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INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR JAPANESE LANGUAGE STUDIES
Administered by Stanford University and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies
10-Month Program in Advanced Spoken and Written Japanese
2024–25

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University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
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OBJECTIVES

The IUC offers an intensive 10-month program of training in Japanese at the advanced level in Yokohama, Japan. The program is designed to bring each participant to a level of proficiency sufficient for academic or professional use. Training focuses on development of the ability to converse in Japanese on specialized subjects, to comprehend and deliver public presentations, and to read and write materials in Japanese in order to function professionally in academia, business, government, and other fields.

ORGANIZATION

Located in Yokohama, Japan, the Inter-University Center was established in 1963 and is run by a consortium of 15 North American universities with strong, established graduate programs in Japanese studies. Its program office is located within The Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford University, the founding member and flagship school. The IUC’s Governing Board is comprised of representatives from the 13 full members of the consortium (Brigham Young University, Columbia University, Harvard University, Princeton University, Stanford University, University of British Columbia, University of California Berkeley, University of California Los Angeles, University of Chicago, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, University of Michigan, University of Washington, Yale University) and the two associate members (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Washington University in St. Louis). Five members of the Board constitute the IUC Executive Committee. The IUC’s Executive Director is Dr. Indra Levy, East Asian Languages and Cultures, Stanford University. The IUC’s Resident Director in Yokohama is Dr. Bruce L. Batten. The teaching staff consists of ten full-time, experienced Japanese teachers who have prepared the IUC’s teaching materials and developed innovative methods of language instruction as well as several part-time instructors.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Since 1963, the IUC has been dedicated to providing Japanese language education at the advanced level to outstanding students with academic or professional career goals related to Japan. Nearly 3,500 students have graduated from the IUC’S programs, and many of them have gone on to hold positions of leadership in their respective disciplines and professions.

The IUC is located within the Yokohama International Organization Center in Pacifico Yokohama, a world-class convention center in the Minato Mirai 21 district of Yokohama. The IUC’s location provides many opportunities for students to interact with academic, cultural, civic, and business organizations. Minato Mirai is also home to Landmark Tower, Japan’s third highest building; the Queen’s Square Yokohama shopping complex; and the Yokohama Museum of Art. Yokohama also has a number of museums and libraries related to the history of the opening of Japan in 1854.

From the IUC, Minato Mirai Station and Sakuragi-chō Station allow for ready train access to Tokyo. The ancient shogunal capital of Kamakura, the Shōnan beaches, the Miura peninsula, Hakone-Izu National Park, and the Tanzawa mountain range are also within easy traveling distance.

ADMISSION

Currently, the IUC admits up to sixty students who (1) are degree candidates or degree holders (either undergraduate or graduate) who intend to pursue a Japan-related career; (2) have demonstrated outstanding professional promise as reflected by grades, recommendations, and statements of purpose; (3) have high-intermediate Japanese skills (generally meaning successful completion of two to three
years of training in a rigorous college-level Japanese language training program or the equivalent); and
(4) have obtained an acceptable score on the Inter-University Center Japanese Proficiency Exam.

The IUC’s 10-month program is intended for students embarking on careers in some area of Japanese
studies or a profession in which fluent Japanese is necessary. The Inter-University Center encourages
students to apply for admission early in their academic careers, when they can give undivided attention
to mastering the language that will be a key to their success in later stages of professional training. The
Committee welcomes applications from graduating seniors, graduate students, and those with
undergraduate or advanced degrees who can demonstrate a mature commitment to a career related to
Japan.

Admission to the IUC is based entirely on the student’s academic qualifications and professional goals.
Admissions are made without regard to race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, age, disability,
religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, veteran status, marital status, or any other
characteristic protected by applicable law.

Application information for the 10-month program is available on our website at
https://iucjapan.stanford.edu/programs/10-month-program.php. The application makes use of the
Interfolio platform. For questions about the program, please contact the Stanford Administrative
Office:

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CREDIT

The IUC does not grant academic credit, assign grades, or confer a degree. However, at the end of the
academic year, it does provide a written evaluation of work completed during the 10-month program.
A copy of the evaluation will be sent to the student and/or the student’s advisor upon request. Students
wishing to receive credit at their home institutions for studies performed at the IUC are responsible for
making those arrangements.

ATTENDANCE FEES AND OTHER COSTS

Tuition for the 2024–25 Inter-University Center 10-month program has been set at $35,000.
In addition to attendance fees, students are also responsible for medical insurance, transportation costs
(overseas and local), and living expenses in Japan. During the most recent academic year students
were in Japan, living costs (rent, food, utilities and incidentals) for single students generally ranged
between ¥150,000 and ¥230,000 per month.

