JAPAN CENTER
FOR MICHIGAN UNIVERSITIES
ミシガン州立大学連合日本センター

You want to go to Japan.
We help you actually live it.

Find your JCMU program:



LEARN MORE & APPLY
See brochure page for program dates, deadlines, costs, etc.

SPACE STILL AVAILABLE FOR SPRING 2027!

Semester Japanese Language & Culture | *Every Year*

16+ WEEKS | FALL, SPRING, AY | 12+ CREDITS

The JCMU Semester Japanese Language and Culture program provides a rich, immersive experience for students at the beginner through advanced levels of Japanese, running during both fall and spring/winter semesters on the standard U.S. academic calendar. Alongside Japanese language study, students explore engaging electives in Japanese history, society, and pop culture, while becoming part of the local community through meaningful cultural exchange.

Specialized tracks are offered in the following topics:

Politics & Diplomacy | 6 Credits | Offered in Fall
Students explore Japan's political structure, governance, and diplomatic strategies in the global arena through two courses (6 credits). Open to all students.

TESOL (Teaching English) | 6 Credits | Offered in Spring
Student take a TESOL Methodologies course (3 cr.) followed by a TESOL Practicum Experience (3 cr.) to gain first-hand experience in an English language classroom in Japan. Open to all students.

Advanced Japanese + Professional Experience
6+ Credits | All Semesters
Students take advanced Japanese language courses while also participating in a hands-on professional experience with a local company or organization. Open to students who qualify to study advanced level Japanese.



LEARN MORE & APPLY
See brochure page for program dates, deadlines, costs, etc.

Summer Intensive Japanese Language | *Every Year*

9 WEEKS | JUN-AUG | 10 CREDITS

The JCMU Summer Intensive Japanese Language program runs every summer and offers 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 in just 9 weeks, while also immersing themselves in Japanese life and the local community!

Students can deepen their understanding of Japan through program-sponsored field trips, cultural activities, and language exchange opportunities. Opportunities for living with a Japanese host family are also available in a short weekend or long-term format for those who are interested.



LEARN MORE & APPLY

See brochure page for program dates, deadlines, costs, etc.

Business Communications in Japan | *May 2027*

MAY 10 - 31, 2027 | 3-4 CREDITS

This program provides an opportunity for students to learn about Japanese culture and business communications in Japan. Students will experience firsthand the Japanese culture and business practices and see how various organizations operating in traditional and modern spaces do business in a fast-paced and changing environment. Students will have the opportunity to learn about communication processes, create dialogue, build interpersonal relationships, communicate in groups and teams, and speak to public audiences, including those aspects unique to Japanese culture. Broadly, the course aims to enhance students' understanding of other cultures and their appreciation of cultural diversity for various communication applications.

The group will enjoy several cultural activities / events and field trips throughout the Kansai region and Tokyo, including visits to various companies to experience Japanese business practices firsthand.



LEARN MORE & APPLY

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Criminal Justice in Japan | *May 2027*

MAY 10 - 31, 2027 | 3 CREDITS

Japan is routinely recognized as one of the safest countries in the world. This course will explore both the criminal justice system and the culture of Japan that contribute to that recognition.

Students will learn about Japanese culture and history in a classroom setting as well as through cultural events and field trips to Tokyo and Hiroshima. Local trips will include Hikone Castle and Omihachiman (the sister city of Grand Rapids), as well as several unique experiences in nearby Kyoto.

Visits to various criminal justice entities (subject to availability), including policing organizations, courts, a prison, and a juvenile detention center will allow students a first-hand glimpse of the Japanese system. The class will also visit an elementary school to explore the Japanese education system and its relation to social control and culture.

CONTACT JCMU

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LEARN MORE & APPLY

Visit the JCMU Portal for current program details and to apply.

MEET WITH AN ADVISOR

Schedule an in-person or virtual advising appointment.