Japan Expert Program

Japan Expert Program Information
University of Tsukuba
About the Japan-Expert Program

The University of Tsukuba has established the Japan-Expert (bachelor degree) Program to train international students who possess a Japanese outlook to further understand Japan’s culture and society, and hope to find employment at relevant companies in Japan or in their own countries.

Having our university selected for the Top Global University Project by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) in Japan was the impetus for putting this program together. Four courses of study have been established—Agricultural Science, Healthcare, Art and Design, and Japanese Language Teacher Training. Each course is designed for international students interested in Japan, aimed to provide them with the expertise and critical thinking skills they need in Japanese to detect and solve local and global issues related to their respective fields. This includes acquiring specializations in agriculture, healthcare, Japanese art or Japanese-language teaching after acquiring advanced Japanese-language skills and understanding Japan’s culture and society.

We have expanded opportunities to take the university entrance examination for this program to students unable to do so up to now because of their lack of Japanese-language skills by easing the Japanese-language requirement and focusing on Japanese-language training for half a year after enrollment. We look forward to receiving applications from people who want to serve as intermediaries between their home countries and Japan.
University of Tsukuba

Our university’s history dates back to its founding as Japan’s first normal school in 1872. It became the Tokyo University of Education in 1949 and took its current name in 1973, with “A university open to all within and outside in Japan” as the university’s concept.

Professor Jigoro Kano headed the University of Tsukuba’s forerunner, Tokyo Higher Normal School for a total of 25 years from 1893 with “mutual welfare and benefit” and “maximum efficiency with minimum effort” as his mottos. He pursued personal training through judo, improved scholastic education in Japan, promoted the admission of international students and the development of athletic sports in Japan. He provided guidelines not just for our university but also on the types of students universities should strive for and ways to train them, as well as contemplating Japan’s global role.

Our university is one of the rare universities worldwide that has produced both Nobel Prize and Olympic gold medal winners. The three Nobel Prize recipients—two for physics and one for chemistry—were Professor Shinichiro Tomonaga (a former Tokyo University of Education president), Professor Reona Esaki (a former University of Tsukuba president), and Professor Hideki Shirakawa (currently a professor emeritus at our university). Along with Ayumi Tanimoto’s gold medals won at two consecutive games, those associated with Tsukuba have won a total of twenty-four medals at the Olympics.

The University of Tsukuba will continue to respond to our changing modern society, promoting the development of new educational and research capabilities and management organizations that possess a richly international sensibility as well as diversity and flexibility.

**Entrance examination schedule**

1. Application submission (web system):
   April 7 (Thu.) to 13 (Wed.), 2016
2. Entrance examinations (including online interview, etc.)
   May 16 (Mon.) to 20 (Fri.), 2016
   Notes: Exam dates are determined through discussions with applicants
3. Announcement of results: June 8 (Wed.), 2016
4. Enrollment procedures deadline: July 8 (Fri.), 2016 (date by which mailed items must arrive)
5. Enrollment ceremony: September 30 (Fri.), 2016 (tentative)
6. Enrollment date: October 1 (Sat.), 2016

**Overview of Japan Expert Program Education System**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>First year</th>
<th>Second year</th>
<th>Third year</th>
<th>Fourth year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>October to March</td>
<td>April to March</td>
<td>April to March</td>
<td>April to March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese language</td>
<td>Japanese Expert common foundation subjects, general foundation subjects and foundation subjects for majors</td>
<td>Major subjects + internships</td>
<td>Graduation research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural Science</td>
<td>Intensive Japanese-language classes</td>
<td>Japanese Expert Common foundation subjects</td>
<td>National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO) internships</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General foundation subjects</td>
<td>Internships at nursing care and medical care facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Healthcare</td>
<td>Acquisition of Japanese skills needed to handle university classes</td>
<td>(including foreign language, Japanese culture, and Japanese social studies)</td>
<td>Graduation research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Art and Design</td>
<td></td>
<td>Art and Design Course</td>
<td>Internships at educational institutions in students’ home countries and companies in Japan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese Language Teacher Training</td>
<td></td>
<td>Japanese Language Teacher Training Course</td>
<td>Internships at secondary educational institutions and overseas Japanese schools</td>
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Classes are conducted in Japanese up to graduation (with Japanese-language training assistance provided throughout the university)
Making good use of the university’s distinctive features, interdisciplinary learning with faculty members and students from other colleges is offered concurrently with insights into Japanese culture through liberal arts and other curricula. Particularly in major subjects’ on-campus seminars, active clinical nurses and other professionals are invited to train students to handle the latest technology to ensure that theory and practice do not diverge. Practical job experience in Japan is provided through internships, and opportunities for learning are created in particular through coordination with University of Tsukuba Hospital so that students experience the latest in medical care and caregiving.

The course will train students to understand and disseminate the agriculture and forestry technology of Japan—which possesses world-leading food production, energy conservation and environmental preservation methods—to the world. Students will also gain the basic expertise and specialization to help resolve global issues related to primary industries, and be able to play roles in Japan and overseas in international technical cooperation, using Japan’s cutting-edge technologies. We are also striving to train people who will be immediately ready to enter international corporations and related industries within Japan by providing them with Japanese-language training at a level that makes employment in Japan feasible.

