

JAPAN STUDY PROGRAM

Valparaiso University has two exciting exchange opportunities with sister universities in Japan.

Eligibility

You must be a sophomore, junior or senior in good standing, with a G.P.A. of at least 3.0. You do NOT need to be a Chinese and Japanese Studies major to participate, but you do need to have studied Japanese previously. Two semesters of college-level Japanese are required for the Kansai program, and highly recommend for the Osaka International program. Almost all Valpo students can study abroad in Japan without delaying graduation IF they plan carefully with their academic advisor.



Classes Offered

A semester or full year at Kansai Gaidai University, located in the culturally rich area between Osaka and Kyoto. This program offers Japanese language instruction and a number of Asian Studies courses taught in English, including topics in business, art, economics, and history, among others. Students have the option of living with a Japanese host family or in dormitories located on campus. Students pay all fees, including tuition, room, and meal plan, to Valparaiso University.

The program at Osaka International University (OIU) also offers language study, but has the added feature of a 1-month internship with a Japanese company or organization. Students engage in intensive language study for the first semester, and then spend an interim period in an internship setting, before returning to OIU campus and taking courses taught in English. Students have the option of living with a host family or in a dormitory. Tuition fees are paid to Valparaiso University; all other fees, including room and board, are paid directly to OIU. This program runs from September to July and is offered for the whole Japanese academic year only. It is especially suitable for business and engineering students.

Chinese and Japanese Studies - Valparaiso University
Students are placed in Japanese language classes according to proficiency tests given during orientation in Japan for both programs. Internship placement at OIU depends on availability and language proficiency. Students are required to study language, but are free to choose among the courses offered as long as full-time status is maintained.

Travel Opportunities

Both universities are located in the city of Hirakata (population 392,000), midway between Osaka, Japan's second largest city, and Kyoto, an ancient capital. This region is the cultural heart of Japan, with many historical sites easily accessible. The transportation system is so well developed in Japan that virtually the whole country is within hours on the express train.

Applying to the Program

You must apply for the program through the International Studies Office. The ISO is located in Meier Hall 137, phone 464 - 5333. You should consult with your academic advisor, Professor Fred Kavanagh, and the ISO as early as possible. Freshman year is not too early to begin your inquiries about study abroad. Careful planning will insure your classes taken in Japan will be used for graduation requirements.

Valparaiso University Charges

Students pay the same tuition and fees they would pay in Valparaiso for both programs. All VU study abroad programs are considered "in-residence," so all financial aid (except work-study, music, and in-season athletic scholarships) applies. Students pay Valpo's room and board charge for the Kansai program, even if they are in home stay with a Japanese family.

Kansai Gaidai students receive a stipend for food expenses. Osaka International University program students are responsible for their own room and board costs while they are in Japan.

Air fare

Students can expect to spend \$900-\$1200 roundtrip between Chicago and Osaka. Many of the discount flights described in newspapers are not useful because of the conditions attached. The ISO will help you find the most appropriate ticket for your needs.

Spending Money

Japan can be a very expensive country in which to live, depending on the exchange rate between the yen and the dollar. Consult former students and the financial section of your newspaper to estimate your relative costs.

Scholarships

AIEJ Scholarships (for full-year students only), Freeman grants, and other awards are available for qualified students; contact the International Studies Office for details.

More Information

Valparaiso University International Studies Office: studyabroad@valpo.edu

[Kansai Gaidai University](#)

[Osaka International University](#)

The PDF Footer