KCP International
Japanese Language School

KCP Intensive Japanese Language and Culture Program
Learn Japanese in the heart of Tokyo
Challenging serious students since 1983.

KCPinternational.com
Why KCP?

My university offered a handful of study abroad options in Japan, all of them great programs. What sets KCP apart is its direct-method approach and the intensity of the program. When people ask how difficult KCP is, I have a hard time giving an answer because it depends on a variety of factors, including your study habits, the level you are placed in, and how adaptable you are. Although the program is rather difficult and may seem overwhelming, I believe it’s the best way to improve one’s Japanese quickly and efficiently.

KCP classes (except for the American program cultural class) are taught in 99.9% Japanese. The other .1% is on the first day, when you learn basic Japanese greetings, and translations in everyone’s native tongue are provided. After this day, you will no longer receive in-class instruction in English. In this method, you associate Japanese with the ideas rather than the English, causing you to understand Japanese rather than translate it. In other words, when learning vocabulary, if you see a picture then hear the Japanese word, your brain starts to associate that picture with the Japanese. If you learned the English, then the Japanese, your brain would have to begin from English and change into Japanese, which makes for poor, slow conversation and writing skills. By learning Japanese using Japanese, you train your brain to think directly in the language, eliminating need for translation.

I took Japanese for three quarters at my university. I had a very knowledgeable, helpful teacher who taught to the best of his ability. While I am grateful for his instruction and help, taking Japanese class at an American university is nothing like taking it at KCP. About halfway through Level 1 (one quarter) at KCP, I learned more Japanese and improved my fluency significantly more than in Level 1 (three quarters) at my university. My results are not particularly amazing or special; everyone who tries their hardest at KCP will improve immensely. With a highly-dedicated staff and teachers, they make sure no hardworking student is ever left behind.
Message from the President

Rising to the challenge has always been KCP’s response to the various events in the world. At the same time, we pay close attention to the possible futures that foreign students might embrace.

KCP has the mission, as both its identity and its tradition, to help you with your own dreams.

The 21st century—your century—is an exceedingly complex world in its complicated systems and increasing emphasis on globalization. To realize your dream in this kind of world, it is essential for you to achieve basic competence by improving your skills in a foreign language, understanding a different culture, and IT knowledge. Your abilities to realize these core matters and to think about the world’s problems are important as well, as you aim higher in your life goals. May you have the courage to keep challenging, the patience to persevere, and the energy to take your efforts to the very end in order to make your dreams come true.

To all of you who come to Japan with serious intent in your goals, KCP promises to do our best to support you.

Takusuke Kinoshita
President KCP International Japanese Language School
Dig into learning and life in Tokyo
A quick look at KCP’s intensive Japanese language immersion program.

Courses
Intensive Japanese Language (levels 1–8)
Japanese Culture and Civilization

Terms of study
Semester
(3 months)—most common
Extended Semester
(2 semesters—6 months)
Academic Year
(3 semesters—9 months)
Summer Short-Term
(8 weeks)
Customized
Start when you want, study for up to 2 years.

Lodging options
Dormitory with Americans, Japanese, and other nationals
Homestay with Japanese family (includes breakfast, dinner)
Independent lodging

Instruction method
Language course—full immersion (Japanese only in all class levels, though conversation groups allow English, for clarification)
Culture course—taught in English; involves trips to spots near and far; optional informal extra-curricular activities.

Academic credit
For a semester term—
Language:
200 hrs / 12 semester credits / 18 quarter credits
Culture:
60 hours / 2 semester credits / 4 quarter credits

Average class size
Language course: 15–20 students
Founded in 1983, KCP International is recognized as a leader in Japanese language education. It is well known for its Japanese language and cultural immersion in Tokyo, its prime focus. The school, for the dedicated student, is a convergence of study abroad students, aspiring teachers, interns, professors, and support staff. KCP teachers are carefully evaluated for teaching effectiveness through active observation and a series of interviews.

KCP serves about 900 students per year. While most students are from other parts of Asia and all instruction is in Japanese, English-speaking staff provide extensive language support, including special tutorials, as the need arises for our U.S. students as they learn the Japanese language.

As a result of our attention to the needs of the Western-world student, our program embraces continuous improvement. This includes listening to your comments, refining curriculum, and adding new learning tools. Our outstanding faculty and support staff are dedicated to guiding and helping students from the U.S., Canada, Europe, and other countries to succeed in gaining proficiency in the Japanese language. We are firmly on your side.

**Language and Cultural Immersion in Tokyo**

**Experience you can trust**
KCP has been working with accredited U.S. universities for over 18 years. We have partnership agreements with almost a dozen universities, three of which can sponsor and grant academic credit to students who are enrolled at other schools. Each year, KCP hosts students from more than 50 American colleges and universities.

“I recommend making friends with your non-English-speaking classmates. They are the most rewarding. Not only do you get to practice Japanese all the time, but you also learn a lot about more than one new culture—both interesting and beneficial.”

**Patrick McInerney**
*Binghamton University*

“Tokyo is in the thick of things. The school is in a very good, central location. The staff is hugely helpful not only with school issues, but with any issues about life in Japan.”

**Salome Sherrer**
*Stanford University*
Programs for Everyone

Short-term student
Are you a liberal arts or business major?

Take in a hefty taste of Japan at a great value; great opportunity to experience Japan and improve language skills significantly.

Long-term student
Are you a Japanese major or minor, or a Global Studies/International Relations major?

You’ll benefit from a dramatic, profound improvement in Japanese language skills plus in-depth familiarity with Japanese culture and current events. Japanese college prep program, for both universities and vocational/art schools.

Recent college graduate
Did you minor or major in Japanese, and after graduation you’re thinking of jobs in Japan?

Increase your competitiveness in the Japanese marketplace through the employment support program; get well-paying jobs above and beyond teaching English.

High school graduate
Are you a mature, academically minded high school graduate with a strong foundation in Japanese, who wants very intensive Japanese right away?

Get support to choose, apply to, enter, and graduate from a Japanese university or vocational school.

Lifelong learner
Are you a retiree interested in Japan, or are you seeking Japan-related professional development?

Learn Japanese language and experience Japanese culture first-hand in an exciting environment on your vacation or personal enrichment experience.

