

Fukuoka Women's University
The World of Japanese Contemporary Culture (WJC)
Spring 2021

Fukuoka Women's University is offering its short-term study abroad program to excellent international students focusing on Japanese culture and society. Students can choose to participate in the program for either 1 year (Fall semester to Spring semester) or 1 semester (Fall semester or Spring semester). For the academic year 2020-2021, WJC is currently accepting applications for Spring 2021 (only 1 semester).

The WJC program was established in 2010 as a milestone in the Fukuoka Women's University's internationalization effort. The program grants participants from each partner university a scholarship. Based on the availability of student positions and the number of applications from partner universities, a total of 25 to 30 students will be selected as participants. Only female students are eligible for WJC.

Academic Calendar

Spring 2021 (tentative)

- Expected arrival date: late in March 2021 (tbc)
- Orientation: late in March 2021 (tbc)
- Opening ceremony: early April 2021 (tbc)
- Closing ceremony: early August 2021 (tbc)

Scholarship and Financial Supports

1. Amount of scholarship (for a limited number of students):
80,000 JPY per month
2. Duration of scholarship:
1 semester (March 2021-July 2021)
3. Reimbursement of Airfare (round-trip):
Up to 100,000 JPY
4. Accommodation fee at student dormitory:
Waived (Utility fee of 9,900JPY/month is not waived.)
5. Tuition fees:
Waived according to the student exchange agreement or memorandum

Requirements for Applications

1. TOEFL iBT (not required for native English speakers): Over 70
Acceptable for TOEIC: Over 800 and IELTS: Over 6.0
2. Total GPA: Over 2.3/3.0
If academic transcript does not show the student's GPA, an additional letter is required stating the student's GPA of 2.3/3.0 or higher.
3. JLPT N2 or higher equivalent will be required of the student who will choose JLC.
(No Japanese requirements for JCS and JCC students.)
4. Applications for Spring semester entry, JLPT N5 or higher equivalent will be required for all applicants since we do not have beginner Japanese courses in Spring semester.

Application Materials

1. Application form
2. Academic transcript
3. Proof of GPA 2.3/3.0
4. Two Recommendation letters (2 academic advisors)

General Information

5. TOEFL score (not required for native English speakers)
6. JLPT score or proof of Japanese proficiency by teachers (Only for JLC applicants)
7. Essay (personal statement)
8. Typewritten Independent Study Project (ISP) proposal sheet *attachment
9. Certificate of Health
10. Copy of passport

Application Deadline

1. November 6, 2020

Scanned copies of all required documents should be sent through the relevant office of the home university to our International Center.

Applications directly sent by applicants to FWU will not be accepted.

2. November 13, 2020

For the selected students, the hard copies of their application materials will be expected to reach our office no later than the day.

Determination of Participants

The selected participants and scholarship recipients will be announced in December 2020.

Courses and Project (*provisional)

1. Japanese Language Courses (credits and hours: depends on the course level)

Usually, four Japanese language courses (Beginner (L1) - Advanced (L4)) are offered in each semester. (Beginner course (L1) is offered only in Fall semester.) You are assigned into the most appropriate course based on the result of placement test during the orientation week.

2. Culture & Society Courses (2 credits and 30 contact hours for each course)

WJC offers a variety of subjects about the Japanese culture and society such as literature, economics, politics, law, art, manga, movie, Hakata local culture and so on. Those subjects are classified under the 3 elective tracks depending on the main theme:

- Japanese Contemporary Culture (JCC): composed of 4-5 courses focusing on Japanese Culture. (Language of instruction: *English*)
- Japanese Language and Culture (JLC): composed of 4-6 courses focusing on Japanese Culture (Language of instruction: *Japanese*; Equivalent of JLPT N2 or higher required)
- Japanese Contemporary Society (JCS): composed of 4-6 courses focusing on Japanese Society (Language of instruction: *English*)

3. Independent Study Project (2 credits)

Students are required to research one topic related to Japanese culture during their stay. Academic advisors assist them with their research. Students can choose for an Independent Study Project either focusing on contemporary or traditional topics.

General Information

Other Activities

1. Field trips

2. Guest speakers: writers and artists

Famous Japanese authors and culture creators discuss current issues with students

3. Home Visit Program (tentative)

Japanese families are introduced to exchange students for monthly visits

4. Japanese Student Tutor Program (JD-Mates)

FWU students called 'JD-Mates' will support exchange students.

5. Experienced-Based Learning Activities

Students have many chances to learn Japanese culture and society through a variety of experiences as below.

5-1. English Village

Weekend program where students can only use English.

WJC students are expected to support the program.

5-2. Local School Visit

Visit local junior high schools or high schools and exchange different cultures with Japanese pupils.

5-3. Dormitory Activities

Parties, language exchange, sports, lectures,...etc.

Accommodation

WJC students are guaranteed accommodation in the University's International Friendship House (*Nadeshiko* Dormitory). Each unit of the dormitory has four single bed rooms, one dining area with kitchen, one lavatory, and one bathroom. WJC students will live together with Japanese students in one unit. (<http://www.fwu.ac.jp/english/campuslife/dormitory.html>)

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