



Mie University (Mie)



This course is for international students who intend to research or work on Japan or the Japanese language and play globally active roles in their futures.

■ University Overview

(1) Outline of University

◆ Mie University consists of five undergraduate faculties (Humanities, Law & Economics/ Education / Medical study / Engineering / Bioresources) and six graduate schools including the Graduate School of Regional Innovation Studies. The campus is located in Tsu city, which is blessed with an excellent natural environment facing a beach to the east and the Suzuka Mountains to the north-west.

◆ Number of Students and Staff

Undergraduate Students: 6,028
 Graduate Students: 1,111
 Teaching Staff: 778
 International Students: 291 (34 countries)
 < As of May 1, 2019 >

◆ Environmentally Friendly and Advanced University

Mie University was granted the certification for ISO14001, Environmental International Standards, and has established a variety of environmental management systems.

(2) International Exchanges

◆ Mie University has partner-university or partner-faculty academic exchange agreements with 116 institutions for the advancement of the exchange of students, researchers, and academic information.
 < As of May 1, 2019 >

(3) Numbers of International Students (IS) and those in the Japanese Language and Culture Studies (JLCS) Course

	IS	JLCS
Year 2017	316	4
Year 2018	298	4
Year 2019	291	4



Ise Grand Shrine



Suzuka Circuit



Iga Ueno Castle



CIER, Mie University

(4) The Region

◆ Tsu city is the prefectural capital of Mie prefecture with a population of approx. 280,000. It is comfortable to live in with a mild climate throughout the year and convenient to access other cities: 1.5 hours to Osaka; 2 hours to Kyoto, and 3 hours to Tokyo.

◆ Mie prefecture is known for its rich history and culture. The region has been referred to in many literature works, including *Manyoshu*, a poetry anthology compiled as early as the 8th century. Also, *Shiosai*, a novel written by Yukio Mishima, is set in Kamijima Island of Mie, Matsuo Basho, the greatest haiku poet, was born in Iga in Mie, and Riichi Yokomitsu, known as the “God of Literature,” spent his junior high school days in Iga.

◆ Mie is known for its rich historical sites and resort areas. Historical architectures such as the Ise Grand Shrine, traditional towns, and ancient streets have been well preserved. *Kumano-kodo* (the ancient pilgrimage routes of Kumano) was registered as a World Heritage Site in July, 2004.

◆ The Suzuka Circuit is referred to as the “Holy place of Japanese motorsports” and is the site of the Formula 1 Japanese Grand Prix. This event attracts fans from all over the world.

◆ Center for International Education and Research (CIER) of Mie University plays a central role for the international relations of the university and is engaged in international activities, events and projects with the intention of the globalization of the university education and its region.

■ Course Overview

① Course Objectives

a) A course intended mainly to study about Japan and Japanese culture

② Course Features

- ◆ This course is designed for students who plan to do research or work in a field related to Japan or the Japanese language.
- ◆ Through interactions with Japanese students, foreign nationals living in Japan and other international students, the course participants will gain a deeper understanding of the Japanese and other cultures.
- ◆ Each student is assigned an academic advisor and receives personalized tutoring in basic research methods and writing research articles.

③ Number of Students to be Accepted

5 students (1 with Embassy Recommendation & 4 with University Recommendations)

④ Qualifications and Conditions

Applicants must meet both conditions (1) & (2):
 (1) Undergraduate students (in the second year or above) at home institutions who major in Japanese language, Japanese language education, Japanese culture, or related fields.
 (2) Students who have passed the Japanese Language Proficiency Test Level 2 or 1, or those who have the equivalent proficiency (e.g., Those who have mastered 4,000 to 6,000 words and 600 to 800 Kanji).

⑤ Course Goal

To develop abilities to build cultural-interactive bridges between home countries and Japan through the study of Japanese culture and language.

⑥ Course Period

October 1, 2019 to August 31, 2020
 Closing Ceremony will be held before August 31, 2020.

⑦ Scholarship Period

October 2020 – August 2020

⑧ Events

◆ Fall Semester (Latter Semester of Mie Univ.)

- Sept. Arrival at Mie / Orientation Placement Test
- Oct. Welcome Party Classes begin
- Nov. University Festival
- Dec. Field Study International Exchange Days
- Feb. Final Exam Week JLCS Mid-term Presentations



◆ Spring Semester (First Semester of Mie Univ.)

- Apr. Classes Begin
- July JLCS Final Presentations
- Aug. Bon-dance Festival JLCS Paper Due JLCS losing Ceremony / Departure from Mie



⑨ Criteria for Course Completion

Students must pass 7 or more courses per semester, which include Japanese Language and Culture Studies class (JLCS) as well as other requisite classes. Also, students must either complete a research paper or an activity report and present outcomes from the research / activities in Japanese. Grades will be given through comprehensive evaluations by teaching staffs. Certificates of completion will be issued for students who have successfully completed the requirements and received satisfactory grades.

