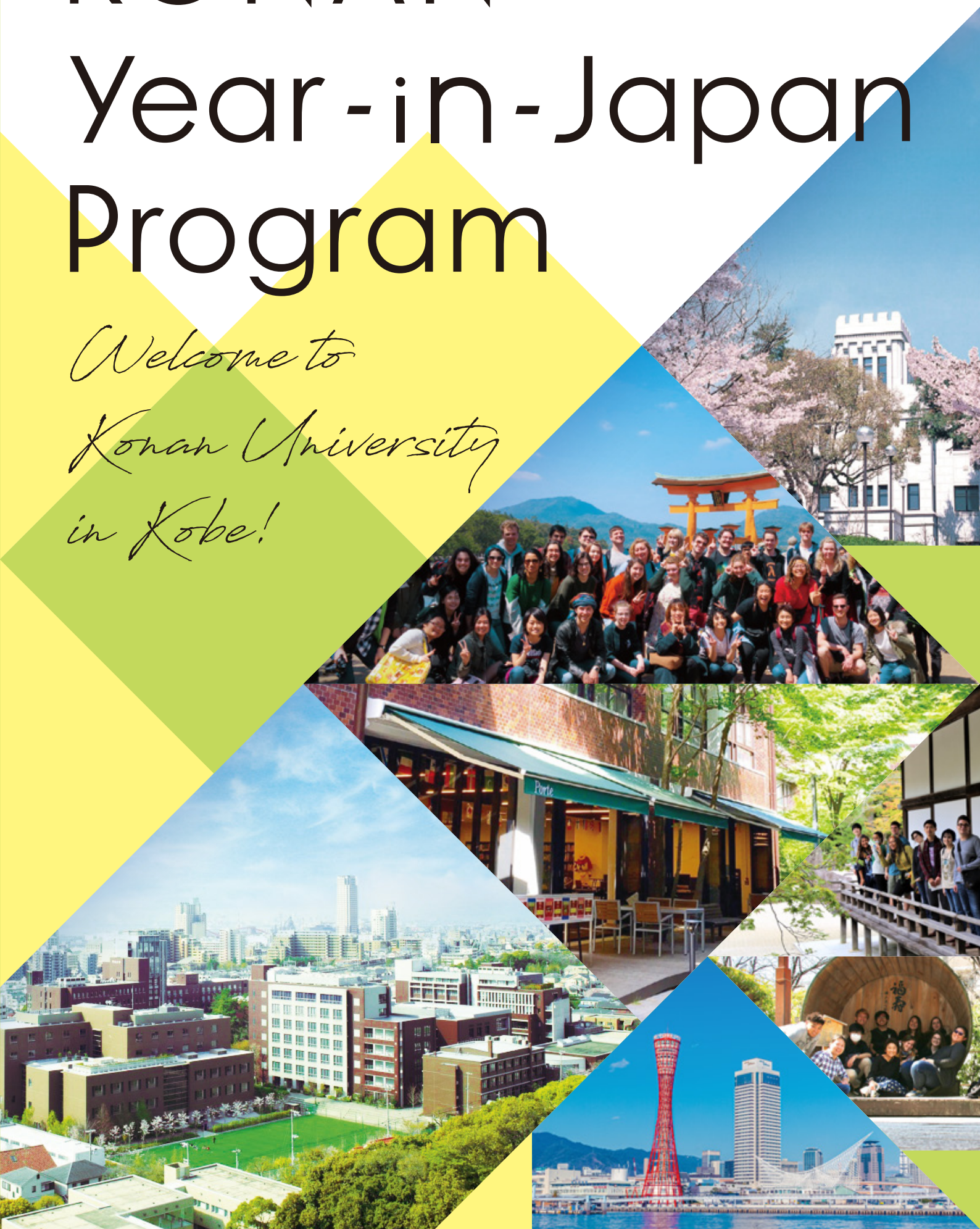


# KONAN Year-in-Japan Program

*Welcome to  
Konan University  
in Kobe!*





## SCHOLARSHIP

Students accepted to the Yij program are eligible to apply for external scholarships such as the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) funded by the Japanese Ministry of Education and the Hyogo University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific (HUMAP) scholarship. Students are also eligible to apply for the Konan scholarship, an internal scholarship that is awarded to students who exemplify a strong commitment of service to the Konan University community. Each scholarship has their own application procedure, requirements, and limit for the number of accepted applicants.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

### FULL YEAR / FALL SEMESTER

- 1 Complete & submit all application materials to your study abroad advisor.

