

Application Guideline

關西大學

Kansai University

Winter School 2027

KANSAI UNIVERSITY





“Discover Contemporary Japan: Language, Culture, Industry and Pop Culture”.

Kansai University

Kansai University (KU), is one of the leading private universities in Japan.

With a history of over 130 years, KU has 14 undergraduate faculties, 13 graduate schools, and 2 professional graduate schools. There are over 30,000 students enrolled at our university, and we have 6 campuses located in Osaka, which is the second largest city in Japan.

Osaka is about a half an hour train ride to the popular tourist destinations of Kyoto, Kobe and Nara.

Winter school program

This 2–4 week Winter School is designed as an intensive, interdisciplinary short-term program introducing students to contemporary and traditional dimensions of Japan through a combination of lectures, seminars, workshops, and field-based learning. The curriculum centers on five thematic modules: Japanese popular culture, anime in Japan and abroad, Japanese music and idol culture, food and washoku, and Japanese industries.

A distinctive feature of the program is its use of Osaka and Kyoto as key field sites for experiential learning and excursions. Osaka offers an ideal setting for exploring urban popular culture, food culture, business, and contemporary industries, while Kyoto provides a contrasting lens through which students can engage with traditional arts, heritage, and long-standing cultural production. Excursions may include visits to museums, cultural districts, food-related sites, creative industry spaces, and companies or workshops representing both new and traditional sectors. Through these field experiences, students are encouraged to connect classroom learning with direct observation and reflection, developing a deeper understanding of how Japanese culture is produced, consumed, and transformed across local and global contexts. The program is suitable for students seeking a compact but academically grounded introduction to Japan that integrates cultural studies, industry awareness, and place-based learning.

Course Descriptions

This is a two-week program. Total class time for the main course is 45 hours, including time spent on assignments, tutoring and homework. The “Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience” course is optional.



Main Course

Japanese Popular Culture

In the popular culture module, students examine how youth culture, media, fashion, and everyday cultural practices shape images of Japan domestically and internationally.

Anime in Japan and Abroad

The anime module explores both globally exported anime and anime as a local cultural and creative industry, encouraging students to consider questions of identity, fandom, storytelling, and soft power.

Japanese Music and Idol Culture

The music module addresses exported Japanese music alongside local trends, including idol groups, pop culture consumption, and the social meanings of music in contemporary Japan.

Food and Washoku

The washoku module introduces food as cultural heritage, everyday practice, and industry, linking cuisine to sustainability, health, and regional identity.

Japanese Industry

The industries module examines both innovative sectors and traditional industries, allowing students to understand how Japan balances technological advancement, craftsmanship, and cultural continuity.



Excursion

There are several field trips (works) related to course contents (Examples: Cup Noodle Museum, Nakanoshima area)

※Facilities are subject to change.



Course Descriptions

→ Optional Course

Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience

Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience is available for an additional fee (JPY 15,000). Applicants are required to indicate their interest in the course on the application form. This course is intended for beginner-level students (those with less than 300 hours of Japanese study). Due to class size limitations, restrictions may apply to students at intermediate or higher levels. (Priority will be given to beginners.)

This course is an introductory Japanese language course designed for students who have never studied Japanese before or who have a very basic understanding, such as knowledge of greetings, hiragana and katakana. Students will learn essential expressions and phrases needed to “survive” during a short stay in Japan.

Additionally, students can experience Japanese culture through activities such as food sample making, which originated in Osaka. (Contents are subject to change). By the end of the course, students will be able to use basic Japanese conversational expressions and phrases in daily life and gain an understanding of some aspects of traditional Japanese culture.



Program Overview

Eligible Participants

Applicants must be undergraduate or graduate students currently enrolled at an accredited college, university, or research institution outside Japan as of Winter School 2027. All lectures (except for “Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience”) are conducted in English. A certain level of English proficiency is required to follow the lectures and participate in various activities. For non-native English speakers, a CEFR level of B2 or higher (equivalent to IELTS 5.5 or TOEFL iBT 72) is recommended. This program will not be offered if the total number of applicants is less than ten students.

