

Basic Admission Policy for Self-Supported International Students Applying to the Modern Japanese Studies Program (2024 Enrollment)

1. Program

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 degree 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:

- want to study social sciences or humanities (e.g. political science, history, sociology, cultural studies, jurisprudence, economics, business administration, pedagogy, philosophy, literature, psychology);
- have a strong desire to study the Japanese language and learn about Japanese culture and society;
- 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 2023
	Bachelor's Degree	April 2024

- * The Modern Japanese Studies Program is a four-year bachelor's degree program preceded by a six-month Intensive Japanese Course.
- * The six-month Intensive Japanese Course 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. Only students accepted onto the Bachelor's degree may take the Intensive Japanese Course.
- * Students who have Japanese language ability equivalent to N2 level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test or higher can apply for exemption from taking the Intensive Japanese Course.
- * Students exempted from taking the Intensive Japanese Course on the basis of the results of the entrance exam may enter the Bachelor's degree program directly.
- * Japanese language placement tests may be conducted after admission to divide the Intensive Japanese Course participants into separate classes.

6. Application Qualifications and Requirements

(1) Nationality:

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

Note: Individuals who have both foreign citizenship and Japanese citizenship must pass a preliminary qualification screening before applying. Contact the Admission Center during the periods below and follow the instructions.

1st call for applications: October 3, 2022– October 11, 2022

2nd call for applications: January 4, 2023 – January 12, 2023

(2) Basic Qualifications:

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

1. They have completed 12 years of school education in a country other than Japan or expect to have graduated by September 30, 2023 (see Note 1 on page 3 and Note 3 on page 4).
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 or expect to have received an International Baccalaureate Diploma in a country other than Japan by September 30, 2023, awarded by the International Baccalaureate, a foundation pursuant to the Swiss Civil Code.

4. They have received an *Abitur*, a degree recognized as a qualification for university admission throughout Germany.
5. They hold a *baccalauréat*, a degree recognized as a qualification for university admission in France.
6. They have General Certificate of Education (GCE) Advanced Level's (A Levels) recognized as a qualification for university admission in the UK.
7. They 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), or expect to have graduated by September 30, 2023. However, in this case they will have been enrolled at a school for at least two consecutive years including their final school year.

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 country other than Japan 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, 2023.
- B. Individuals who, after completing a level of school education in a country other than Japan equivalent to a Japanese 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), 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.
- C. Individuals who have completed or expect to 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 country) at an institution located in Japan and recognized under the educational system of that country by September 30, 2023.
- 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, 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.
- E. Individuals who have completed a level of school education in a country other than Japan equivalent to a Japanese high school education (and deemed to be equivalent to 11 years or more of school education completed in that country and which fulfill the

requirements designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) at one of the educational facilities designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, or expect to have graduated by September 30, 2023. (see Note 3 on page 4).

Note 3: Those who fulfill Basic Requirement 1 or 2 (Note2-E) above must have been enrolled at a school outside Japan for at least two consecutive years including their final school year.

(3) English-Language Requirement:

Applicants must meet one of the following conditions:

1. They speak English as a native language, or have received four years or more of their secondary education (at junior or senior high school, etc.) or higher education (at university or college) in English as their primary language of instruction.

Note: Having learned English as a foreign language for four years or more does not satisfy the above requirement.

2. They have achieved the following scores in TOEFL-iBT, TOEFL-iBT Home Edition, or IELTS if their native language is not English or if they have not received four years or more of secondary education in English:

- TOEFL-iBT: 79 or higher (Only Test Date Scores will be accepted ('My Best Scores' will NOT be accepted).)
- TOEFL-iBT Home Edition: 79 or higher (Only Test Date Scores will be accepted ('My Best Scores' will NOT be accepted).)
- IELTS (Academic Module): 6.5 or higher

Note 1: Test results must be from within two years of the online registration deadline.

(4) Other Information:

If standardized examinations (e.g. national tests) for university admission in their own country exists, it is desirable for applicants to have taken them.

7. Selection Method

Students 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 registration period: October 26 (Wed), 2022 – November 17 (Thu), 2022
- The required application materials must be sent by post after applying online to arrive no later than December 2 (Fri), 2022.

(2) 2nd call for applications:

- Online registration period: February 1 (Wed), 2023 – February 24 (Fri), 2023
- The required application materials must be sent by post after applying online to arrive no later than March 10 (Fri), 2023.

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 10 (Tue), 2023 – January 17 (Tue), 2023

(2) 2nd call for applications: April 7 (Fri), 2023 – April 14 (Fri), 2023

10. Announcement of Successful Applicants

(1) 1st call for applications: February 8 (Wed), 2023 (provisional)

(2) 2nd call for applications: Mid-May, 2023 (provisional)