies - especially relating to Japanese general and applied linguistics;
- (3) to gain a deeper understanding both of Japanese language and culture.

3. Number of students accepted Total 40
Embassy 15, University 25

4. Qualifications of applicants

Applicants must meet the following conditions:

a. Status and field of specialty:

Applicants must be regular students in an undergraduate program at an overseas university.

Applicants must be studying Japanese language or Japanese culture as their academic major. (First-year students are not eligible to apply.)

b. Competence in Japanese language

Applicants should have N3 (or higher) on the Japanese Language Proficiency Test or the equivalent or higher proficiency in Japanese at the

time of application. In particular, applicants should know 500 or more kanji and have the skill to understand conversation spoken at natural speed and read/write simple sentences.

*** Applications from students whose proficiency in Japanese does not meet the requirements will not be accepted. Any students who are found to have inadequate language skills after arrival will not be able to complete the program.**

c. Academic record:

Applicants must possess a good academic record at university level.

5. Course goals:

- To acquire sufficient Japanese proficiency for students to achieve their own goals in the skills of "Speaking", "Listening", "Writing" and "Reading".
- To acquire sufficient knowledge and Japanese proficiency to be able to convey their study outcome in their own field.

6. Period of program

October 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021

7. Period of scholarship

October 2020 – August 2021

8. Annual schedule:

<1st semester>
 From the late September to the first week of October: Orientation
 Beginning of October: Entrance ceremony, Starting Classes
 End of December to beginning of January: Winter break
 <2nd semester>
 Around April 10th: Starting Classes
 From the first Friday to Sunday in June: University Festival
 Late August: Return home

9. Conditions for completion of the course

- Students must take at least 10 credits from elective compulsory subjects throughout the year.
- Students must take at least 20 credits in total.

A certificate of completion will be given to students who satisfy all the conditions stated above. Those who are allocated to Introductory level will not be able to receive the Certificate of Completion, since they fail to satisfy the requirements of the program.

* A list of completed courses and grades will be given to each student at the end of each semester.

Students will also receive their transcripts at the end of the program.

10. Outline of courses:

1) Characteristics of courses

The program consists of two types of courses: courses in Japanese language and courses in Japanese linguistics, culture and society.

2) Courses

(1) Compulsory Subjects

Type	Course name	Credit
Elective compulsory courses	Intermediate Japanese	1 or 2
	Advanced Japanese	2

Students must take at least 10 credits from elective compulsory courses during the year. Students take 6 to 9 class hours of Intermediate and/or Advanced Japanese language courses per week. The courses will help students acquire sufficient knowledge and Japanese proficiency to be able to convey their study outcome in their own field.

Students will be allocated to Intermediate and/or Advanced Japanese language courses based on the result of the online placement test which students must take prior to their arrival in Japan.

Those who are allocated to Introductory level will not be able to receive the Certificate of Completion.



(2) Elective courses

Type	Course name	Credit
Elective courses	Studies in Multiculture	2
	Studies in Japanese Language	2
	Studies in Japanese Culture	2
	Special Lectures	1, 2, 3 or 4

1. Elective subjects include "Studies in Multiculture" subjects and courses opened to only students of the program ("Japanese Grammar", "Japanese Writing System", "Japanese History", etc.).

2. Students may take approved subjects offered in "Arts and Sciences Courses in English", the general education program or in the faculties at Hokkaido University in place of some elective courses.

* Japanese Language course syllabus is available from our homepage. Visit the homepage of Hokkaido University.

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3) Participatory courses

"Co-learning in Multicultural Classrooms" is the main part of "Studies in Multiculture" subjects. Around 10 courses are offered every semester as "Co-learning in Multicultural Classrooms" and they include courses that are followed by short trips. ("Walk, Look, Think about Hokkaido University", etc...)

Also, there are some events such as "Holiday in Hidaka" that are held with the aim of interacting with Japanese students and local people, which are very popular among the students of the program.

4) Opportunities studying together with Japanese Students

In "Studies in Multiculture" subjects, both international students and Japanese students study together.

11. Teaching and guidance:

(1) Teaching staff

Name	Title	Field Speciality
YAMASHITA, Yoshitaka	Professor	Japanese Linguistics Spanish Linguistics
KOBAYASHI, Yoshiko	Professor	Japanese Language Teaching Learning Science
JUNG, Hyeseon	Associate Professor	Japanese Linguistics Social Linguistics
HIRATA, Miki	Associate Professor	Pragmatics, Cognitive Linguistics

(2) Personal guidance

a. Academic advice:

The course coordinator advises students on academic issues as the need arises.

b. General advice:

A counselor in the Hokkaido University will give advice to students who need help throughout the year.

■ Accommodation

- Keiteki-ryo (for single male students)
- Sosei-ryo (for single female students)
- Hokudai International House (for single men/women, married couples and families)

Accommodation is available for all students who join this program.



■ Follow-up on our Alumni

After completing the program, students go back to their own universities and continue their studies with the achievement acquired through this program for their graduation.

On occasion, some of the Alumni of this program return to Hokkaido University after graduating from their home universities. We have some examples of those who are currently working in Japan and are studying in a master's program at Hokkaido University. Also one of the Alumni is now teaching at one of our Graduate Schools.

The program coordinator will give advice to students who hope to study in a master's program at Hokkaido University and also Hokkaido University Career Center will hold seminars and provide information to those who are thinking of working in Japan after graduating from their home universities.

In addition, not a few of the Alumni keep in touch with each other through social networking systems and tell us that being able to build good relationships with other students can be one of the achievement acquired through this program.



■ Contact

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Homepage of Hokkaido University :

<https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/>

Homepage of JLSC program:

<https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/admissions/exchange-student-admissions/exchange-programs-in-japanese-jlscp/>

Coordinator :

JUNG, Hyeseon