#### **WJC GENERAL INFORMATION**

# Fukuoka Women's University The World of Japanese Contemporary Culture Program (WJC) Spring 2024

Fukuoka Women's University (FWU) is offering to excellent international students <u>the World of Japanese Contemporary Culture program (WJC)</u>, a short-term study abroad program focusing on Japanese culture and society. Students can choose to participate in the program for 1 semester (Spring 2024).

WJC was established in 2010 as a milestone in the internationalization efforts of Fukuoka Women's University. Based on the availability of student positions and the number of applications from partner universities, a total of 25 to 30 students will be selected as participants (only female students are eligible for WJC).

The program will grant scholarships to some participants and the recipients will be selected based on the number of scholarship applications and the available fund.

#### Academic Calendar

#### Spring 2024 (tentative)

- Expected arrival date in Fukuoka: end of March 2024 (to be confirmed/tbc)
- Orientation: end of March 2024 (tbc)
- Opening ceremony: 3 April 2024
- Closing ceremony: 2 August 2024

#### Scholarship and Financial Support

- 1. Duration and amount of scholarship (for a limited number of students):

  To be determined.
- 2. Travel Grant (Round-trip Airfare Reimbursement): To be determined.
- 3. Accommodation fee at student dormitory:
  Waived (Utility fee of 10,000JPY/month is not waived.)
- 4. Tuition fees:

Waived according to the student exchange agreement

#### **Requirements for Application**

- 1. TOEFL iBT: Over 70; TOEIC: Over 800; IELTS: Over 5.5 (not required for native English speakers)
- 2. Total GPA: Over 2.3/3.0
  - If academic transcript does not show the student's GPA, an additional letter is required stating the student's GPA of 2.3/3.0 or higher.
- 3. JLPT N2 or higher equivalent is required of the student who will choose JLC. (Japanese language proficiency is not required for JCS and JCC applicants.)
- 4. Applications for Spring semester entry, JLPT N5 or higher equivalent will be required for all applicants since we do not have elementary Japanese courses in Spring semester.

#### **WJC GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### Application Materials

- 1. Typewritten Application form (not handwritten)
- 2. Online Questionnaire
- 3. Academic transcript (original)
- 4. Proof of GPA 2.3/3.0
- 5. Two (2) recommendation letters from academic advisors
- 6. TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS score (not required for native English speakers)
- 7. JLPT score or proof of Japanese proficiency by teachers (only for JLC applicants)
- 8. Essay entitled "Why I want to join the FWU's WJC Program"
- 9. Typewritten Independent Study Project (ISP) proposal sheet (template provided)
- 10. Certificate of Health (form provided)
- 11. Copy of passport

#### Application Deadline

#### 1. November 15, 2023 (Wed)

Scanned copies of all required documents should be sent by the relevant office of the home university to the International Center of FWU (FWU-IC).

Applications directly sent by applicants to FWU will not be accepted.

#### 2. November 30, 2023 (Thu)

For the selected students, the hard copies of their application materials should reach FWU-IC by the stated due date.

#### Selection of Participants

The selected participants will be announced in late December 2023.

#### Courses and Project (tentative)

#### 1. <u>Japanese Language Courses (credits and credit hours: vary by level)</u>

Every semester Japanese language courses are offered at four different levels (Elementary - Advanced). You will be placed in the most appropriate course based on the result of your placement test.

#### 2. <u>Culture & Society Courses (2 credits and 30 credit hours for each course)</u>

WJC offers a variety of subjects about the Japanese culture and society such as literature, economics, politics, law, art, movies, Hakata local culture and more. These subjects are classified under the three (3) tracks depending on the main theme:

- Japanese Contemporary Society (JCS):
   Courses focusing on Japanese society (Medium of instruction: English)
- → Japanese Contemporary Culture (JCC):

  Courses focusing on Japanese culture (Medium of instruction: English)
- Japanese Language and Culture (JLC):
   Courses focusing on Japanese Culture (Medium of instruction: Japanese;
   Equivalent of JLPT N2 or higher is required.)

