

Basic Admission Policy for Self-supported International Students Applying to the Modern Japanese Studies Program (2016 Enrollment)

1. Program Name

Modern Japanese Studies Program

2. Purpose and Objective

The Modern Japanese Studies Program is intended to foster the development of well-educated future global leaders. The program provides intensive Japanese language education and courses in the social sciences and humanities to help deepen students' understanding of modern Japan's society and culture. It is hoped that graduates will play active roles as intermediaries between Japan and their own cultures both within Japanese society and in the international community. Hokkaido University invites applications from students worldwide who have a high command of English, an interest in the society and culture of contemporary Japan, and very high levels of academic achievement.

3. Applicants We Are Seeking

The program is intended for students who:

- have a strong desire to study the Japanese language and learn about Japanese culture and society;
- want to major in a discipline of the social sciences or humanities (e.g. jurisprudence, political science, economics, business administration, pedagogy, philosophy, history, literature, psychology, sociology);
- wish to study in a multicultural/multilingual environment; and
- aspire to become a bridge between their country and Japan, either as a researcher of Japanese culture or as a professional working in the international community.

4. Student Intake

Program	Application Period	Student Intake
Modern Japanese Studies Program	1st call for applications	Approx. 12
	2nd call for applications	Approx. 8

* If the number of successful applicants is below the student intake for the 1st call, the balance will be added to the intake for the 2nd call.

5. Dates of Admission

Modern Japanese Studies Program	Intensive Japanese Course	October 2015
	Bachelor's Degree	April 2016

- * The Modern Japanese Studies Program is a four-year bachelor's degree program.
- * The six-month MJSP Intensive Japanese Course precedes the bachelor's degree program. It is a beginners' level course in the Japanese Language to provide students with the Japanese language ability required to enter the bachelor's degree program.
- * Students exempted from taking the Intensive Japanese Course on the basis of the results of the entrance exam may enter the Modern Japanese Studies Program directly.

6. Application Qualifications and Requirements

(1) Nationality:

Individuals who have Japanese citizenship or Japanese permanent resident status are not eligible to apply.

(2) Basic Qualifications:

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

1. They will have completed 12 years of school education in a foreign country and expect to have graduated by September 30, 2015 (see Note 1 on page 3).
2. They are individuals who are equivalent to those who meet qualification 1 above and have been designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (see Note 2 on page 3).
3. They have received an International Baccalaureate Diploma awarded by the International Baccalaureate, a foundation pursuant to the Swiss Civil Code, and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.
4. They have received an Abitur, a degree recognized as a qualification for university admission throughout Germany, and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.
5. They hold a *baccalauréat*, a degree recognized as a qualification for university admission in France, and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.
6. They will have completed 12 years of school education at a Japanese educational institution for foreign nationals that has accreditation from the Western Association of Schools & Colleges (WASC), the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) or the Council of International Schools (CIS), and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.

Note 1: The "12 years of school education" includes coursework completed pursuant to Japan's School Education Act.

Note 2: “Individuals who are equivalent to those who meet qualification 1 above and have been designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology” include the following:

- A. Individuals who have passed a national exam in a foreign country to determine whether they have the same level of academic ability as an individual who has completed 12 years of school education in that country (including an exam equivalent to the national exam), and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.
- B. Individuals who, after completing a level of school education in a foreign country equivalent to a high school education (including those who have passed an exam in that country to determine whether they have academic ability equivalent to those of a high school graduate), will have completed preparatory coursework for admission to a Japanese university at one of the educational facilities designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.
- C. Individuals who will have completed a foreign education equivalent to a Japanese high school education (and deemed to be equivalent to 12 years of school education completed in that foreign country) at an institution located in Japan and recognized under the educational system of that country, and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.
- D. Individuals who, after completing a foreign education equivalent to a Japanese high school education (excluding those cases in C above) at an institution located in Japan and recognized under the educational system of that country, will have completed preparatory coursework for admission to a Japanese university at one of the educational facilities designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and will be at least 18 years of age by September 30, 2015.

(3) English-Language Requirement:

Applicants must meet one of the following conditions:

1. They speak English as a mother tongue, or have received four years or more of their secondary education (at junior or senior high school, etc.) in English as their primary language of instruction.
2. They have achieved the following scores in TOEFL-iBT, TOEFL-PBT or IELTS if their mother tongue is not English or if they have not received four years or more of secondary education in English:
 - TOEFL-iBT: 79 or higher
 - TOEFL-PBT: 550 or higher
 - IELTS: 6.0 or higher

Note: Test results must be from within two years of the application submission deadline.

(4) Other Information

Favorable consideration will be given to applicants who have taken or will be taking standardized examinations (e.g. national tests) for university admission in their own country.

7. Selection Method

Applicants will be selected based on a comprehensive evaluation of their application materials (transcripts, personal statement, and other documents) and their interview results.

8. Application Periods

(1) 1st call for applications:

- Online application period: November 4 (Tue), 2014 – December 1 (Mon), 2014
- The required application materials must be sent by post after applying online to arrive no later than December 15 (Mon), 2014.

(2) 2nd call for applications:

- Online application period: February 2 (Mon), 2015 – March 2 (Mon), 2015
- The required application materials must be sent by post after applying online to arrive no later than March 16 (Mon), 2015.

9. Interviews

Interviews will be conducted via Skype during the periods listed below. Applicants will be informed of the date and time of their interview after receipt of their application documents.

- (1) 1st call for applications: January 13 (Tue), 2015 – January 23 (Fri), 2015
- (2) 2nd call for applications: April 13 (Mon), 2015 – April 20 (Mon), 2015

10. Announcement of Successful Applicants

- (1) 1st call for applications: February 12 (Thu), 2015 (provisional)
- (2) 2nd call for applications: End of May, 2015 (provisional)