Program Summary

Program Period	Wednesday 13, January ~ Thursday 28, January	
Course	Main Course	Optional Course “Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience”
Fee	JPY 300,000	JPY 15,000
Minimum Number of Participants	10 students	4 students
Maximum Number of Participants	40 students (first-come first-served basis)	
Overseas Travel Accident Insurance	Required	

Accommodation

Accommodation	Style	Student Dormitory Apartment, Hotel* * If no dormitory rooms are available, accommodation will be arranged either at an apartment or at a hotel.	Homestay
	Meals	Not included ※Breakfast and Dinner are available at your own expense.	Breakfast and Dinner included
	Check-in / out *Schedule for check-in/ out is unchangeable.	Check-in Wednesday 13, January (around 3PM)	Check-out Thursday 28, January (10AM-12PM)



Basic program fee includes

- Tuition fee • Accommodation (daily commodities and utilities included)
- Course materials • Facility usage fee • Administration fee
- Overseas travel accident insurance (please refer to page 5)



Basic program fee DOES NOT include

- Airfare ticket • Travel expenses in Japan
- Fee (JPY15,000) for the optional course; “Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience”
- Meals (except for welcome and farewell parties)
- Remittance fee(JPY2,500) and any other transaction fees in your bank

Accommodation

→ Student dormitory

A single room is provided, and it has a bed, bedding, bathroom, toilet, refrigerator, and air conditioner.

Applicants are welcome to use the lounge and shared kitchen in the dormitory.

If the capacity of the student dormitory is exceeded, your room may be arranged in an alternative dormitory or in a student apartment, or a hotel within commuting distance of the university. Alternative dormitories may include shared facilities such as lounges, shower rooms, public baths, toilets, laundry rooms with washing machines, and kitchen pantries. Utilities such as water, electricity, and Wi-Fi are included in the accommodation. Meals are not included. Smoking is strictly prohibited on the premises of student dormitories and apartments.

→ Homestay

Host family homes are located within approximately one hour by public transportation from Senriyama Campus. On the day of check-in, the host family will pick you up at Senriyama campus.

Overseas Travel Accident Insurance

All participants are required to purchase the overseas travel accident insurance specified by Kansai University. This insurance is included in the program fees.

Coverage	Insured Amount
Accidental Death	JPY 10,000,000
Accidental Disability	JPY 10,000,000
Accidental Medical Expenses	JPY 30,000,000
Sickness Medical Expenses	JPY 30,000,000
Rescuer's Expenses	JPY 10,000,000
Personal Liability	JPY 100,000,000

- This insurance does NOT cover pre-existing conditions (including allergies) or damage to personal belongings.
- The insurance is valid only for a specific period—from the check-in to the check-out day. Any period outside the official program schedule is not covered.
- If you require additional coverage beyond what is provided, you will need to purchase it at your own expense.



Course Schedule

※Subject to change

		Main courses		Optional courses		
	1/13(WED)	1/14(THU)	1/15(FRI)	1/18(MON)	1/19(TUE)	1/20(WED)
1st 9:00-10:30		Orientation			Anime in Japan and Abroad 1	Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience
2nd 10:40-12:10		Campus Tour Welcome Party	Japanese music and idol culture 1	Japanese popular culture 1	Japanese industries 2	Food and washoku 2
3rd 13:00-14:30	Check-in (Afternoon)	Food and washoku 1	Japanese industries 1.	Excursion	Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience	Excursion
4th 14:40-16:10		Student Session	Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience		Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience	
5th 16:20-17:50						
	1/21(THU)	1/22(FRI)	1/25(MON)	1/26(TUE)	1/27(WED)	1/28(THU)
1st 9:00-10:30	Japanese music and idol culture 2				Presentation	Check-out (Morning)
2nd 10:40-12:10	Japanese popular culture 2	Anime in Japan and Abroad 2	Japanese industries 3	Anime in Japan and Abroad 4		
3rd 13:00-14:30	Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience	Excursion	Anime in Japan and Abroad 3	Preparation for presentation	Closing Ceremony Farewell Party	
4th 14:40-16:10	Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience			Survival Japanese Language with Cultural Experience		
5th 16:20-17:50						

Evaluation

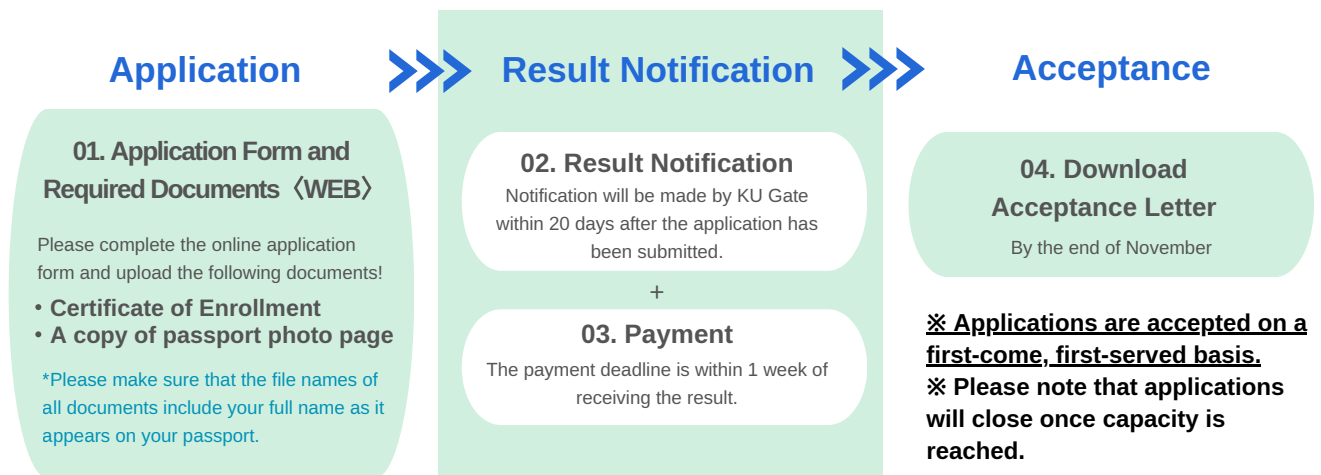
The instructor(s) for each course will evaluate students based on the criteria outlined below. Final evaluations will be expressed using letter grades (S to F), in accordance with Kansai university's grading system.