#### WJC GENERAL INFORMATION

#### 3. Independent Study Project (2 credits)

Students are required to do a research on one topic related to Japanese culture during their study at FWU. Academic advisors will assist them with their research. Students can choose an Independent Study Project either focusing on contemporary or traditional topics.

## Other Activities (tentative)

#### 1. Field/Study trips

#### 2. Guest speakers: writers and artists

Famous Japanese authors and culture creators discuss current issues with students

#### 3. Home Visit Program

Japanese families are introduced to exchange students for monthly visits

#### 4. Japanese Student Tutor Program (JD-Mates)

FWU students called 'JD-Mates' will support the exchange students.

#### **5.** Experienced-Based Learning Activities (5-10 activities/semester)

Students have many chances to learn Japanese culture and society through a variety of experiences as below.

#### 5-1. English Village

Weekend program with Japanese students where students can only use English. WJC students are expected to support the program.

## 5-2. Local School Visit

Visit local junior high schools or high schools and have a cultural exchange with Japanese pupils.

#### **5-3. Dormitory Activities**

Parties, language exchange, sports, lectures, etc.

Please note that the above activities may be subject to change.

#### Accommodation

WJC students are guaranteed accommodation in the University's International Friendship House (*Nadeshiko* Dormitory). Each unit of the dormitory has four single bedrooms, a dining area with well-furnished kitchen, lavatory, bathroom, and is equipped with washing machine. WJC students will live together with Japanese students in one unit. The accommodation fee is waived but the fixed monthly utility fee should be paid every month regardless of the total utility use and length of stay. For more information, please visit the following website. http://www.fwu.ac.ip/english/campuslife/dormitory.html

#### Contact

#### **WJC Coordinator**

Address: The World of Japanese Contemporary Culture Program International Center, Fukuoka Women's University 1-1-1 Kasumigaoka, Higashi-ku, Fukuoka 813-8529, Japan

Tel: +81-92-663-4005 / Fax: +81-92-692-3208

# FUKUOKA WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY COMMEMORATIVE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM THE WORLD OF JAPANESE CONTEMPORARY CULTURE PROGRAM (WJC)

Spring 2024 APPLICATION FORM

*D	_	a balaw	OTT I OTWI	Paste a passport- size photograph						
	lease complete according to the instructions	taken within the last 6 months.								
	<i>Typewritten (not handwritten)</i> in Roman block Use Arabic numerals.	Write your name and nationality in block letters on								
Pe	rsonal Data of Applicant:			the back of the photo.						
1.	Full name in Roman block capitals (exactly as it is stated in your passport)									
	(family name)	(first name)	(middle name, if a	pplicable)						
2.	Home University									
3.	Date of birth									
-	Year Month Day	Age								
4.	Nationality									
5.	Do you have Japanese nationality?	□ Yes □ No								
6.	Have you been to Japan before?	□ Yes □ No								
	If "yes", where and how long?									
7.	Present address, telephone number, fac	simile number and E	mail address							
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Proficiency	None	Degimer	memediate	1 ost intermediate	Exam score				
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Japanese									
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10. Program/Course Tra	ack Selection								
	- I would like to apply for $\hfill \Box$ Spring 2024 (1 semester)								
- I pre-select the followin (choose one from 3 tra	~	*Available only	<ul> <li>□ Japanese Language and Culture Course (JLC)</li> <li>*Available only to students who have enough Japanese proficiency to understand the classes in Japanese.</li> <li>□ Japanese Contemporary Society Course (JCS)</li> </ul>						
1. Scholarship (budget pending)  □ Japanese Contemporary Culture Course (JCC)									
-I would like to apply for	the WJC scholars	hip. □ Yes	s 🗆 No						
-In case I am not selected	l for the WJC scho	larship and still wi	sh to apply, I have su	officient financial suppo	ort to complete the pr	ogram			
at my own expense.		□ Yes	□ No						