10-MONTH PROGRAM

The IUC’s 10-month, intensive program starts in September and ends in early June. Classes are
conducted 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on weekdays with one or two afternoons per week reserved for
extracurricular activities. The number of classes per week is reduced in the last term of the program to
accommodate an increase in discipline- and skill-specific classes and in tutorial instruction. Students admitted to the IUC should be prepared to devote themselves full time to language study. The program’s workload does not leave time for dissertation research or for outside employment. Please also note that IUC students in Japan have a “cultural activities” residence status that prohibits remunerative work.

The IUC’s 10-month intensive program is divided into two parts.

In the first half of the program, teaching is geared toward development of competence in constructing complex utterances and extended discourse, using Japanese accurately and appropriately in social settings, and expressing and understanding Japanese on general topics. The proper use of Japanese conjunctions is emphasized. Grammatical constructions and patterns necessary for sophisticated and extended speech are introduced. This training provides a solid foundation for specialized, advanced language training.

In the second half of the program, students spend more time in practical activities such as discussing or writing about their specialized research or interests while making use of the language patterns they learned in the first half. Classes are offered on advanced grammar; specific skills areas such as reading and listening comprehension; academic disciplines such as history and literature; and areas of interest such as popular culture and business. Instruction is similar to what students would experience in a university or graduate-school seminar. In the final eight weeks of the program, students are provided with opportunities for one-on-one language support for specialized research. Alternatively, they may take a grammar reinforcement class that makes use of content from the Japanese Language Proficiency Test. The capstone of the 10-month academic program is a graduation presentation conference at which each student delivers a 15-minute talk (including Q&A) in Japanese.

The following description is based on courses offered during the most recent academic year and may be subject to change.

**CURRICULUM**

**First Half of Program (September–December)**

**Morning Session**

- *Japanese Grammar Review*
  This segment reviews and consolidates both basic and intermediate Japanese skills essential for further advancement.

- *Formal Expressions for Japanese Interaction*
  Aimed at providing skill in talking with people of different social and academic levels. Covers greetings, polite language, social customs, etiquette, and other areas of social interaction. This segment uses the IUC’s *Formal Expressions for Japanese Interaction* text.

- *Conjunctive Expressions in Japanese*
  This is a segment designed to provide skill in the proper use of Japanese conjunctions.

- *Integrated Japanese Advanced Course*
  Develops the skills required in advanced level discourse. The text is focused on the grammatical patterns, constructions, and expressions necessary for sophisticated and extended speech. Particular attention is paid to the differences between spoken and written usage of the patterns covered.
Afternoon Session

- **Applied Japanese Skills I**
  Newspaper and magazine articles are combined with news videos and other general interest program videos for an integrated approach to listening and reading comprehension.

- **Applied Japanese Skills II**
  Excerpts from books, magazines, and newspapers are employed for reading improvement and videos from documentaries, news broadcasts, and other general-interest TV programs are used for aural comprehension. Classroom discussion of these materials develops advanced skills in verbal communication.

Second Half of Program (January–May)

- **Integrated Japanese Advanced Course**
  This text is continued into the second half of the program, depending on the progress of each section of students.

- **Applied Japanese Skills III**
  Develops skills in expressing and understanding topics of special interest in aural-oral and written modes. Students select classes from among such areas as contemporary history, business, and popular culture (area studies). Both written and video materials are utilized and discussion concerning the topics is emphasized.

- **Elective Courses**
  Electives consist of discipline-specific courses and skill-based courses. Discipline-specific courses provide an introduction to the vocabulary and content of each student’s academic or professional area of interest. They are normally offered in Japanese literature, contemporary Japanese fiction, anthropology, history, political science, and law. There is also a general introduction to Japanese studies for students who lack a specialized disciplinary background. Skill-based courses are designed to accelerate acquisition of skills in particular areas, specifically listening, reading, speaking, writing, and business Japanese (Japanese for the job search and Japanese for the workplace).

- **Project Work, Group Study, Grammar Reinforcement Class**
  In the fourth term of the IUC academic year, students pursue one of three paths: project work, that is, individual scholarly research on a topic of their own choosing, using written materials, interviews, polls, or other methods of inquiry, under the individual supervision of an IUC faculty member; (2) group study, which is similar to project work but is conducted in a group with other students sharing similar interests; and (3) grammar reinforcement, which focuses on grammatical patterns contained in the top two levels (N1 and N2) of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test.