Brandi Potts
University of Florida

Tomorrow officially marks two months since I returned from Japan. The experience was so remarkably surreal that I wonder if my stay in Tokyo the past two months was all just a fantastic dream. The eight photo albums overflowing with pictures, however, suggest that I really was there.

The KCP summer short-term language program in Tokyo is of excellent caliber; here are three reasons why.

First: conversation opportunity. There is no more appropriate place to study Japanese than where you are immersed in it, day and night, in and out of class; so, what better location than Japan’s capital itself? KCP classes are all conducted in Japanese; this is necessary because most of its students actually come from non-English speaking countries like South Korea and China. Tests, textbooks, grammatical explanations, and even school announcements are given in Japanese every day. These normal classroom activities are supplemented by ample conversation practice during class hours.

I stayed with a Japanese host family, so I was able to develop my conversational skills both at school and at home. The family spoke almost nothing but Japanese to me and helped me with any impromptu questions in a very friendly, informative way. Opportunities like this are quite rare in America, so it was a definite advantage to have to speak Japanese so much. Even if students choose the dormitory option, the need to speak Japanese around town still provides plenty of practice.

The second reason I highly recommend KCP is the dedication of its staff and faculty. The student program coordinators in the main office are efficient, friendly, and competent people who are always ready to help. As for the teachers (of which each class has three), never in my life have I received more personal concern about my progress and difficulties in class than at KCP. The teachers are extremely organized, knowledgeable, and dedicated people who are always available for questions. I really appreciated knowing that my learning was truly important to the teachers.

The third reason I believe KCP is an excellent school is that I was able to skip Japanese 2 at the University of Florida and enter Japanese 3 this fall with little trouble. I attended KCP during the summer, so in May I will be able to graduate with a degree in East Asian Languages and Literature. Although I have only been attending Japanese 3 for about a week now, I have noticed my kanji and vocabulary are almost equal to those who studied Japanese 2 in the past year.

I have no negative reactions other than the program being too short (which is obviously not a fault of the program, rightfully entitled the summer short-term program). I wanted to improve my Japanese beyond the beginning level I have stayed at for so many years, and KCP has the resources to allow students like me to do just that. I am very happy with my progress, and I recommend KCP to anyone serious about reaching a higher level of proficiency in Japanese fluency significantly more than in Level 1 (three quarters) at my university. My results are not particularly amazing or special; everyone who tries their hardest at KCP will improve immensely. With a highly-dedicated staff and teachers, they make sure no hardworking student is ever left behind.
Academics

Direct Japanese language immersion training in Tokyo is the core of our program.

KCP International Japanese Language School employs the Direct Method, or full Japanese language immersion, in its language classes, and the culture classes are usually taught in English. Classes contain 15 to 20 students with two to three instructors per class, depending on level. Outside-class help is abundant.

Student evaluations consistently rate the teachers very highly as key assets in the program. Since KCP teaches students from all over the world, Japanese is truly the only common language. But more important, we want to help students think in Japanese by communicating in Japanese.

You take two courses at KCP

• Intensive Japanese Language
• Japanese Culture and Civilization

Language Immersion

Intensive Japanese language immersion is the focus of the KCP Tokyo program.

Japanese by the Direct Method

KCP realizes that students enter with varying Japanese language backgrounds that may have stressed different aspects of learning. Special emphasis is placed on holistic language education, stressing all four communication skills—listening, speaking, reading, and writing—to help students master general knowledge of the Japanese language, usable fluency, and vital Japanese context.

In classes, language instruction takes place entirely in Japanese: the Direct Method, or full Japanese language immersion. Continually translating Japanese to students’ native languages (often with totally different grammar structures) would take a significant cognitive effort for students. The task of constantly converting between Japanese and English is counter-productive to learning to think in Japanese.

Japanese placement for your most effective learning

On arrival at KCP, students take a placement exam to determine their appropriate class level. You learn from 150 to 250 kanji each term, depending on the Japanese proficiency level. Each semester term consists of over 200 classroom hours of instruction. This is a rigorous program: students spend three to five hours studying each day. Each student gets plenty of support, with several instructors for each course as well as an assigned language advisor and a student coordinator.

And students get results. Students in our top language level are routinely able to pass the Nihongo Noryoku Shiken (Japanese Language Proficiency Test) level 1 or 2, roughly correlating their Japanese language skills to those of a native speaker at college level.

“Being in a class almost entirely full of students who could not speak English was very helpful, as it forced me to communicate in Japanese in order to make friends. It also forced me to think about all of the things I was learning in Japanese, rather than translating them in my head from Japanese to English.”

Erin Longstreet
University of Rochester

“I was surprised by how much I LOOKED FORWARD to class every day. The teachers were all incredibly helpful and have great personalities. This was the best decision I’ve made in my learning of Japanese.”

Grant Willey
University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee
Japanese Proficiency Levels

Japanese level 1
• Begin to communicate in daily life situations.
• Learn basic Japanese writing systems and write short paragraphs using kanji learned in class.
• Become accustomed to Japanese sounds, accents, and intonations through listening drills, classroom exercises, and audio and video tapes.

Japanese level 2
• Develop more complex communication skills and communicate in daily life situations.
• Begin to read and comprehend short stories.
• Write short paragraphs and letters using kanji learned in class.
• Carry on short conversations through repeated practice and role-playing.
• Through pronunciation correction, begin to speak Japanese with more certainty.
• Learn to recognize your own mistakes.

Japanese level 3
• Develop advanced conversation skills as your Japanese proficiency grows.
• Be able to read general articles and essays.
• Practice speaking in a variety of social situations.
• Express your ideas and opinions in Japanese and analyze tapes, current news, and academic essays.
• Special emphasis includes writing short essays and journals and delivering effective speeches in Japanese.
• Use frequent pair work and role playing.
• You are drilled on sentence structures, and you get plenty of practice in extended conversations and short speeches.

Japanese level 4
• Begin reading newspapers and academic textbooks.
• Write well-developed essays.
• Converse and create short sentences.
• Read and listen to Japanese essays describing several different aspects of modern Japan.
• Experience steady improvement in your conversation ability through class discussions and speeches.

