



Learn more about the
**JAPAN CENTER FOR
MICHIGAN UNIVERSITIES (JCMU)**

MICHIGAN OFFICE

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

+1 (517) 355-4654

jcmu@msu.edu

jcmu.isp.msu.edu

f JapanCenter

@JCMU_JapanCenter

HIKONE CAMPUS

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

0749-26-3400

jcmu.net

〒522-0002

滋賀県彦根市松原町1435-86



 **JAPAN CENTER**
FOR MICHIGAN UNIVERSITIES

ミシガン州立大学連合日本センター

A Legacy of CULTURAL EXCHANGE

JCMU was founded in 1989 through a partnership between Michigan and Shiga Prefecture, building on their strong sister-state relationship. For over 36 years, students from Michigan and beyond have come to JCMU to study, grow, and connect across cultures.

JCMU offers a welcoming and supportive environment where students can immerse themselves in Japanese language, culture, and the local community. Through homestays, internships, volunteer work, field trips, and campus activities, students build meaningful relationships and gain real-world experience. JCMU partners closely with nearby Shiga University and the University of Shiga Prefecture, while also providing opportunities to explore and connect with others outside of Shiga. With flexible programs, no language prerequisites, and dedicated U.S.-based support, JCMU makes studying in Japan accessible and enriching for students of all backgrounds and majors.

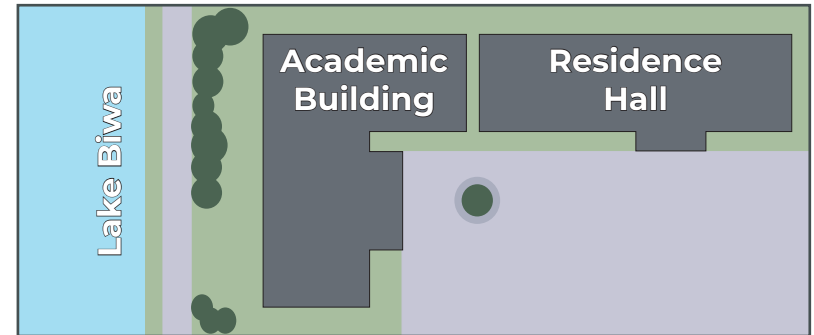
LOCATION

JCMU is located in Hikone, a charming historic castle town on Lake Biwa in Shiga Prefecture. With just over 100,000 residents, it offers a relaxed atmosphere and rich cultural heritage—just 45–90 minutes by local train from Kyoto, Nagoya, and Osaka.



JCMU CAMPUS

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



Live comfortably at JCMU in Hikone! Our residence hall features double apartments (and a wheelchair-accessible single), each with private bedrooms, a bathroom, and a kitchen—including a stove, fridge, sink, and appliances. Located just outside downtown, JCMU provides bicycles to help students explore the area with ease.*

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|-----------|------------------------------------|
| ■ <.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 local transportation options with a JCMU advisor.*



In-person or virtual ADVISING

Schedule an appointment with a member of our East Lansing team to ask questions and learn more about our upcoming program options.

"JCMU solidified my love for Japan—its people, its culture—and I'm so thankful for the experience."

-Lauren Oullette, Central Michigan University