Score		Grade
100-90	Superior	S
89-80	Excellent	A
79-70	Good	B
69-60	Passable	C
Below 59	Fall	F

- Certificate of Completion will be presented during the closing ceremony.
- Academic transcripts will be sent to you electronically within two weeks following the conclusion of the program.



Application Procedure



→ 01. Application Form <WEB>

Application Period: From September 10 to October 9

Apply from here ▼

https://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/Kokusai/short_term/program/

※Your application to the program may be shared with your home institution if necessary.

Applications must be submitted through KU Gate, Kansai University's online application system for short-term programs.

Please follow the instructions below and complete the application process.

Step 1. Create a KU Gate Account

1. Access the "Application Form" from the website and click "If this is your first time logging in, please create an account."

Program

Program

Kansai University Winter School 2027

OSIP Program

Login

If this is your first time logging in, please create an account.

2. Enter your email address twice and click the "Register" button.
3. You will receive an email from KU Gate.
Please click the [URL for authentication] in the email to complete your account registration.
4. Enter your Family Name, Given Name, and Middle Name, then click "Register" to complete your registration.

Step 2. Complete the Application Form

1. Click "Kansai University Winter School 2027."



KU Gate

TOP

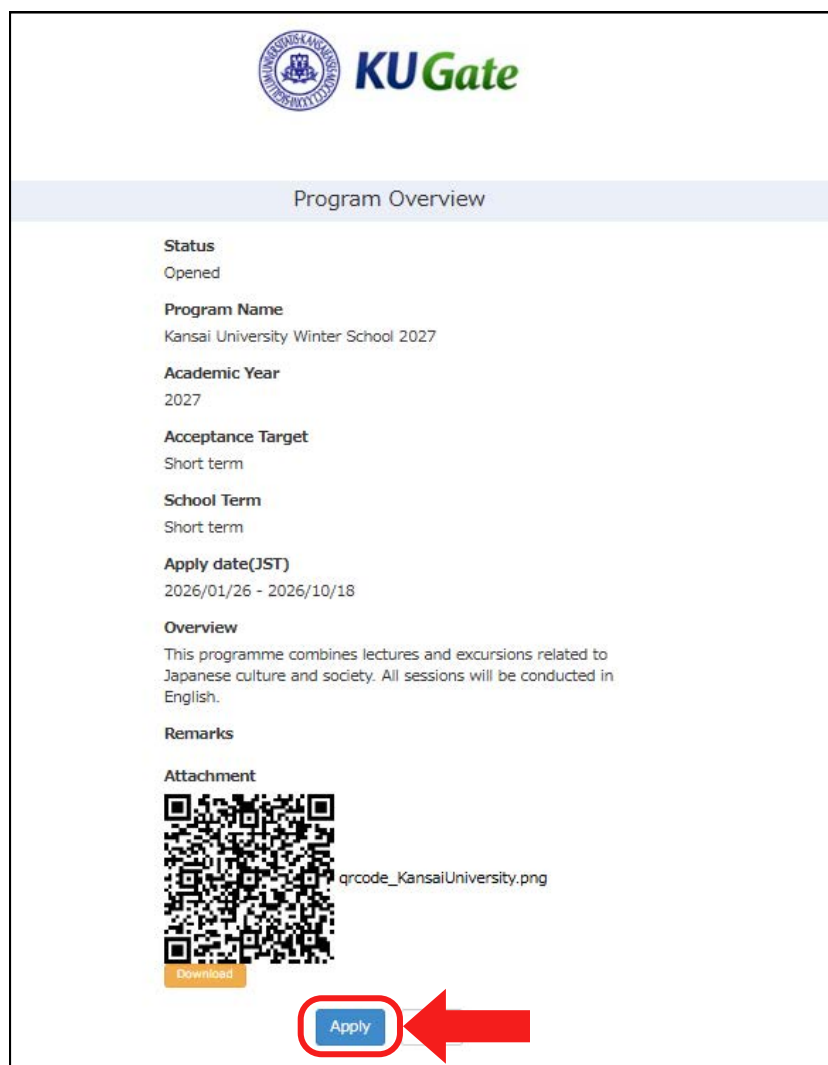
SHORT TERM Welcome to 関西大学留学生出願システム KU Gate!