Japanese level 5
• Express ideas successfully through your speeches and essays.
• Interpret and logically express what you read in daily Japanese newspapers.
• Write content-oriented compositions and practice conversations through pair work and role playing.
• Japanese used in class is increasingly more advanced and difficult.

Japanese level 6
• Classroom activities are supplemented with newspaper readings, television, textbook readings, and discussion of current issues in Japan.
• Your Japanese language proficiency is enhanced through speeches, discussions, debates, role playing, task listening, and mock interviews.

“I especially appreciated the support staff when I was sick. They made everything a million times easier.”  
Brielle Graham  
Stockton College
Looking back on my year in Tokyo, honestly, I learned more in those 365 days than I did in my entire life.

But getting the most out of study abroad is about how much a person puts into their experience, so it’s not for everybody. Study abroad is for the student who is willing to live outside of his or her personal comfort zone and reach out to the people who live there.

I gave my study in the Land of the Rising Sun all I had . . . full immersion. I actually didn’t speak English at all for nearly eight months! Initially, that is the most trying thing about living in another country—the language barrier.

Since I was determined to understand everyone, I spent nearly two months nodding my head “yes” to everything said to me (with an occasional “no” when it looked like trouble). I decided not to speak English at all, even if it meant a headache here and there. I volunteered wherever I could; went on trips with Japanese friends; joined many cultural events—kabuki, calligraphy, karate, sadou (tea ceremony); and even climbed Mount Fuji, twice!

Eventually it all paid off. My host family, as well as the many friends I made, gave me credit for my effort, and that led to much deeper, more meaningful relationships. Here is the real goal of study abroad, I believe: to form deep and insightful relationships with people from other countries, causing one to grow inwardly and interpersonally. I recommend KCP study abroad to those who are willing to reach down deep within to gain a better understanding of the global village.
University Preparatory Course

A combination of Japanese language classes, preparatory classes for Japanese-university entrance exams, and expert guidance. The focus is on preparing for admission to a 4-year university in Japan.

Besides daily Japanese language classes we also provide classes to prepare for the EJU and, for the secondary examination for entrance into a university, other subjects like English and math. Through these classes you gain knowledge and skills to enter national and public universities or top-level private universities, while expert staff provide focused and courteous guidance.

Academic Extras

Tokyo-area university involvement

Tokyo-area university professors teach the innovative KCP Japanese-language teacher preparation program, for those who want to teach Japanese as a second language. The basic level focuses on instruction, and the advanced level includes in-depth instruction plus practicum.

Japanese teachers-in-training from nearby universities serve supervised internships at KCP, to supplement your instruction and provide further interaction.

Gakko Hojin certification

KCP is a not-for-profit educational foundation. As of April 2007, KCP International Japanese Language School, one of the most highly recognized language institutes in Japan, has been granted Gakko Hojin status. Gakko Hojin is a rigorous educational evaluation and accreditation process overseen by the Tokyo metropolitan government ministry.

“I registered for KCP's Special University Preparatory Course with a goal to study economics in a Japanese university. Just as I had heard, KCP was a great school with intensive student support and continual improvements. Despite the large number of students, instructors guide each student with much care, so I was able to improve my skills quickly, which also gave me more options for my target universities. Thanks to KCP I successfully entered one of the top-level universities in the Kansai area.

While I studied at KCP, I had many opportunities to learn about Japanese culture and also to connect with students from other countries. That helped me build a strong foundation in multicultural understanding, and I developed a new sense of value in myself. I dream of establishing my own company to bridge Japan, Philippines, and the world. As the next step in my dream, I hope to support children suffering from poverty in the Philippines and other places in the world.

When I faced difficulties I told myself not to give up and kept making an effort, which helped me achieve significant results. Believe in yourself and keep trying for your goal; don’t give up!”

Aila Marie Amoyo Reyes
Cultural Immersion

Experiencing Japanese culture and civilization helps you think in Japanese! The Japanese Culture and Civilization Course is a highlight of every student's study abroad.

In this course, KCP offers you Japanese cultural immersion through lectures and organized excursions to some of the most notable happenings in Tokyo. The course, taught in English, runs on Saturdays and is offered during a student's first term of study. It includes lectures that lay the ground on topics like Japanese classical entertainment, customs, lifestyle, business, economics, politics, history, psychology, and religion.

Excursions add reality to lectures

To build on this conceptual base, you’ll visit relevant sites, in Tokyo and elsewhere in Japan. Typical excursions have included Kamakura, the Edo-Tokyo Museum, Nikko, Asakusa Temple, the Imperial Palace, NHK Broadcasting Company, a Sumo beya, and Kabuki and Bunraku theaters. You’ll have plenty of opportunities to explore traditional Japanese art forms.

“Class trips were good team building experiences. With so many students whose native language I don’t understand, class trips were fun opportunities to chat with fellow students in Japanese and get to know them better. This made class time more productive because we felt comfortable with each other.”

Steven Brogan
University of Washington

Club Activities

In addition to the Japanese Culture and Civilization course, all KCP students can take part in optional activities and outings throughout the term. In the extra-curricular sessions, you have the chance to connect with other students in informal, non-classroom settings. The list below is just a sample; some clubs change from term to term or are based on Japanese language level.

Tea ceremony club

Practice preparing the Japanese tea for a tea ceremony. At the end of each term, hold a tea ceremony that other students and instructors can visit as guests.

Koto club

Learn how to play the koto, a Japanese musical instrument like a zither or autoharp. Many KCP alumni return to practice even after they graduate.

School newspaper

You’ll publish the KCP newspaper every month or two. The team works together on scripts, interviews, photography, and design as they produce the paper.

Yosakoi Soran dance club

Traditional Japanese dance can be new and fun for you! The club performs during the speech contest and graduation ceremony. Audiences really love to see the dance performances.

Volunteer activity club

Take part in volunteer activities including fund raising for people living in disaster areas and for vaccines for children in those areas.

Soccer club

Soccer lovers gather on Sundays for games and even tournament matches.
KCP students: a global village

Most KCP students are from Asian countries such as China, Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Taiwan. Studying with a diverse student body contributes to the unique KCP experience. In today’s global village, it is vital to appreciate the cultural practices, politico-economics, and histories of countries different from your own.