Educational philosophy

Our goal is to provide students with agronomic expertise related to biological resources—the foundations of human existence and safe, affluent lifestyles—while they acquire specialized expertise with local as well as global perspectives pertaining to agriculture and forestry, as well as the communication skills and ability to understand different cultures required for overseas cooperation related to agriculture and forestry. Further, we provide training that imbues people with broad, rich character, particularly the ethics related to agriculture and forestry, and foster individuality and enthusiasm for learning.

Distinctive features

- **Common to all four courses**
  - Classes are conducted in Japanese up to graduation (with Japanese-language training assistance throughout the university)
  - General Japan-Expert lectures (foundation subjects)
  - Other course curricula under the Japan-Expert common foundation subjects

- **Agricultural Science Course**
  - Studies involve an enhanced curriculum of field training courses, with existing College of Agro-Biological Resource Sciences curricula as the foundation

Career paths

Researchers or technicians in the agriculture and forestry sectors; farming or agricultural instructors in Japan or other countries; international companies and related industries; enrollment in graduate school, etc.
Learn about the latest in medical care and caregiving through hands-on experience

Making good use of the university’s distinctive features, interdisciplinary learning with faculty members and students from other colleges is offered concurrently with insights into Japanese culture through liberal arts and other curricula. Particularly in major subjects’ on-campus seminars, active clinical nurses and other professionals are invited to train students to handle the latest technology to ensure that theory and practice do not diverge. Practical job experience in Japan is provided through internships, and opportunities for learning are created in particular through coordination with University of Tsukuba Hospital so that students experience the latest in medical care and caregiving.

Educational philosophy

Our goal is to give students an academic grounding in healthcare so that in addition to their understanding of their own countries’ cultures, manners and customs they can take on roles as planners and administrators, as well as healthcare technology developers or engage in education or research. Note that this course is not designed to provide nursing qualifications, but rather to train people to be leaders in medical care policy in healthcare-related sectors.

Distinctive features

- Common to all four courses
  - Classes are conducted in Japanese up to graduation (with Japanese-language training assistance throughout the university)
  - General Japan-Expert lectures (foundation subjects)
  - Other course curricula under the Japan-Expert common foundation subjects

- Healthcare Course
  - With our existing nursing curriculum as the foundation, we will also establish introductory classes to international healthcare and international healthcare seminar
  - Internships will take place at nursing care and medical care facilities

Career paths

Healthcare sector planners and administrators; researchers and educators; development technicians at health management sector companies; enrollment in graduate school, etc.
Art and Design Course

Learn about Japan’s traditional arts and modern art

This is a specialized course for learning about Japan’s distinctive arts, including modern Japanese art, which is appreciated internationally along with traditional Japanese arts such as painting, crafts and calligraphy. In addition to studying subjects unique to this course pertaining to Japanese art, students will acquire broader interdisciplinary, international perspectives from the liberal arts curricula the university offers. This will help them develop a high degree of specialization and practical skills useful internationally. They will also study diverse specialized subjects offered at the School of Art and Design.

Educational philosophy

Our goal is to create and equip specialists with an interdisciplinary and international outlook and solid academic skills, as well as a flexible imagination and abundant expressiveness, training personnel such as teachers who transmit Japan’s traditional arts to other countries and highly inventive artists and designers who specialize in Japan’s traditional and distinctive arts.

Distinctive features

- **Common to all four courses**
  - Classes are conducted in Japanese up to graduation (with Japanese-language training assistance throughout the university)
  - General Japan-Expert lectures (foundation subjects)
  - Other course curricula under the Japan-Expert common foundation subjects

- **Art and Design Course**
  - Along with an introduction to Japanese arts, the curriculum focuses on subjects related to Japanese traditions

Career paths

Teacher; artist or designer; companies; national and local governments; university faculty; curator or researcher; enrollment in graduate school, etc.
Our goal is to train Japanese-language teachers who will teach Japanese at educational institutions in their home countries as well as promote Japanese-language education there. Studies involve an intensive Japanese-language course and subjects related to Japanese social studies in the first half-year following enrollment. Students then study in classes together with Japanese students at the College of Japanese Language and Culture. During their third and fourth years, they participate in on-campus practical Japanese-language education training and internships related to Japanese-language education at educational institutions in their home countries, Japanese companies and companies in Japan, developing practical workplace skills.

Educational philosophy

Our goal is to equip Japanese-language teachers with an understanding of Japanese culture and the specialized skills required for Japanese-language education so that they can teach Japanese to people in their home countries who want to work outside the country or at Japanese companies.

Distinctive features

- **Common to all four courses**
  - Classes are conducted in Japanese up to graduation (with Japanese-language training assistance throughout the university)
  - General Japan-Expert lectures (foundation subjects)
  - Other course curricula under the Japan-Expert common foundation subjects

- **Japanese Language Teacher Training Course**
  - An optimal curriculum for international students who aspire to be Japanese-language teachers

Career paths

Instructors who train Japanese-language teachers; teachers; companies; overseas Japanese-language institutions; enrollment in graduate school, etc.
University of Tsukuba
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- Agricultural Science Course
- Healthcare Course
- Art and Design Course
- Japanese Language Teacher Training Course