- **Final Oral Presentation**
  At the end of the 10-month program, each student gives a 15-minute formal oral presentation in Japanese on a topic of her or his own choice before an audience of fellow students, instructors, and guests.

Other
Special Kanji Intensive Program (SKIP)
This program, pursued by students throughout the year, is one of the most important features of the IUC program. Students use the IUC’s Kanji in Context texts, published by the Japan Times, to systematically study the 2,136 kanji used in modern Japanese. The materials focus not only on the study of each individual kanji, but also on the vocabulary in which they are used. A web application version of Kanji in Context is available at the IUC. It features efficient flash-card recognition of kanji/kana and exposes students to a wide range of vocabulary throughout the year. By combining vocabulary study with intensive study of individual kanji using Kanji in Context, students can completely master common-use kanji (jōyō kanji) by the end of the year.

Lectures and Other Educational Opportunities
In addition to the language training program, the IUC provides students with other educational opportunities, including field trips, site visits, outings, and periodic lectures by distinguished Japanese scholars and other individuals.

Optional Courses
A course in Japanese calligraphy is taught weekly throughout the year by a professional calligrapher. A modest monthly fee is collected from participants. Optional courses on Japanese business, classical Japanese grammar, and kanbun (literary Sinitic) are also offered.

Auditing Classes at the Nihon University Faculty of Law
Under terms of Memorandum of Understanding between the IUC and the Faculty of Law of Nihon University, IUC students are able to audit some classes offered by that faculty in Spring.

SCHOLARSHIP AID
The IUC distributes scholarship funds provided by The Nippon Foundation, The Toshizo Watanabe Foundation, the Shoyu Club, the Tokyo Club, the Mitsubishi UFJ Foundation, the Hiroko Araki Fowler Scholarship, the Ito Foundation U.S.A, The Sato Foundation, SMBC Global Foundation, universities represented on the Inter-University Center Governing Board*, and donations from our alumni community to the IUC Alumni Fund. These funds are awarded on the basis of merit and need, in that order, and are subject to availability from each specific granting agency. The conditions and perquisites of these fellowships are subject to change. The IUC is obligated to consider the donor’s criteria and preferences when making awards. Please do not contact any of the above organizations concerning these scholarships. They are administered and awarded directly by the IUC.

Most internal scholarships provide either partial or full tuition and some also include a modest living stipend. The IUC is able to provide partial or full tuition scholarships for approximately 45 students per year. Typical enrollment is 50–60 students. During 2023–24, award packages ranged from $7,000 to $53,325. Not all students who are offered admission will receive an IUC scholarship. Admission to the IUC does not imply or guarantee receipt of a scholarship.

All applicants to the 10-month program are considered for all applicable internal scholarships. No separate scholarship application is required, although to be eligible applicants must complete the scholarship form within their Interfolio application. Every effort is made to offer students scholarships to supplement personal funds, university and college fellowships, or outside fellowships. However, IUC resources are limited. Therefore, students are strongly advised to seek any scholarships or fellowships for which they are eligible, such as FLAS.

Below are a few organizations that fund language study abroad. Students should contact the
organization directly regarding opportunities, guidelines, applications, and deadlines.

- Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship (if available at the student’s home university). The Department of Education, the granting agency, permits students holding these fellowships to attend the IUC. Applications must be made at the student’s home institution. These scholarships typically cover some IUC tuition charges and include a stipend to help defray living costs. [https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsflas/index.html](https://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsflas/index.html)

- Boren Awards (National Security Education Programs-NSEP) fund the intensive study of language and culture abroad by U.S. undergraduate or graduate students. [https://www.borenawards.org](https://www.borenawards.org)

  Boren Scholarships fund study abroad programs for US undergraduate students in world regions critical to U.S. interests.

  Boren Fellowships fund research and language study proposals by US graduate students in world regions critical to U.S. interests.

- Blakemore Freeman Fellowships typically cover tuition, basic living costs, and transportation. Applications and information may be obtained from Blakemore Foundation. [http://www.blakemorefoundation.org](http://www.blakemorefoundation.org) (Application Deadline: December 30, 2023)

- Any fellowship awarded by the student’s university, college, or department that may be used for study abroad.

* Students currently enrolled in a degree granting program and/or who graduated from a consortium member institution during the 2023–24 academic year will receive a guaranteed tuition scholarship of $7,000 to attend the Inter-University Center during the 2024–25 academic year. (Please note that the guarantee applies only to students from full member schools; the number of scholarships available to students from associate member schools is limited.)