At KCP, students from different cultures, with distinct languages and traditions, can learn Japanese together and grow in their understanding of each other. Many Asian students in the program are genuinely interested in American life and culture, so there is plenty of opportunity for spirited social exchange.
### 2017 Program Credits and Costs

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* Recommended semester credit hours.

### 2017 Program Dates and Application Deadlines

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<td>Summer</td>
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Note: Prices and dates are subject to change without prior notice. If a deadline falls on a Sunday or holiday, application/payment is due at the KCP office or sponsor school the workday before the deadline.

**Late applications may be possible. See website for details.
Program Costs

Students commend our program as both an excellent value and an effective learning experience. Academic credit and financial aid are available through your college.

*Our goal is to make study in Japan possible for you.*

Cost for semester courses includes:
- Language course tuition and fees
- Over 200 hours of language instruction
- Textbooks and supplementary material
- Pre-departure packet
- Detailed on-site orientation
- Course on Japanese Culture and Society
- Cultural activities and excursions (excluding some transportation costs)
- Minor medical insurance
- Pick-up at Narita Airport on your arrival date
- Lodging: dorm room or homestay (homestay includes breakfast and dinner)
- Transportation pass between lodging and school

Incidentals
- Travel to and from Japan (as well as some culture class transportation) is not included. Airfare varies depending on season of travel. Typically, round-trip fares between the U.S. and Japan run $1,000 to $1,500.
- For all meals and personal expenses, you should budget $1,500 to $2,500 per semester.
- For extended or academic year terms, the homestay option is available for only the first semester.

Financial Aid

See our financial aid resources online for full-time, credit-bearing study in KCP’s Japanese language program at [kcpinternational.com/costs/financial-aid](http://kcpinternational.com/costs/financial-aid).

Financial aid can apply in many cases to the KCP program.

To determine your eligibility and to obtain all necessary forms, check with your college’s Study Abroad and Financial Aid offices. Students have had excellent results applying their financial aid towards this program.

Making a Budget

Japan is an expensive country to live in, so plan your finances carefully. We recommend that students with KCP-arranged housing (either homestay or dormitory) allow $20 to $30 per day for daily expenses.

Homestay students receive breakfast and dinner as part of the homestay option.

“My goal is to become a Japanese translator, so I need to understand all aspects of Japanese. KCP has helped me do this. In the one semester I was there, I gained much more from this program than any other study I did in Japan or America.”

Alexander Harris
Elizabethtown College
KCP Scholarship

KCP International announces the availability of a KCP scholarship to eligible students. These merit-based scholarships are offered to students whose housing, whether homestay or dormitory, is arranged by KCP, and who are enrolling in the KCP program for academic credit.

The scholarship is awarded to three students each term who meet the award criteria and eligibility, and on a first come, first served basis. KCP reserves the right to terminate this scholarship program at any time.

For further specifics, see kcpinternational.com/costs/scholarships.

Health Insurance

In addition to your own health insurance, KCP provides students with minor medical and accident coverage.

KCP’s minor medical insurance begins the day after arrival in Japan and continues through the last day of the program. However, KCP coverage is a supplemental or “top up” policy of health insurance for study abroad in Japan. You must be covered by another insurance policy while in Japan or while on any independent travel excursion. It is your responsibility to secure additional coverage before departing for Japan.

The KCP health insurance covers:

- Medical expense (accident) ¥550,000
- Death by accident ¥3,000,000
- Medical expense (sickness) ¥530,000
- Death by sickness ¥3,000,000

Coverage is subject to change without notice.

KCP Refund Policy

If a student is not accepted to the KCP program, all payments less a $50 processing fee are returned.

If KCP receives written confirmation of withdrawal more than 60 days before the start of the program, all fees paid, minus the non-refundable application deposit, are returned.

If written confirmation of withdrawal is received between 45 and 60 days before the program begins, 50% of the program fee is refunded. If payment has not been made, 50% of the program fee is due.

If withdrawal occurs 45 days or less before the program starting date, no refunds are made. If payment has not been made, 100% of the program fee is due.

The late application fee, if paid, is refundable only if a student is not accepted into the program.
By the end of my second year in college, after learning about Asian cultures and being involved in my school Asian culture club, I knew I wanted to study abroad. I was enamored of Japan; I felt a connection to the culture that I couldn’t explain. I started studying Japanese and even began practicing karate. My hunger for knowledge about Japan led me to KCP, which had a great reputation as a school using the direct method—total immersion in the language and culture.

Happily, by the first day of class, I was well prepared, as I had taken two semesters of Japanese in the U.S. KCP classes are intense, but I learned a lot, as long as I applied myself and kept trying. During my time at KCP, I enjoyed opportunities to hone my language skills through English support sessions, class trips, and joint events with Hosei University students, like cooking classes and parties. I lived with a host family during my stay, which gave me chances to practice and learn Japanese daily. That increased my confidence in learning and speaking Japanese, and I also developed a lifelong relationship with my host family.

Since KCP, I have graduated from my U.S. university and am now living and working in Japan at the JET Program. I’m working towards a career in International Education. The possibilities are endless if you pursue your goals and dreams with passion.

KCP is not just any language school. It is a first home for many who want to explore the world, a place where people from all over the world can come together and cultivate respect for one another’s cultures. KCP is the epitome of an international education.
As I sit here in New York City, I already miss Tokyo’s clean streets, efficient trains, and sales clerks who never failed to greet me with an “irasshaimase!” But what I miss the most about Japan, hands down, are my teachers and friends.

KCP truly has the best staff and teachers, making my study abroad experience hugely memorable. If I ever needed something, Tanaka, Michiko, and Ryuhei were always in the office to help. My teachers—Konno, Hosoi, and Okada—were really friendly and truly dedicated to everyone’s learning. But the teacher who stole my heart was definitely 一番きれいな先生, a.k.a. Konno-sensei. Her class was never dull; always full of laughter. Don’t get me wrong: of course we still learned, but her unique teaching methods made everything so much fun. Back in NYC, I’ve had a handful of Japanese teachers, but none are comparable to KCP’s teachers.