⑩ Course and Class Overview

1) Course and Class Features

- ◆ Students select one's own topic that is relevant to Japanese language, Japanese culture, or Mie prefecture, and conduct research or participate in activities under advisors' directions.
 Early February: JLCS Mid-term Presentations
 Middle July: JLCS Final Presentations
 Late August: JLCS Paper Due



- ◆ New students take a placement test to be placed either in the advanced course or the upper intermediate (Intermediate II) course.

Past JLCS presentations

2) Classes (90 min. X 16 class meetings per semester)

I) Requisite Classes

◆ Upper Intermediate Level (Intermediate II)

Class (Credits)	Objectives
Grammar & Reading (1 credit)	To study intermediate and advanced levels of expression patterns and to acquire the ability to use them properly.
Reading & Writing (1 credit)	To acquire the ability to read advanced academic writings as the preparation for the study in one's major field in Japanese.
Listening & Conversation (1 credit)	To improve listening and conversational abilities through movies, animation and drama, as well as through active conversation exchanges with classmates.
Japanese Language and Culture Studies (JLCS) (1 credit)	To study in one's major field and to write a research paper or an activity report in Japanese with tutorials from academic advisors.
Japanese Culture & Society I: The Society and Culture of Mie (2 credits)	To learn and enjoy the society and culture of Mie prefecture through field studies.

◆ Advanced Level

Class (Credits)	Objectives
Advanced Comprehensive Japanese I (1 credit)	To acquire the basis of academic writing and to write a research paper in Japanese.
Advanced Comprehensive Japanese II: The Study of Japan with International Students (1 credit)	To discuss with Japanese students, to present one's own opinions, and to gain deep understanding of Japanese society and culture.
Japanese Language and Culture Studies (JLCS) (1 credit)	To study in one's major field and to write a research paper or an activity report in Japanese with tutorials from academic advisors.
Japanese Culture & Society I: The Society and Culture of Mie (2 credits)	To learn and enjoy the society and culture of Mie prefecture through field studies.

II) Elective Classes

◆ Students may enroll in the below elective classes

● Classes conducted in Japanese

“Step-up to Advanced Level” (1 credit)

“Japanese Culture & Society II: Media and Japan” (Fall semester only) (2 credits)

● Classes conducted in English

“Our World Heritage” (2 credits)

“Environmental Issues and the Earth” (2 credits)

“English Short Composition” (2 credits)

◆ Advanced level students may also take upper intermediate (Intermediate II) classes. Upper intermediate (Intermediate II) level students may also take lower intermediate (Intermediate I) level classes.

◆ In addition to the above Center for International Education and Research (CIER) courses, students may also enroll in classes offered by the other five faculties (Humanities, Law & Economics / Education / Medical study / Engineering / Bioresources).

3) Field-study & Region-Interactive Class

“Japanese Culture & Society I: The Society and Culture of Mie” (requisite class) (2 credits) requires students to visit regional resort, shrines, etc. as field trips to learn culture and industries in Mie prefecture.

4) Studies with Japanese Students

Mie University Center of International Education and Research (CIER) opens classes to entire university (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences), in which both international students and Japanese students may enroll. The classes are shown below.

● Classes conducted in Japanese

“Advanced Comprehensive Japanese II: The study of Japan with International Students” (1 credit)

● Classes conducted in English

“Mie Study: The Society and Culture of Mie” (2 credits)

“Japanese Study: Media and Japan” (Spring semester only) (2 credits)

① Teaching Staff

Dr. Masako Fukuoka, Professor (Phonetics, Second Language Acquisition)

Dr. Chizuko Matsuoka, Associate Professor (Grammar)

Dr. Satoko Kurita, Associate Professor (Media Psychology)

Dr. Shinichi Shoji, Assistant Professor (Psycholinguistics, Second language Acquisition)

■ Accommodations

Mie University has three accommodation buildings for international students. One of which, Foreign Students' Dormitory, is a place where international students and Japanese students live together to gain global perspectives through cultural interactions.

① University Foreign Students House (Built 1988)

6,900~14,000 yen per month

② Foreign Students' Dormitory (Built 2009 / Reno. 2015)

7,500~30,000 yen per month

③ Women's Dormitory for International Students (Built 1973)

5,900 yen per month



Top (L) Foreign Students' Dormitory

(R) Foreign Students' Dormitory, Kitchen

Bottom (L) Foreign Students' Dormitory, Dining

(R) Women's Dormitory for International Students, Bedroom

■ Follow-up for Graduates

There is an event during the International Exchange Days in December to encourage interactions between JLCS graduates and current students.

■ Other Study Support Programs

◆ Japanese Tutors

International students can be assigned a Japanese student as a tutor. Japanese tutors assist in improving and understanding Japanese language and culture. They can also support international students' daily lives.

◆ Terakoya Circle

Terakoya Circle is a student organization which assists international students' study of Japanese language. They offer opportunities to practice Japanese conversation and help with Japanese homework.

■ Host Family Program

International students may apply for “Second Home Program” to have a host family to visit and to spend time with on weekends and holidays. This host family program is a student-citizen interactional program that has 30 years of history.



Kamihama Campus,
Mie University

Shiro-mochi kun
(Tsu-city PR character)

■ For Further Inquiry

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