#### Educational background 12.

12. Edu	cational	background	ı		ı		
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アイテムを選択して					15.		
		cart of WJC program (Master's/ Bache	elor's 1 <sup>st</sup> yr, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	yr, 3 <sup>rd</sup> yr, 4 <sup>th</sup> yr)			
アイテムを選択して	くくたさい。						
Expected dat	te (year &	month) of graduation (at home univ	versity, WJC st	udy term not include	ed)		
Any research	n to date e	g. thesis, please include title(s)					

Any research to date e.g. thesis, please include title(s)	
Awards / other academic accomplishments	

## REQUIREMENTS for Application

Read the list below carefully and make sure that you **TICK and ENCLOSE ALL** the required documents together with this application form.

☐ Application Form	Do not fill in the form by hand. It should be typewritten.
☐ Online Questionnaire	To be completed by applicant (https://forms.gle/Pxg8yFpiazWvW3uU8)
☐ Academic Transcript (Original)	
☐ Proof of GPA 2.3/3.0	* If academic transcript does not show the student's GPA, an additional letter is required stating the student's grade equal a GPA of 2.3/3.0 or more.
☐ Letter of Recommendation No.1	Written by an academic/professional staff member at your current institution
☐ Letter of Recommendation No.2	Written by any academic staff member at your current institution other than a language instructor
☐ Language Proficiency Certificate 1 (Copy)	TOEFL/TOEIC/IELTS score for non-native English speakers or additional letter stating that the student has enough English skill to participate in the WJC program.
☐ Language Proficiency Certificate 2 (Copy)	JLPT score or letter of certification written by an academic/professional staff member at your current institution ( <u>for JLC applicants only</u> )
□ Diploma (Copy)	For postgraduate students only
□ Essay	Title: Why I want to join the FWU's WJC Program (800-1000 words)
☐ Independent Study Project (ISP) Proposal	Please use the template provided for the ISP proposal. Original proposal theme can basically not be altered as finding appropriate advisors takes time.
☐ Certificate of Health	Please use the form provided.
□ Passport Copy	A copy of your international passport
	Attach one photo to this form and the other photo is for the Certificate of Eligibility form. (The photos should be taken from August 2022.)

Any false or misleading information will automatically lead to the termination of your application Students who graduate at their home university BEFORE the WJC Program starts are NOT eligible.

# WJC Independent Study Project (ISP) Proposal

Stı	Student's Name						
Но	Home University						
1.	Title of Project						
2.	Introduction						
3.	Research Question(s)						
4.	Research methods						
5.	Progress to date						
6.	References						

#### WJC Independent Study Project (ISP) Proposal

#### Student's Name

#### **Home University**

#### **Title of Project**

Your title should give a clear indication of your proposed research approach or key question(s)

#### Introduction

The first part of your proposal is the initial pitch for your project, so make sure it succinctly explains what you want to do and why. Some important questions to guide your research question(s) include:

- What is the central research problem?
- · Why is this research important?
- Why it is worth doing?

#### Research Question(s)

You should formulate your research question(s)clearly, giving an explanation as to what problems and issues are to be explored and why they are worth exploring.

#### Research methods

Explain how you plan to go about conducting your research. Clearly identify the key sources you intend to use and explain how they will contribute to your analysis of the topic.

#### Key sources:

• What or who will you study (e.g. college students in Fukuoka; Japanese newspaper archives 1980-2000)?

#### Methods:

- What tools and procedures will you use (e.g. surveys, interviews, observations, experiments)?
- · Why are these the best methods to answer your research questions?

#### Progress to date

#### References:

https://www.scribbr.com/research-process/research-proposal/

https://libguides.usc.edu/writingguide/researchproposal

# 健康診断書 (2023年度版)

# **CERTIFICATE OF HEALTH (for 2023)**

(医師に記入してもらうこと) 日本語又は英語により明瞭に記載すること。

(to be completed by the examining physician)
Please fill out (PRINT/TYPE) in Japanese or English.

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#### WJC COURSE DESCRIPTIONS -SPRING 2024

\* This is the list of course descriptions as of October 2023 and it is subject to change.

## JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE COURSE (JLC) (in Japanese)

#### JLC 日本文化・博多学入門 II(一木)

このクラスは私たちが日々生活し、学んでいる福岡/博多の代表的な祭りである博多どんたくと博多祇園山笠を中心的な題材としながら、日本の祭りが持つ意味について検討することを目的としている。祭りは長くその地域で継承されてきたものであり、そこには地域の歴史や文化が体現されているということはよく言われている。しかし、祭りの持つ意味とはなんだろうか。なぜそれらは「継承するに値する」と考えられるのだろうか。

同時に伝統的な祭りを継承することは、特に現代社会においては簡単なことではない。 多くの場合、祭りは現代的な生活リズムや社会構造、社会的価値と相いれない。その中で 祭りを守ること、伝統文化を守ることとはどういうことだろうか。

このクラスでは、そうした問いについて考えていく。その中で受講生は自らの文化の中にある伝統的なものがどのように保持され、継承されているかについて考えてもらいたい。

#### JLC アートとグローバリゼーション―地方発信型アーティストの事例(太田)

福岡には、多くの「地元アーティスト」が存在する。本講義では、音楽・映画・絵画などの他分野で活躍するアーティストを招聘する。彼らの話をもとに、福岡で活躍するアーティストがどのように自らの情報を発信していくのかを考察する。また、アーティストの活動場面を参与観察することで、アーティストの周りの環境が、どのようにアートと地方を関連づけているのかを分析する。

#### JLC ポップカルチャーが表象する現代日本社会(太田)

ラジオや雑誌、劇場からテレビへと表現を多様化していった日本のポップカルチャーは世紀をまたいで、ネット世代へ突入した。ポップカルチャーの担う役割は、現代日本社会においてさらに重要な意味を持っている。本講義では、「クールジャパン(COOL JAPAN)」という言葉をキーワードに、現代日本社会を表しまするポップカルチャーの理解を首的とする。

#### JLC 食文化研究 (チェンチュア)

食は人間の生活の中心です。栄養として、それは私たちの生存に不可欠です。それはまた、人間の長い歴史において主要な役割を果たしており、社会的、文化的、経済的な世界の構造の基本な要素であります。しかし、食文化を扱う学術的なトピックは少ないです。このコースでは、食品研究の新たな学際的「分野」を紹介し、歴史的および現代的な生活における食の位置づけを紹介します。大規模なパターンと、私たちが日常生活で食べ物を利用または体験するより親密な方法を通して、次のような重要な質問に取り組みます。「食べ物は世界中の歴史にどのような影響を与えましたか?」「食はどのように生産されましたか?誰に?」「環境や社会にどんな影響がありますか?」「食べ物はどのように意味とアイデンティティを生み出すことに役立ちますか?」「一部の人は十分な食物を手に入れるのに苦労しますが、他の人は彼らを病気にするほどたくさん食べられるのはなぜですか?」「私たちの食物との関わりのために未来は何を保持していますか?」「今後、食でどのような役割を果たすことができるか、または果たすべきでしょうか?」

## JAPANESE CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY COURSE (in English) AND

## JAPANESE CONTEMPORARY CULTURE COURSE (in English)

This is the sequel to Hakata Studies II: History and Culture (ICHIKI) ※compulsory
This is the sequel to Hakata: History and Culture I, which was held in the previous semester. Once again, this course intends to give students basic knowledge on Fukuoka / Hakata where we spend our daily lives. Students will be exposed to the rich historical / cultural tradition of Fukuoka / Hakata, with particular focus on the periods after 14th century, or the Kamakura period. The role of Hakata as an international trading port became even more active and significant from the 14th century and on. Students will learn various topics of Hakata history through 「はかたれきししんぶん(Hakata History newspapers)」. In addition to the in-class studies, field studies will play significant role in this class. The students will have precious opportunities to see the historical sites in their own eyes.