Thanks to KCP, I met many people from all over the U.S., China, Korea, Mexico, and France. Although it was awkward at first, I grew to enjoy talking to the Chinese and Koreans students with my limited Japanese. The Korean girls in my class were great fun to talk to; some days would find us singing along to Psy’s Gangnam Style. My most memorable class experience is when we did the can-can for our speech contest performance. We were all so nervous and embarrassed to perform in front of everyone but in the end, our performance was one of the best!

The saddest part of my trip was saying goodbye to everyone. Although my friends are scattered all over the U.S. and some are still in Tokyo, I’m looking forward to the next time I can see them again!
Terms of Study

Flexible terms of study ease your Japanese language immersion training in Tokyo.

If Japanese language immersion is something you must fit into your busy academic plans, KCP’s flexible study terms are a big help. Term lengths range from four weeks to an academic year or more. Some students plan for extended study before they start the KCP program; some choose to extend their study once they are in Tokyo.

Although the Fall and Spring extended six-month (two semester) programs are very popular with students, in truth you can combine KCP terms of study in many ways, starting and ending with the terms that meet your own specific timetable for Japanese language study in Tokyo.

If you plan to enroll in an extended or academic year program (staying longer than six months), we strongly recommend that you (1) apply for your first term at least six months in advance, and (2) apply for a visa as well.

Incidentals:

• Extended term is two KCP semesters; academic year is three KCP semesters. Japanese Language course credit is awarded based on the multiple of terms.

• The Japanese Culture and Civilization course is offered only during a student’s first term of study.

Semester Programs

Winter Term
Early January through late March

Spring Term
Early April through late June

Fall Term
Early October through late December

Each of the KCP semester programs covers about three months of learning time, coinciding roughly with dates for U.S. college semesters. A semester provides time to broaden your experience in Japan’s culture with excursions to cultural spots, museums, palaces, theaters, and businesses.

The language course is offered at 8 levels with special emphasis placed on balanced language education that stresses the 4 most important communication skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

This program appeals to:

• Students wanting a study abroad concentrating on Japanese language proficiency

• Students and college graduates whose interests or career plans lead them to Japan

• Students who want to acquire one year of university-level Japanese language credit.

Extended Programs

Spring Extended
Early January through late June

Fall Extended
Early July through late December

The six-month Spring Extended and Fall Extended programs are your opportunity for profound Japanese proficiency.

Extended programs are ideal for students who:

• want more in-depth Japanese immersion in Tokyo

• are interested in working part-time while in Japan.

Academic Year Program

The academic year program equals three KCP semesters.

Academic Year
Early October through late June

Extended and Academic Year Program Incidentals

• If you plan to attend a KCP extended or academic year program, you need to plan at least six months in advance for a student visa.

• If you enroll in an extended or academic year program (two or three semesters), you can take the Japanese Culture and Civilization class during your first term only.

• If you decide, while at KCP, to stay for another semester or two and remain in KCP-arranged housing, you cannot repeat the Culture Class after your first term of study.

• KCP can offer homestay as a possibility only during the first term of your study. After your first term, you will most likely be placed in a dormitory during the remainder of your time at KCP.

“The speech contest was extremely fun and high-energy. All of the students had a chance to try hard, perform for each other and the Sensei, and bond.”

Elizabeth Brown
University of California, Riverside

“I never learned Japanese in the direct method in America; KCP’s direct method of teaching required us to think in Japanese constantly, which is extremely important here. Because I had to speak Japanese every day to get around, thinking quickly in Japanese was imperative. The direct method was a great help.”

Jessica Funtanilla
Elizabethtown College
**Summer Term Program**  
Early July through mid September

The Summer program, including some new additions, offers opportunities for proficiency in Japanese in an intense summer season. Summer study is a great way to jump-start your Japanese skills and context.

The summer semester program is a total immersion intensive Japanese language course of the same duration as a KCP semester, yet it’s just short enough to fit into the summer of an academic year.

This program appeals to students who:

- are eager for a good amount of total Japanese immersion
- want meaningful, stimulating summer study in Japan
- are attending schools that follow the quarter calendar system.

**Summer Short-Term Program**  
Late June through mid August

Drench yourself in Japan for 8 exciting weeks of nonstop immersion in the Direct Method—entirely in Japanese. Outside of class, you can speak Japanese in your everyday interactions, good times, and jaunts to more of Japan. Dormitory or homestay lodging is available. Both students and recent college graduates enthusiastically favor summer short-term because it is

- synched with your university academic schedule
- at the height of festival season
- an amazing deal: very reasonable cost.

The KCP summer short-term program gets results: you’ll come back with the equivalent of a year’s Japanese language (over 160 hours) under your belt, for academic credit. So, gear up for the intensity by learning your basic kana.

The summer short-term program in Japan matches its schedule more closely to universities in the United States (on either the semester and quarter schedules).

*Note: Summer Short-Term Program differs from the summer semester program.*
Eligibility

If you’re post-high school and ready to work hard, KCP is for you.

Academic requirements
The KCP International Japanese Language School is open to all full-time undergraduate students regardless of their field of study, to post-graduate students, and to adult professionals. The program is open to U.S. students and students from other countries that have a visa treaty with Japan, and who have a good command of the English language.

Your grades in Japanese courses are weighed. Although there is no rigid Japanese language requirement, we strongly recommend at least one semester of Japanese, or sound knowledge of hiragana and katakana, before applying.

Students who get the most out of our program have completed at least one year of college Japanese. (2–3 years of high school Japanese equal one year of college Japanese.) If you are not a native speaker of English, you must demonstrate your English ability. For non-students, copies of recent high school or college diplomas are required instead of a transcript.

To be accepted into the program:
• You must be at least 18 years old.
• You should be prepared to put in 3–5 hours of study each day outside of class.
• You must have successfully completed high school.
• You need a GPA of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).

“After being immersed in the language, culture, and life of Japan, I’m hooked! I am now a double major in Japanese and American Ethnic Studies. After graduation, I will teach English in Japan while I complete a masters degree in education.”

Catalina Tiamson
University of Washington

“The connections I made—professionally with experts in my field, personally in my many new friends, and creatively with many brilliant artists and inspiring mentors—have shaped my life.”

Tyler Fry
Indiana University

“After being immersed in the language, culture, and life of Japan, I’m hooked! I am now a double major in Japanese and American Ethnic Studies. After graduation, I will teach English in Japan while I complete a masters degree in education.”

