

Message from the KIEC Management

Dear Prospective Year-in-Japan Students,

Thank you for your interest in the Year in Japan (YiJ) Program at Konan University in Kobe, Japan!

The YiJ Program at Konan University has a 40-year history of providing a rich and exciting study abroad experience to university students just like you! By choosing the YiJ Program, you will become part of a four decades long legacy of university students studying and living in Kobe, Japan!

Kobe is home to many wonderful cultural treasures and has a long and interesting history of welcoming people from around the world. Kobe is also in close proximity to the ancient sites of Kyoto and Nara and the neon lights of urban Osaka. There are many exciting activities for you to discover that suit many different interests and tastes!

The YiJ Program offers a high quality, intensive Japanese language program. Students learn Japanese from experienced sensei (teachers) and practice reading, writing, listening and speaking exercises. This daily practice helps students quickly learn and retain their language skills. Students also take courses in English, with a Japan focus, taught by international faculty from many different disciplines, such as business, history, education, and economics. In addition, students go on overnight study tours once a semester to exciting places like Mount Koya in Wakayama Prefecture and Hiroshima!

YiJ students are also invited to participate in the many club and extra-curricular activities available at Konan University. These activities are a great way to learn more about Japanese culture. They are also a great avenue for making friends with Japanese students who also attend Konan University.

An added benefit of the YiJ program is the homestay experience. YiJ students live with Japanese host families who reside within a reasonable commuting distance from the Konan campus. The homestay experience provides YiJ students with an authentic experience of what it is really like to live in Japan as a local. Many YiJ students find that the friendship they develop with their host families carries on long after the program is completed.

In short, the YiJ Program is an exciting way for university students to learn Japanese language and culture and other essential skills that will be beneficial in your future careers. I strongly encourage you to apply to the YiJ Program! We eagerly await your application!

Resident Director, 2019-20 Konan University Year-in-Japan Program
Chair, Post-Baccalaureate in Special Education Program
Special Education Department, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Sincerely

Linda Oshita, Ph.D.