- 2 **MID-JULY**  
Receive an Acceptance Letter

- 3 **BEGINNING TO MID-AUGUST**  
Receive a Certificate of Eligibility

- 4 **MID-LATE AUGUST**  
Receive Host Family / Dormitory Information

- 5 **BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER**  
Arrive at Kansai International Airport

### SPRING SEMESTER

- EARLY NOVEMBER**  
Receive an Acceptance Letter

- MID-LATE NOVEMBER**  
Receive a Certificate of Eligibility

- EARLY DECEMBER**  
Receive Host Family / Dormitory Information

- BEGINNING OF JANUARY**  
Arrive at Kansai International Airport

Konan University Year-in-Japan Program begins!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### KONAN UNIVERSITY

KONAN INTERNATIONAL  
EXCHANGE CENTER [KIEC]

8-9-1 Okamoto, Higashinada,  
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Check!



Instagram  
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KIEC  
official homepage

<https://www.konan-u.ac.jp/kiac/english/>



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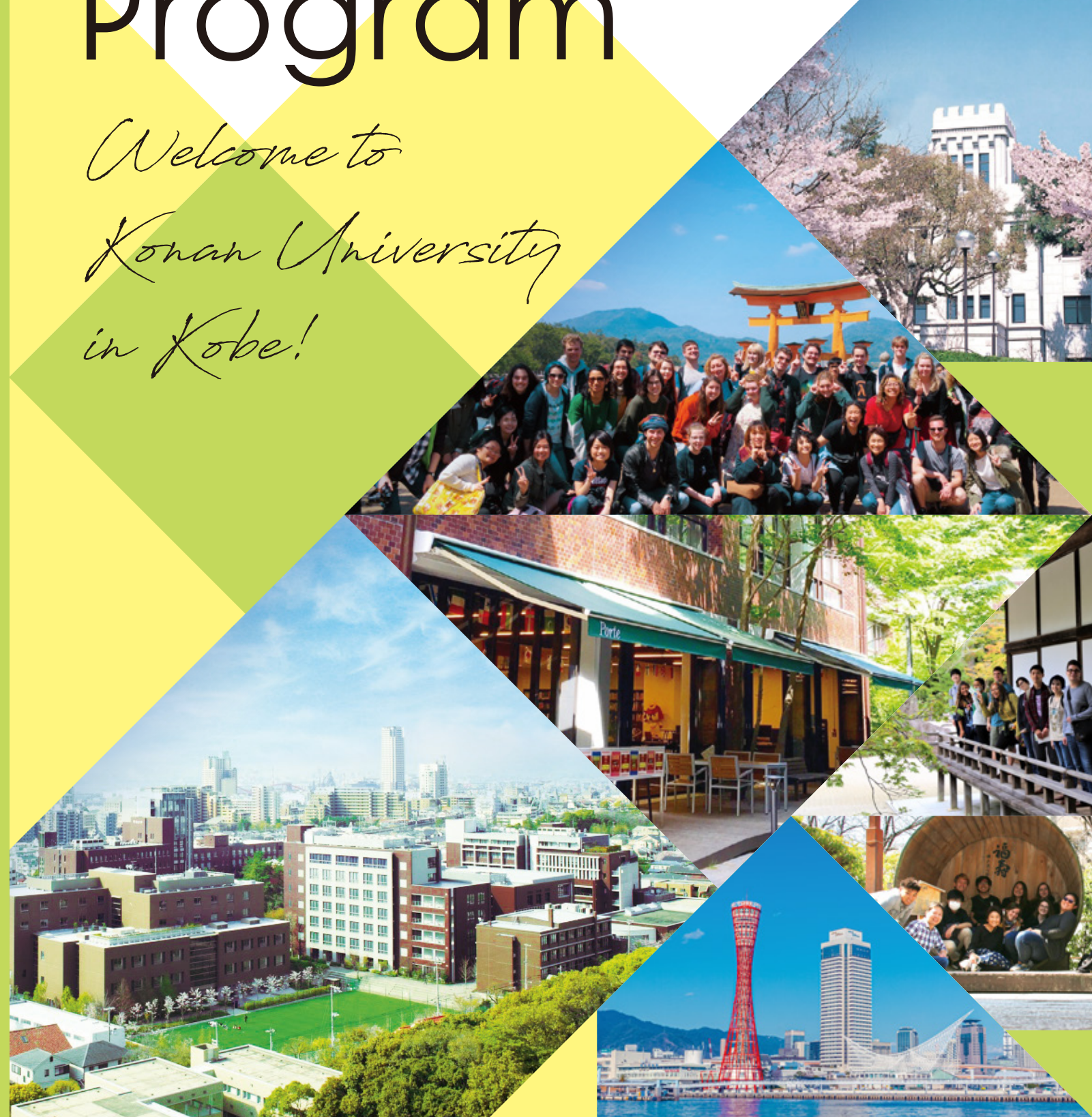