Catalina Tiamson
University of Washington
Faculty and Staff

The main goals of our faculty and staff are for each student to learn Japanese very well and advance to a higher language level. We not only teach Japanese language; we also teach students the Japanese context, so that they better understand and appreciate cultural differences.

Helpful Japanese instructors

A student has two or three Japanese language instructors for each language course. These instructors are available as needed to answer your language questions and for counseling and support. In addition:

- A language program advisor is available to answer questions related to the language courses.
- A head professor is in charge of the Japanese Culture and Civilization Course.
- Three student coordinators are available to answer your questions about homestays, dormitories, and life in Japan. They also arrange culture course excursions and other activities.

All of our supportive staff members take a personal interest in your educational growth. If you have any questions, concerns, or items of interest to discuss, the faculty and staff are available to make your stay in Japan as educationally rewarding as possible.

In their evaluations, KCP students give glowing recommendations to our dedicated, talented Japanese language faculty.

“"The KCP teaching staff is phenomenal. Without question, this is THE best group of Japanese instructors I've yet come across in my years of grappling with the language. The staff goes above and beyond to make our experience smooth. My experience from start to finish has been nothing short of fantastic.”

Alexander Brickler
University of Minnesota

Academic Credit

You can earn one year or more of language credit (either semester or quarter) each KCP term. The culture class earns credit as well (see page 11).

KCP courses have been approved for credit by many colleges and universities worldwide, but it is up to each student to determine transferability of credit by your home school before you attend the program.

In the first week of class, you choose from three grading options: Grade (four-point scale), Pass/Fail, or Audit. Students who choose the Audit option participate fully in the course but do not earn academic credit.
Great Student Support

While each member of KCP is an extraordinary individual, the common traits of KCP faculty and staff are that they’re always energetic and responsible. School personnel consider a student’s future and provide thoughtful support to each individual, based on his/her situation.

Students always visit the KCP faculty office. We will be there to support your academic or personal-life concerns. If explaining your concerns in Japanese is difficult, we have staff fluent in English, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese, so feel free to ask for interpretation help.

“Most culture classes were small, making a lot of room for group discussion and debate. Talking about issues concerning foreigners in Japan especially was helpful, as it prepared me for what to expect. It also gave me a deeper understanding of the Japanese people and the language that I’m studying.”

Katie Louise Penvose
Michigan State University

Academic support

We provide extra study support for those who need it—focused, concrete advice for you to improve your weak points in grammar, pronunciation, listening skills, and so on. If you have any questions or concerns about your academics, please bring them to the teaching faculty’s office.

Individual interviews

In individual interviews every term with your instructor, you review together what you have accomplished and where you need to improve in your academics.

Support in daily life

If you have any challenges—purchasing a cell phone, opening a bank account, illness and the need for a doctor—please tell the school office. Administrative staff and class instructors will assist you. We also provide full guidance and support for your student status extension when you need it.

Support in finding part-time work

For multi-term students who have good time-management and study skills, there are options for finding part-time work, since your expenses are long-standing. If needed, we provide step-by-step support including job introduction and practice interviews. Many students have found their part-time jobs through this service.

Support in getting employment

If, after long-term study, you want to make a career in Japan, we help you prepare a personal resume, write proper application emails, interview (through simulations), and so on. Many graduates of higher levels have gone on to very successful careers in Japan in the arts, graphic design, retail, business services, technology, and the like.
Lodging
You can choose to stay with a Japanese family (homestay), in a dormitory, or independently.

- The homestay option offers profound insight into the typical Japanese family and the ability to practice your Japanese skills.
- The dorm is ideal for students who desire greater freedom and independence. Dorms are single rooms with their own bathroom, kitchenette, sleeping, and study areas.
- If you arrange your own housing while enrolled at KCP, you are responsible for transportation costs between your lodgings and school, and from the airport to your lodgings. You will receive information on the date and time of orientation.

Selecting the best option for you can be difficult. Here’s a quick comparison:

**Homestay**

*Advantages*
- Daily opportunity to practice Japanese
- Experience family traditions
- Eat meals in family setting
- Secure option for younger students.

*Disadvantages*
- Less free time in schedule
- Possible curfew
- May need to help out around the house.

**Dormitory**

*Advantages*
- Opportunity to meet other young people
- Private rooms
- More freedom
- More control over meals.

*Disadvantages*
- Less exposure to Japanese family life
- Possible curfew.

For more on dorm and homestay, visit kcpinternational.com/About/Housing.

“Pair work gave us more time to converse in Japanese, improving skill level and confidence. Role playing reinforced vocabulary and speech patterns. Drill practice forced me to answer quickly without thinking too hard. It all helped me think more naturally in Japanese.”

Emily Cole
University of North Texas

“The dorm manager and all dorm staff were pleasant and eager to help the residents with any query. The cafeteria chef, especially, always made a point of conversing in Japanese with us, which helped in learning Japanese.”

Emerald Sargent
University of Idaho

“I expected to be able to hold basic conversations in Japanese by the end of the program, but I was actually surprised. I became able to participate in quite complex conversations with most of my Japanese friends.”

Bryan Metz
Elizabethtown College
Campus

A quiet neighborhood in otherwise-busy Shinjuku.

Japanese cultural immersion in the heart of Tokyo

The KCP campus is a five-minute walk from the Shinjuku Gyoemae subway station (Marunouchi line), or a 10-minute walk from Shinjuku San-Chome station (Toei Shinjuku line)—an ideal location for your study abroad program in Tokyo.

The Shinjuku train station sees 3 million people every rush hour, yet the KCP neighborhood, just a 10-minute walk away, is tranquil. It’s an ideal mix.

Shinjuku is the business, entertainment, and shopping center of Tokyo. Shinjuku Avenue is lined with tall buildings, complexes, and a feast of exotic neon light displays. The KCP neighborhood, however, is filled with smaller buildings and shops.

Shinjuku Gyoen Park: a favorite spot

Shinjuku Gyoen Park, one of Tokyo’s largest and most beautiful, is only a five-minute walk from KCP. At a number of smaller parks close by, students can enjoy a peaceful break as well. It’s a perfect spot to immerse yourself in Japanese daily life.