Program

Kansai University Winter School 2027

OSIP Program

2. Click the "Apply" button at the bottom of the page.



KU Gate

Program Overview

Status
Opened

Program Name
Kansai University Winter School 2027

Academic Year
2027

Acceptance Target
Short term

School Term
Short term

Apply date(JST)
2026/01/26 - 2026/10/18

Overview
This programme combines lectures and excursions related to Japanese culture and society. All sessions will be conducted in English.

Remarks

Attachment
qrcode_KansaiUniversity.png

Download

Apply

3. Please fill in all required information displayed on the screen.

Step 3. Upload Required Documents

In the "Documents" section, please upload the following required documents:

- A copy of your passport photo page
- Certificate of Enrollment*

*Please submit an official certificate of enrollment, issued by your home institution, written in English along with your passport copy. This certificate should confirm that you are currently enrolled at the time of your application for winter school 2027. Ideally, it should include the dates of your program's commencement and expected completion.

Please make sure that the file titles of your passport copy and certificate of enrollment are labeled with your full name (as it appears on your passport).

Documents for your identification

Copy of passport Identification Page with picture

 NO IMAGE

☐ Delete

Certificate of Enrollment

Ask your home university to issue the document.

 NO IMAGE

☐ Delete

DORMITORY GUARANTEE

*Those who apply for Students Dormitory will need to submit the form.

 NO IMAGE

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sample 

The "Dormitory Guarantee" is not required for this program, so there is no need to upload it !

Check the box for "I agree with the Use of My Personal Information/the Terms and Conditions of Use," and complete your registration.



02. Result Notification

Application documents will be reviewed, and applicants will be notified of the results through KU Gate. Successful applicants will also receive information regarding the payment process and other details. If you do not receive any notification within 20 days after submitting your application, please contact us immediately.



03. Payment

Basic program fee per person: JPY 300,000 (for 2 weeks)

※ The following 2 documents should be submitted after making payment.

1. Pledge
2. Proof of Remittance

- Please follow the instructions and transfer the fees stated in the invoice to the designated bank account by the deadline.
- Remittance must be made in Japanese yen.
- International money transfers may take some time to be complete. Please ensure that you make the transfer well in advance to ensure payment is completed by the deadline.
- Applicants are responsible for any remittance fees.
- Kindly note that tuition and other fees are non-refundable once payment has been completed.



04. Download Acceptance Letter

By the end of November

The acceptance letter will be uploaded on your KU Gate portal once we confirm the completion of your payment. If you do not find the acceptance letter by the end of November, despite having completed your payment, please contact us immediately.



VISA

Participants are responsible for obtaining the appropriate visa.

For more information, please refer to the website of Ministry of Foreign Affairs or consult the nearest Japanese Embassy or Consulate General in your area. We recommend seeking their advice before applying for the program.

www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html

Personal Information

The Winter School at Kansai University adheres to Japanese laws, guidelines, and other norms regarding the use of personal information (such as address, name, telephone number, or other personally identifiable information) provided by applicants. When applying for this program, please refer to the following website for detailed information about the use of personal information:

Japanese only: www.kansai-u.ac.jp/global/footer/privacy.html

Inquiry

Kansai University

International Education Group, Division of International Affairs

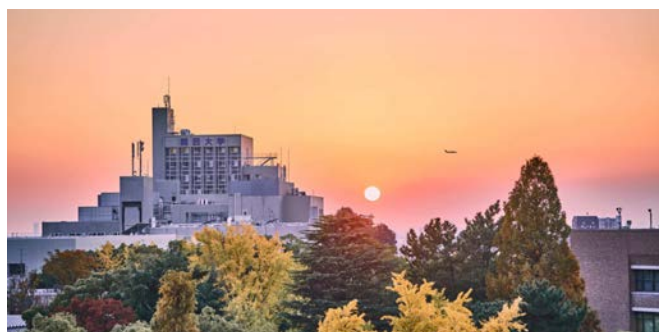
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Official Website

KANSAI UNIVERSITY

https://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/English/?stt_lang=en

WINTER SCHOOL

https://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/Kokusai/short_term/

CAMPUS MAP

<https://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/English/about/campus/#senriyama-Handling>