#### JCS/JCC Introduction to Japanese Cinema: Silent Era to Bubble Era (LEE)

Japanese cinema has been influenced greatly by western cinema and in turn has established itself as a prominent player in cinematic history. This course is an introduction to the historical and socio-cultural study of Japanese cinema starting from the Silent Era to the 1980s. By focusing on major directors and historical periods, students will acquire the fundamentals of critical and technical language necessary to discuss and analyze films. The primary goal of this course is to understand the evolution of Japanese films in both style and narrative, and the creation of a "Japanese" cinematic identity.

#### **JCS/JCC** Memory and History of World War 2 in Postwar Japan (CORDOBA)

This course introduces students to the origin and development of social practices of remembering (collective memory) of World War 2 (WW2) in Postwar Japan. It aims to understand the domestic and international "fights for memory" that have become the center of neo-nationalist feelings in East Asia. Along with a historical overview of the fluctuations of sociocultural remembering across generations since the end of the war to the present, the students will be encouraged to discuss the influence of the educative system, the mass media, and the political environment in the articulation of national identities and narratives about the past. Participants with knowledge of East Asian languages will be introduced to primary sources such as testimonies of the survivors of the war on all sides to deepen the topics.

#### **JCS** Gender Issues in Japan and across the World (HAO)

Do you know that the seemingly gender neural act of snow removal can be fraught with gender bias? How did the expression of "sekuhara" take root in Japan? While consent is key to the definition of sexual violence, do you think it is a perfect concept that represents women's everyday experiences? How do we make sense of the inconsistencies exhibited in the testimonies delivered by "comfort women" victims? In the process of addressing these questions, this gender studies course will expose students to local and global issues with which feminist researchers have grappled, and the classical and contemporary gender theories which gender studies scholars have advanced. Together we will be listening to the voices of the marginalized (not limited to women) and diving into various aspects of the questions mentioned above.

# JCC Reading Japanese legends and stories by Lafcadio Hearn/Koizumi, Yakumo (NAGAOKA)

This course will offer an introduction to the works of Lafcadio Hearn with focus on his collection of Japanese legends, ghost stories and essays on Japan. Hearn was born to a Greek mother and an Anglo-Irish father on an Ionian Island in the mid-19th century. Throughout his life Hearn lived in several countries including Ireland, England, USA, and Japan, which eventually made Hearn an international and transcultural writer. Each of his writings will be approached, through lectures and discussions, as a reflection of important features of Japanese culture and mentality. In particular, such topics as the visible vs. the invisible, perception and depiction, and family relations will be covered.

## JCC Modern Japanese Art: Material, Tradition, and Global Context (YANG)

The survey course examines the development of modern Japanese art in the twentieth century after the Meiji restoration (1868), with a focus on artists' envisions of the new genres and their relationship with the tradition. It offers students opportunities to appreciate artworks and art events in historical contexts and to understand how modern Japanese art, mediated through institutions and exhibitions, unfolded through negotiations with international and regional contexts. Students will learn a spectrum of knowledge on a variety of genres: such as paintings, photography, posters, and explore the rich resource of art in Fukuoka, Kyushu, and Western Japan.

#### **JCC** Japan without Japan (CHENG CHUA)

Globalization and Japan is usually connected with the oft researched policy of "Cool Japan." Impressions on the policy is that it emphasizes popular culture, particularly anime and manga, as the media that promotes this movement. Studies have primarily focused on the successes of the policy, and slightly, on its failures. This course aims to fill the gap, by shifting the focus from Japan, to its recipients. Furthermore, the course will focus on the "afterlife" of these cultures and how Japan is (re-) imagined in the recipient/consuming countries.

#### JCC Hakata History and Tradition through Festivals (ICHIKI)

This course intends to expose the students to the world of Japanese festivals. In many ways, Japan is a country of festivals. Numerous festivals in many different outlooks are held in Japan throughout the year. The festivals in Japan are quite significant. In this class, students are expected not only to learn about Japanese festivals in class, but also to observe various festivals through field trips. By doing so, students are expected to find answer to the question, what is history and tradition. While the primary focus of this class will be the festivals in Fukuoka Hakata, other major festivals in Japan will be introduced for references.