KCP office

Offices are open 9 am–6 pm Monday through Friday. Morning classes run 9 am–12:15 pm; afternoon classes run 1:30 pm–4:45 pm. Campus amenities include a main office, classrooms, a study room, student lounges, a computer room (word processing in English and Japanese, a printer, and internet access), and a sick room.
Access map

The KCP campus neighborhood is serene and quiet, and it includes lushly green Shinjuku Gyoen Park, and elementary school, a public library, office buildings, and a residential area. You can reach Shinjuku’s busy center in a 10-minute walk, which makes the area very convenient for commuting and other activities like shopping.

This station is two stops away from the gigantic Shinjuku station used by over 3 million people per day. KCP campus is about a 3-minute walk from Shinjuku Gyoenmae Station.

If you have a cold, you can visit this very convenient clinic in the neighborhood. If you have problems communicating in Japanese, office staff can accompany you for translation.

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A high-rise building scheduled for completion in September 2015. It will contain convenient facilities for the community like a large supermarket and parking.

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A very big park in the center of Tokyo. The park is well known for having many cherry blossom trees, and KCP students experience “Ohanami” (cherry blossom appreciation) here every year.

Here are a variety of books related to Japanese culture and language, where foreigners are welcome to enter and read those books.

There is a public library on the 7th floor, The civic center also has a cooking facility that we use often for our cooking classes.

Convenient for you to mail your applications and documents to higher education institutions like universities and technical schools. There is also an ATM for JP Bank that foreign people can use.

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Convenient for you to mail your applications and documents to higher education institutions like universities and technical schools. There is also an ATM for JP Bank that foreign people can use.
Japanese proficiency: your path to career improvement
Graduates from KCP have stayed in Japan, married and made a life there, teach in Japan, work for Fortune 500 companies with Japanese offices, or use their Japanese experience to work in other Asian countries (like Korea and Taiwan) where Japanese knowledge is a plus. Advanced education, study in other Asian languages, teaching Japanese, anime-manga, film, and photography are exciting areas that students have pursued.

KCP graduates are JET teachers and beyond
Some KCP alumni work for Japanese companies, or for American companies doing business in the Japanese market. Some students have used their Japanese skills for Japan studies or for becoming Japanese language teachers. KCP graduates work in Japan through the Japan and Exchange Teaching (JET) Program. Some become English teachers at English conversation schools or public schools in Japan. A photographer alumnus has taken many professional photos of life in Japan. An artistic student has chosen to combine her Japanese language and anime to become a film illustrator. With the strong working command of Japanese you will gain after study in Tokyo with KCP, your career options are wide open.

Career strategies: expand your horizons
By living real life in Japan, you improve not only your language skills, but also your inter-cultural competence. Combining profound Japanese language fluency with other skills makes you much more employable. Make and nurture connections with friends in Tokyo, to help retain your ability to “think in Japanese” and have touchstone people when you return to visit. Teaching another language gives you more opportunity to visit that country frequently. Exchanging opinions and celebrating cultural differences gains you entry to the global village.

Continue (or complete) your studies
Having solid knowledge of the Japanese language gives you a strong leg up in today’s competitive landscape. For professionals, graduating from college is not an option. It’s a requirement. Since KCP is such an intensive program, you’ll make great headway towards your degree. The KCP program is paired with 11 U.S. universities. Through these university partners, students have earned academic credit towards graduation from well over a hundred U.S. universities.

Work in Japan
Many KCP alumni have stayed in Japan to work, thanks to their strong Japanese. To teach English in Japan (in the JET program), you must be a college graduate and fluent in Japanese; KCP can help!

Learn in Japan
Many KCP students continue their studies, in Japanese, full time at a Japanese university. KCP alumni have been accepted into top graduate schools like Tokyo University, Waseda University, Nagoya University, Tsukuba University, and Sophia University. Students have applied to and been accepted into undergraduate programs at Waseda, Sophia, Chiba University, Musashino Art University, and others. In all, KCP alumni are enrolled in over 20 Japanese universities.
Early in my last year of university, I noticed that quite a few Japanese-major upperclassmen didn’t seem to be doing anything with their major. They simply worked at department stores, grocery stores, and the like. I realized then that the same thing would happen to me if I didn’t do something drastically different. I began to think seriously about what I wanted to accomplish after graduating: (1) I didn’t want to be stuck in my college town; (2) I wanted to improve my Japanese to work in a Japanese company and use my language skills; and (3) I didn’t want to be an English teacher in Japan and barely use Japanese.

I started weighing my options. Ultimately, it was Mike Anderson, the KCP U.S. director, who suggested the best option to me. He knew of my passion for Japanese and suggested that with some additional study at KCP, my near-perfect proficiency would open up many new doors for me and make me much more employable in Japan.

That encouragement is the most significant turning point in my recent life. Without it I can easily say that I wouldn’t be in Tokyo right now or have a job at a prestigious IT company.

The interview process was pretty brutal. Before I could even get an interview I had to take an online IQ test of things like puzzles, math, and English grammar. After I passed, I was invited to a 15-minute interview, along with another potential hire. We were asked about our strengths in college, workplace strengths, why we wanted to work at Rakuten and in Japan, and our goals.

I passed the first interview and proceeded to the second one, this time just me and the interviewer. I was tested about my knowledge of the company to see if I had done some research. I passed this interview as well. Before the third interview I had to write an essay about a book on the company’s founder, Mikitani-san, and to study the company ideals and core values. I also had to take a 20-minute Japanese conversation test over the phone. All of these interviews took place in Japanese.

My third interview, with a Canadian employee who worked closely with the CEO, was in English and clearly the most difficult one. I was asked many questions about Rakuten’s competitors, why those competitors might have an advantage over Rakuten, what Rakuten could do to overcome them, and what new service that fits into the company’s values I would establish if given the chance. Luckily I passed this interview and proceeded to the final interview, with a manager of the E-commerce department. I think this was a character check, to make sure that I’m the person the first three interviewers said I was. This occurred in Japanese, and we just talked about the differences between America and Japan.

The teachers at KCP really helped me, in particular Miyamoto-Sensei. She helped me correct and perfect my Japanese résumé. Once during class she even had my classmates ask me a bunch of interview questions to prepare me for the interview. She was a huge help.
Passport and Visa
You may need only a valid passport to study in Japan through KCP. Because of a visa exemption arrangement between the U.S. and Japan, students are eligible to stay less than 90 days (one semester or less) without a visa.