STUDENT LOAN DEFERRALS

The Inter-University Center does not participate in the guaranteed student loan program and is unable to certify such loan applications. A student graduating with a BA or BS who has been admitted to a graduate school should seek assistance from that graduate school regarding loan certification. Each year, several IUC students ask the IUC administrative office to help them obtain deferrals for outstanding educational loans with other institutions. We are willing to help in such efforts when possible, and many of our students are successful in obtaining such deferrals. There have, however, been cases in which the deferrals are denied, and the loan officers’ logic is not always clear. IUC students should, therefore, be aware that some deferrals might be denied.

IUC JOURNAL

The IUC publishes an annual journal that is a forum for disseminating information about the IUC’s unique and pioneering language training methods and is intended to help raise the level of Japanese training at other institutions. Numbers 1–34 (1978–2011) appeared in print form under the Japanese title *Kiyō* (Proceedings). Since Number 35 (2021) the journal has been available exclusively online under the name *Kyōiku kenkyū nenpō* (Annual Report on Education and Research); it can be accessed at [http://www.iucjapan.org/html/nenpou_j.html](http://www.iucjapan.org/html/nenpou_j.html).
AFTER GRADUATION FROM IUC

Each year, up to one half of graduating students make arrangements to stay in Japan for an additional year to conduct research and to build on the Japanese learned at the IUC. If you are thinking of staying in Japan for a second year, you may be eligible to apply for a Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology fellowship. Applications for these fellowships must be completed in August and oral interviews are held in September. Fellowships take effect the following October (about one year after the interview). You should verify the application process with the financial office of your present institution or the Japanese Consulate nearest you.

Students staying on in Japan may also be eligible for other sources of support including Japan Foundation fellowships and Fulbright grants.

❖ THE JAPAN FOUNDATION
http://www.jpf.go.jp/
New York Office: http://www.jfny.org
Los Angeles Office: http://www.jflalc.org/

❖ FULBRIGHT
https://cies.org/

Even if you lack fellowship support, you may wish to consider using your own funds to become a research student at a Japanese university. Please be aware, however, that if you decide to remain in Japan a second year, you will need to acquire a new status of residence that reflects your activities. The IUC is unable to act as your sponsor after your initial cultural activities visa expires.

HOUSING/COMMUTING

Some furnished apartments are available for rental by IUC students on a monthly basis, with no initial deposit or guarantor required. The rent includes utilities and Internet access. Rates vary, but in Yokohama, such units can be found from approximately ¥130,000 per month. The IUC regards these as an affordable housing option.

Commuting costs vary considerably with distance and access. The IUC is a five-minute walk from the Minatomirai Station on the Minatomirai Line. The Minatomirai Line, which becomes the Tōkyū-Tōyoko Line at Yokohama Station, is the most convenient for train commuters. The Sakuragi-chō Station on the JR Keihin-Tohoku/Negishi Line and Yokohama Municipal Subway is a 15-minute walk from the IUC.

The IUC office staff can assist full-time students in their search for housing.

INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTER GOVERNING BOARD

The Inter-University Governing Board meets annually to act on policy questions, review the annual budget, and considers other questions of importance to the proper functioning of the IUC. The members of the Inter-University Governing Board for 2024–25 are:

Dr. Scott Miller, Brigham Young University
Dr. David Lurie, Columbia University
Dr. Wesley Jacobsen, Harvard University
Dr. Shinji Sato, Princeton University
Dr. Indra Levy, Stanford University (Executive Director)
Dr. Christina Yi, University of British Columbia
Dr. Miryam Sas, University of California, Berkeley
Dr. Seiji Lippit, University of California, Los Angeles
Dr. Hoyt Long, University of Chicago
Dr. Petrice Flowers University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (Chair, Governing Board)
Dr. Shinobu Kitayama, University of Michigan
Dr. Davinder Bhowmik, University of Washington
Dr. Daniel Botsman, Yale University

In association with:
Dr. Jamie Newhard, Washington University in Saint Louis
Dr. Robert Tierney, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTER, YOKOHAMA

Dr. Bruce L. Batten, Resident Director
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Tomotaro Akizawa, Program Coordinator
Tsukasa Sato, Instructional Coordinator
Yoshiko Hashimoto
Takuto Ito
Yoko Kato
Makiko Ohashi
Ari Sato
Akiyo Senda
Saori Yuki

Office:
Junko Tanaka, Office Manager
Tomoko Kenmochi, Finance/Administration
Shoko Kubo, Student Coordinator

INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTER TEXTS

The following Center texts are available for purchase at the prices indicated (tax excluded):

Kanji in Context (Revised Edition) ¥ 3,850
Kanji in Context Workbook (Vol. I) ¥ 2,420
Kanji in Context Workbook (Vol II) ¥ 1,760