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# KONAN in KOBE

Konan, founded in 1919, is a well-known private non-denominational university of roughly 10,000 students. We are located in a trendy neighborhood of Kobe, a sophisticated city which is home to over 1.5 million people. With its flourishing port, Kobe has long been influenced by foreign cultures and has a rich history of international exchange. Our city is particularly renowned for its delicious bakeries and sweets, top-quality beef, and Japanese sake breweries.

Kobe is conveniently located near Osaka, Japan's second largest city and bustling gastronomic capital, and Kyoto, the preeminent heart of Japanese culture and tradition. It's also close to the spiritual sites and sacred groves of Nara. Together, these cities comprise the heart of Kansai, western Japan's largest urban and economic region. So, if you want to thoroughly experience everything that traditional and modern Japan has to offer, come join us at Konan in Kobe!

## Year-in-Japan Program

### ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

The academic year for exchange students consists of two semesters, the first term runs from September to December, and the second term runs from January to May. Students may apply for the full academic year or for either the fall or spring semester. The Year-in-Japan Program is composed of Japanese language classes in the morning and Japan Studies classes taught in English in the afternoon.

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR

	FALL SEMESTER	SPRING SEMESTER
ARRIVAL/ORIENTATION	Beginning of September	Beginning of January
CLASSES	Early September - Late December	Early January - Mid May
STUDY TOUR	November	March
END OF SEMESTER	December	May

### JAPANESE LANGUAGE PROGRAM

We provide 5 levels of courses suitable for students from beginner to advanced taught by experienced Japanese language instructors. Class sizes are small with approximately 10 students per class, and the classes are scheduled daily (14 hours per week, 10 credits per semester). We welcome complete beginners in fall semester. However, we don't offer the complete beginners' class in spring semester. Students are required to have completed at least half of a beginner level of Japanese language study.

SUBJECT	LEVEL	LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY GOAL
Japanese I	Beginner	JLPT N5 Level
Japanese II	Pre-Intermediate	JLPT N4 Level
Japanese III	Intermediate	JLPT N3 Level
Japanese IV	Pre-Advanced	JLPT N3-N2 Level
Japanese V	Advanced	JLPT N2-N1 Level

### STUDY TOURS

Overnight study tours to Koya-san in Wakayama, Hiroshima and the island of Miyajima, and other neighboring areas are the highlights of the Japanese language course and a part of the Japanese curriculum. Each study tour provides opportunities to explore western Japan's unique heritage and offer students a culturally rich and diversified experience of contemporary Japan, while also incorporating traditional activities that are unique to the particular regions visited. Students apply what they have learned in their Japanese language classes in interactions with local community members in each region to learn in-depth about Japan.

