

WJC GENERAL INFORMATION

Fukuoka Women's University **The World of Japanese Contemporary Culture Program (WJC)** **Fall 2024 - Spring 2025**

Fukuoka Women's University (FWU) is offering to excellent international students the World of Japanese Contemporary Culture program (WJC), a short-term study abroad program focusing on Japanese culture and society. Students can choose to participate in the program for either 1 year (Fall 2024 to Spring 2025) or 1 semester (Fall 2024 or Spring 2025).

WJC was established in 2010 as a milestone in the internationalization efforts of Fukuoka Women's University. Based on the availability of student positions and the number of applications from partner universities, a total of 25 to 30 students will be selected as participants (only female students are eligible for WJC).

The program will grant scholarships to some participants and the recipients will be selected based on the number of scholarship applications and the available fund. At this time, the partner university will apply for the scholarship on behalf of their student(s).

Academic Calendar

Fall 2024 (tentative)

- Expected arrival date in Fukuoka: September 17, 2024
- Orientation: September 24, 2024
- Opening ceremony: September 20, 2024
- Closing ceremony: January 31, 2025

Spring 2025 (tentative)

- Expected arrival date in Fukuoka: 3rd week of March 2025 (to be confirmed/tbc)
- Orientation: end of March 2025 (tbc)
- Opening ceremony: early April 2025 (tbc)
- Closing ceremony: July 31, 2025 (tbc)

Courses and Project

1. Japanese Language Courses (credits and credit hours: vary by level)

Every semester Japanese language courses are offered at four different levels (Beginner - Advanced). You will be placed in the most appropriate course based on the result of your placement test.

2. Culture & Society Courses (2 credits and 30 credit hours for each course)

WJC offers a variety of subjects about the Japanese culture and society such as literature, economics, politics, law, art, movies, Hakata local culture and more. These subjects are classified under the three (3) tracks depending on the main theme:

- ◇ Japanese Contemporary Society (JCS):
Courses focusing on Japanese society (Medium of instruction: *English*)
- ◇ Japanese Contemporary Culture (JCC):
Courses focusing on Japanese culture (Medium of instruction: *English*)

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◇ Japanese Language and Culture (JLC):

Courses focusing on Japanese culture (Medium of instruction: *Japanese*;
Equivalent of JLPT N2 or higher is required.)

3. Independent Study Project (2 credits)

Students are required to do a research on one topic related to Japanese culture during their study at FWU. Academic advisors will assist them with their research. Students can choose an Independent Study Project either focusing on contemporary or traditional topics.

Other Activities

1. Field/Study trips

2. Guest speakers: writers and artists

Famous Japanese authors and culture creators discuss current issues with students.

3. Home Visit Program

Japanese families are introduced to exchange students for monthly visits.

4. Japanese Student Tutor Program (JD-Mates)

FWU students called 'JD-Mates' will support the exchange students.

5. Experienced-Based Learning Activities (5-10 activities/semester)

Students have many chances to learn Japanese culture and society through a variety of experiences below.

5-1. English Village

Weekend program with Japanese students where students can only use English.

WJC students are expected to support the program.

5-2. Local School Visit

Visit local junior high schools or high schools and have a cultural exchange with Japanese pupils.

5-3. Dormitory Activities

Parties, language exchange, sports, lectures, etc.

Please note that the above activities may be subject to change.

Accommodation

WJC students are guaranteed accommodation in the University's International Friendship House (*Nadeshiko* Dormitory). Each unit of the dormitory has four single bedrooms, a dining area with well-furnished kitchen, lavatory, bathroom, and is equipped with washing machine. WJC students will live together with Japanese students in one unit. The accommodation fee is waived but the fixed monthly utility fee should be paid every month regardless of the total utility use and length of stay. For more information, please visit the following website.

<http://www.fwu.ac.jp/english/campuslife/dormitory.html>

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Scholarship and Financial Support

Please note that all amount indicated below are subject to change.

1. Duration and amount of scholarship (for a limited number of students):

For Fall 2024 Students	
Sep 2024	15,000JPY
Oct 2024 - Jan 2025	60,000 JPY
For Fall 2024- Spring 2025 Students	
Sep 2024	15,000JPY
Oct 2024 - Jul 2025	60,000 JPY
For Spring 2025 Students	
Mar - Jul 2025	to be confirmed

2. Travel Grant (Round-trip Airfare Reimbursement):

	Travel Grant Amount
For Fall 2024 Intake Students	Up to 50,000JPY
For Spring 2025 Intake Students	to be confirmed

3. Accommodation fee at student dormitory:
Waived (Utility fee of 10,000JPY/month is not waived.)
4. Tuition fees:
Waived according to the student exchange agreement

Requirements for Application

1. TOEFL iBT: Over 70; TOEIC: Over 800; IELTS: Over 5.5
(not required for native English speakers)
2. Total GPA: Over 2.3/3.0 (3.1/4.0)
If academic transcript does not show the student's GPA, an additional letter is required stating the student's GPA of 2.3/3.0 or higher.
3. For applicants who will take JLC courses (medium of instruction in Japanese only), JLPT N2 or higher equivalent is required.

NOTE: Japanese language proficiency is not required for applicants who will take WJC courses in English.)

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Application Materials

1. Typewritten Application form (not handwritten)
2. Online Questionnaire
3. Academic transcript (original copy)
4. Proof of GPA 2.3/3.0
5. Two (2) recommendation letters from academic advisors (original copy)
6. TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS score (not required for native English speakers)
7. JLPT score or proof of Japanese proficiency by teachers (only for JLC applicants)
8. Essay entitled "Why I want to join the FWU's WJC Program"
9. Typewritten Independent Study Project (ISP) proposal sheet (template provided)
10. Certificate of Health (form provided)
11. Copy of passport

Application Deadline

April 12, 2024 (Fri)

Scanned copies of all required documents should be sent by the relevant office of the home university to the International Center of FWU (FWU-IC).

Applications directly sent by applicants to FWU will not be accepted.

You do not need to send the hard copies of the application documents to FWU from this day on.

Selection of Participants

The selected participants and scholarship recipients will be announced in late May 2024.

Contact

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