



Japanese Language & Culture Programs



JCMU Japanese Language and Culture programs run throughout the year and offer beginner (first year) through advanced (fourth year) level Japanese in an intensive format. Students will complete an academic year's worth of college-level Japanese per term, while also immersing themselves in Japanese life and the local community!

All program terms include:

Japanese Cultural Lessons / Experiences	Language Exchange Opportunities	Chances to Join Local University Clubs / Activities	Field Trips to Historic & Cultural Sites	Short & Long-term Homestays*
---	---------------------------------	---	--	------------------------------

*Pending availability

Students participating in the fall or spring semester terms (or a full academic year) take elective courses in addition to their Japanese language classes.

	Dates	Coursework
Semester Terms <small>14-15 Credits Total (per semester)</small>	<p>Fall (15 weeks): Early Sep. - Mid-Dec. Deadline: 1st Friday in March</p> <p>Spring (15 weeks): Early Jan. - Late Apr. Deadline: 3rd Friday in Sep.</p>	<p>Intensive Japanese Language (10 Credits) Level 1 (beginner) through Level 4** (advanced)</p> <p>Daily instruction addresses listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Placement is based on exams held at the beginning of the program.</p>
Summer Term <small>10 Credits Total</small>	<p>Summer (9 weeks): Early June - Early Aug. Deadline: 2nd Friday in Feb.</p>	<p>Electives (4-5 Credits) JCMU Experience (required; 1 cr.) + Elective Choice (3-4 cr.) <i>Course options vary by semester. See website for recent or upcoming options.</i></p> <p>NOTE: Students can apply to participate in a full academic year (Fall + Spring)</p>

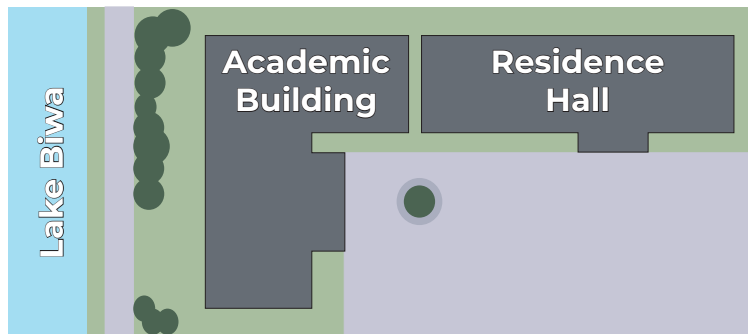
Semester students also have the option of participating in a Professional Development Project (PDP) where they will be paired with a local business, school, or other organization for hands-on work experience.

***Level 4 (advanced) students have an academic internship integrated into their elective course, along with advanced Japanese coursework with a professional focus.*



JCMU Housing & Facilities

JCMU campus, located right on the shore of Lake Biwa, consists of the Academic Building and the Residence Hall.



JCMU's Residence Hall offers double-occupancy apartments (and a wheelchair-accessible single room), each equipped with private bedroom(s), a kitchen, and a bathroom. Kitchens come equipped with a stove, sink, refrigerator, and several appliances.

JCMU campus is located outside of downtown Hikone. Students are provided with bicycles* to help get around the area. Distances to various Hikone locations include:

- <.25 mi Coco's and other local restaurants
- 0.8 mi Convenience store (with ATM)
- 1.6 mi Grocery store, cafés / restaurants
- 1.7 mi Shiga University & Hikone Castle
- 2.4 mi Hikone Train Station
- 4 mi University of Shiga Prefecture

**Students with mobility considerations are encouraged to set an advising appointment to discuss other transportation options with JCMU staff.*

Location

JCMU is located in Hikone, a city of approximately 100,000 people in Shiga Prefecture situated on the eastern shore of Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan.


As a castle town located off the beaten tourist track, Hikone preserves much of its charm and heritage. Hikone is only a 45-90 minute local train ride from the cities of Kyoto, Nagoya, and Osaka.

Michigan Office

427 N. Shaw Lane, Rm. 5
East Lansing, MI 48824
U.S.A

Hikone Campus


1435-86 Matsubara-cho
Hikone, Shiga 522-0002
JAPAN

 (517) 355-4654

 jcmu@msu.edu

 <https://jcmu.isp.msu.edu>

 JapanCenter

 JCMU_JapanCenter

"This program solidified my love for Japan, its people, and its culture and I am so thankful for the experience."

-Lauren Oullette, Central Michigan University

"The relatively small number of students allowed me to have a very close relationship to my peers and to the instructors. I also loved the location of the school. Hikone is a beautiful city."

-Joshua Anderson, Michigan State University

JCMU Website

See the most up-to-date program details (dates, costs, etc.).



Advising

Schedule an appointment to ask questions or learn more.

Apply

Visit the JCMU Application Portal when you're ready to apply.