### RESIDENT DIRECTOR

The Year-in-Japan Program at Konan University provides a full-time Resident Director responsible for anything academic, social, cultural, and health and safety-related matters. The Resident Director is a faculty member of one of the universities in the Illinois Consortium (the University of Illinois, the University of Arizona, the University of Hawaii and the University of Pittsburgh) whose research field is typically related to Japan. The Resident Director ensures that academic standards are maintained and that a high degree of student care is offered to all participants of the program.

## “THE VOICES OF STUDENTS”

Bonding with people who were in the same boat as me, as we all had each other. Getting to know the people and going on trips and spending time with classmates was amazing. Visiting places on trips were definitely some of my favorite times, but mostly just having times where we were together as friends and had fun like usual, because we lived there.

It is definitely worthwhile joining a club/circle, as it is a fantastic way to make friends with a common interest.

The KIEC and Resident Director were very, very helpful and unbelievably kind and caring and their help was brilliant.

This study abroad experience helped me to develop a lot more independence and confidence as a person. I feel like I grew a lot as a person and became more responsible. In addition, the connections I made with other students, my host family, and teachers were a really valuable part of this study abroad. I feel that I've made deep friendships and connections for life.

### JAPAN STUDIES COURSES

Japan Studies are elective courses taught in English that focus on subjects related to Japan. Courses include occasional field trips that enhance classroom instruction and deepen the understanding of the course subject. The content of these courses varies somewhat from year to year, depending upon the interests of students, the availability of English-speaking faculty members, and the research specialty of the Resident Director of the Year-in-Japan Program.

Students also have the option of taking a Japan Studies course along with Konan students called 'Joint Seminar' in addition to two Japan Studies courses (3 credits each). This course meets less frequently than other Japan Studies courses and offers opportunities for exchange students and Konan students to meet and share their views about global topics in a classroom setting.

### SAMPLE DAILY SCHEDULE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00—11:50	Japanese language	Japanese language	Japanese language	Japanese language	Japanese language ends at 10:50
11:50—1:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:00—2:30	Japan Studies*		Japan Studies*		Japan Studies (Joint Seminar)
2:40—4:10			Japan Studies*	Japan Studies*	

\* Students take two Japan Studies courses (3 hours per week each, 3 credits each) per semester.

## HOMESTAY

A Japanese homestay is an excellent way for students to significantly improve their competence in Japanese language, while learning first-hand about Japanese culture and traditions. Studying Japanese is an immersive environment helps to motivate and to rapidly improve students' Japanese language ability. Just as importantly, living with a host family exposes students to Japanese daily life and customs, ensuring a much deeper understanding of Japanese culture than would otherwise be possible. The homestay experience is highly valued by past students, who cherish the friendships they were able to make with their host families. This experience has proven to be an invaluable part of the program and adds immensely to the study abroad experience long after students return to their home countries.

### THE VOICES OF STUDENTS

Being able to immerse myself in the day to day life of a Japanese college student. It was a good way to expose myself to as much Japanese as possible since it was necessary to communicate at home.



The most valuable experience came from the time spent in the GZ. During this time I was able to get to know a lot of different people from all over the world. It really opened up my worldview to a lot of different opinions and cultures.



## INTERACTION WITH KONAN STUDENTS



Student life at Konan University is enriched by a wide array of student exchange activities with Konan University students.

### TOMODACHI PROGRAM

The Tomodachi Program matches 1 or 2 Konan student volunteers with students who have been accepted to the Year-in-Japan Program. Friends from Konan will contact you before you are coming to Japan!

### CLUBS AND CIRCLES

Joining sports and cultural club or circle is a good way to make friends with Japanese students. Belonging to a group and becoming involved in the student community enriches the overall study abroad experience.

### LANGUAGE PARTNER

You have a chance to practice your Japanese and teach your language to your partner. Both international students and Konan students enjoy exchanging their language and cultures.

### GLOBAL ZONE PORTE [GZ]

A meeting place for internationally-minded students. It's a great opportunity to develop cross-cultural understanding and global competence while making friends at Konan University.

### AJISAI EVENTS

Experiencing Japanese cultures such as tea ceremony, Japanese calligraphy etc. You will have a chance to explore traditional Japanese cultures through the events.