U.S. citizens can download a passport application and find other helpful information about applying for a passport from the U.S. Department of State.

Visa
If you plan to study longer than one term, you need a visa.

A visa is simply a stamp placed in your passport allowing you to enter another country. But you do have to apply for this stamp, from Japanese Immigration.

U.S. citizens can enter Japan as tourists and stay up to 90 days without a visa. (Citizens of other countries may have different requirements; check with your Japanese Consulate.)

Applying for a Visa
When you sign up for a KCP extended (two semesters) or academic year (three semesters) program, KCP staff assists you by checking your visa application for completeness, translating necessary parts, serving as the sponsor institution, and providing other crucial aid. Since it takes quite some time to obtain a visa, begin the visa application process as soon as you receive notification of acceptance from KCP.

Japanese Immigration is extremely rigorous in its criteria for correct, complete, perfect information (no mistakes or evidence of corrections) when considering visa applications. The most common reasons for visas not being granted are:

- incomplete information
- lack of financial support
- inaccurate information, and
- long time periods not accounted for by school, work, or other valid activity.

Give yourself all the time necessary (at least six months) to apply for a visa. DO NOT leave your student visa application for the last minute.

Logistics

Airport pickup
KCP staff members will pick up students who arrive at Tokyo Narita Airport. Upon arrival at Narita, you will proceed through immigration, collect your luggage, and pass through Customs.

KCP will have a luggage delivery service send one piece of luggage directly to your housing option. It will not arrive until the next day, so please pack what you’ll need for the first few days in your carry-on bag.

Bringing medication into Japan
Access to medication is essential, especially when away for a long time. The policies of most countries differ widely on what types of medicines are available, so be sure to prepare before traveling.

When bringing in medication, you’ll need to know what types of medication are allowed and what are not, as well as the allowable quantity.

For more, see KCP Student Life at kcpstudentlife.com.
Comments from Partner Universities

Michiko Yusa  
Professor of Japanese and East Asian Studies, Western Washington University

We have been sending our students to KCP for the last 20 years, as we have utter confidence in the quality of instruction and the care each student receives while in Japan. Students typically come back to the U.S. with much increased proficiency in Japanese and a working knowledge of contemporary Japanese society and culture. Field trips, carefully designed as part of their language learning, greatly help them see and understand Japan in its multifaceted historical context.

Dan Lindeman  
Program Coordinator, International Programs Office, Western Washington University

As a study abroad advisor, I highly recommend KCP International for students seeking an intensive Japanese language experience. I have interviewed many students about their experience with KCP, and they have universally praised the quality of instruction and the helpfulness of the KCP staff.

Bob Neuenschwander  
Associate Director of International Grants and Initiatives, University of Idaho

For the past 17 years, the University of Idaho has enjoyed a strong working relationship with KCP—a leader and innovator in Japanese language instruction. With its Tokyo location, it provides the perfect venue for students to experience the social traditions and culture in one of the great cities of the world!

Constance Lundy  
Director of International Programs and Services, Lincoln University

KCP is an excellent academic and cultural program. The staff is outstanding and truly committed to providing support over and beyond the call of duty. Lincoln University continues to value its longstanding relationship with KCP developed over 15 years ago. KCP is one of the most popular study abroad programs in the College Consortium of International Studies, of which the Lincoln University is a member.

Partner Universities

Sponsor Universities

These universities grant academic credit to students enrolled at them and can also grant transfer academic credit to students from other colleges who apply to the KCP program through them.

- Lincoln University
- University of Idaho
- Western Washington University

Affiliate Universities

These universities grant academic credit to students who are enrolled at them.

- Cleveland State University
- Elizabethtown College
- Idaho State University
- Indiana State University
- Missouri State University
- New Mexico State University
- Norfolk State University
- Texas Tech University
- The College of New Jersey
Apply to KCP Now

If you’re ready for the experience of a lifetime, visit kcpinternational.com and click Apply Now.

KCP Resources

kcpinternational.com
the KCP International website, full of program facts.

kcpreview.com
excerpts of program evaluations from KCP alums.

kcpwindowonjapan.com
all things Tokyo-, Japan- and KCP-related.

kcpstudentlife.com
how to survive and thrive in Tokyo while you’re learning at KCP.

KCP International Flickr
flickr.com/photos/kcpjapanese
a treasure trove of photos about KCP.

Facebook KCP International
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KCP world, facebook-style.
A wealth of new experiences awaits you in Tokyo at KCP. You can see for yourself what Japan really is. In addition to an enlightening cultural journey, you are very fortunate to encounter, in KCP, one of the best Japanese language schools in the world.

If you have the discipline to study hard, you will learn Japanese at an unprecedented rate. Here’s why KCP is so successful:

**Immersion training**—Since Japanese is the only language used to teach Japanese at KCP, it roots out any notion that you need your English to survive. The more you can detach yourself from English, the faster your Japanese ability improves.

**Speed**—These classes move three times faster than Japanese college classes in the U.S. This really makes the language come alive, because when you leave the classroom you can immediately use and understand such a variety of grammar that you’ll likely get a chance to use it, even on the journey home.

**Teachers**—The professors are extremely willing to help. The teachers of KCP are tough, but they really want to see you succeed in learning Japanese.

You may have the very natural reaction to find an English-speaking person to communicate with; however, the biggest obstacle to developing conversational fluency in Japanese is to spend all your free time hanging out after class with English-speaking students. In class you will learn everything you need to know, but only by making an effort to use Japanese outside class will your conversational ability improve.

At KCP, learning and remembering grammar constructions and vocab certainly requires study, but for me the toughest part of the curriculum was kanji. My advice is to buy index cards. Write kanji on one side and hiragana on the other. Do not use English. Remember, it is your enemy here. If you keep those cards and review them on your walk or train ride home, you’ll find that learning kanji becomes less of a monster.

I hope you can see Japan with an open mind. I hope you can find all the little subtleties of Japan that American media never shows. I hope you make the most out of your educational and cultural experience. But most important, I hope you have a great time and make some great lifelong friends.

Ryan Conner
University of Idaho
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