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JCMU Programs

Spring 2025, Summer 2025, Academic Year 2025-26

The Japan Center for Michigan Universities (JCMU) is a product of the strong sister-state relationship between the State of Michigan and Shiga Prefecture. The center is located on the shore of Lake Biwa in the City of Hikone, Shiga Prefecture, Japan. JCMU programs are dedicated to building relationships between Japanese, Americans, and other nationalities through active learning and participation in language study, culture, family life, and society. JCMU has been welcoming students of all majors since 1989, and no prior Japanese language is required to participate in any of our programs.

JCMU Japanese Language & Culture Programs

Semester / Term (Credits)*	Application Deadline**	Dates	Program Fees*** (includes housing)	Eligibility Requirements	Short description
Spring Semester (14-15 credits)	9/20/2024	1/7/2025 – 4/18/2025	\$10,180	Min. 2.5 GPA; Prior Japanese study is helpful, but not required. (Complete beginners will be placed into JPN 100 level; students with previous study will take a placement test.)	<p>Semester/AY: Take 10 credits of Japanese language per semester, as well as an elective course exploring an aspect of Japanese culture and society (courses vary by semester and may include courses offered at local Japanese universities in English). Cultural activities, field trips, homestays and other program features help immerse students in Japanese life. Students may apply for experiential internships (or academic internships, for advanced students) with various local organizations and businesses. Students may apply to participate for one semester, or for the entire academic year.</p> <p>Summer: Learn the equivalent of a full year of college-level Japanese (10 credits total) in one summer while experiencing Japan’s culture first-hand.</p>
Summer (10 credits)	2/14/2025	Early June 2025 – Early Aug 2025	\$8,660		
Fall Semester (14-15 credits)	3/7/2025	Early Sep 2024 – Mid-Dec 2024	\$10,180		
Academic Year (28-30 credits)	3/7/2025	Early Sep 2024 – Mid-April 2025	\$20,360		

Program dates and costs are tentative and may be subject to change. Up-to-date program dates and fees can be found on the JCMU website.

JCMU Faculty-led Programs – May 2025

Program (credits vary)*	Application Deadline**	Dates	Program Fees*** (includes housing)	Eligibility Requirements	Short description
Teaching English in Japan (3-6 cr.; TBD)	2/14/2025	Early May – Late May / Early June	TBD; See website for current details	Min. 2.5 GPA; No Japanese required; Demonstrated interest in the program subject area is ideal.	Participate in a 3-credit keystone course in the program topic that includes relevant hands-on experiences and field trips while also learning about the country's rich history and culture through the 3-credit JCMU Japanese Culture & Society course.
Criminal Justice in Japan (3 cr.)					
(tentative) Business Communications in Japan (3 cr.)					

*For more information about how credits will be interpreted at your home institution, please contact your school's study abroad office, or the JCMU office (jcmu@msu.edu).

**JCMU applications are accepted and processed on a rolling admissions basis close to the deadline. Applications completed after the deadline will be considered on a space-available basis.

*****The program costs shown on this list include tuition, housing, course materials, and health insurance.** The cost shown is for non-consortium students (those not currently attending a Michigan public university). Please consult with your home institution regarding any additional fees that may be applicable to your participation in a study abroad program. Please see the full budget sheet on each program page on the JCMU website (<http://jcmu.isp.msu.edu>). Fees for AY 2025-26 are estimates and will be set in fall 2024.

Have questions? Need help?

JCMU offers one-on-one advising appointments via phone, Zoom, or in-person. Scan the QR code or visit our website to schedule.



Scholarship Opportunities for Study Abroad in Japan

Name of Scholarship	Requirements	Contact
Bridging Scholarship	For U.S. citizen undergraduates participating in study abroad programs in Japan	Email: studyabroad@aatj.org https://www.aatj.org/studyabroad/japan-bridging-scholarships
Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship	For U.S. citizen undergraduates receiving a Federal Pell Grant during their study abroad program	Email: gilman@iie.org https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/
Boren Scholarship	For U.S. citizen undergraduate and graduate students	Email: boren@iie.org https://borenawards.org/
Freeman Awards for Study in Asia (Freeman ASIA)	For U.S. citizen or U.S. Permanent Resident undergraduate students	Email: freeman-asia@iie.org https://www.iie.org/freeman-asia

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