



Year at Otago University of Commerce

YOUC PROGRAM

SYLLABUS

September 2025 - August 2026

YOUC Program

YOUC Program Overview

September 2025 – August 2026

The YOUC Program is designed for international students who wish to study in Japan using English. This program offers an opportunity to study economics, marketing and a range of business topics with a special emphasis on Japan and Asia-Pacific and Japanese language as well as other liberal arts subjects. Most classes in the YOUC Program are small, with no more than 30 students at most, providing opportunities for classroom interaction.

Eligibility

Students with the following qualifications are eligible to apply for the YOUC program.

- A student who is currently enrolled in a university or an equivalent educational institution
- A student who intends to return to the home country after finishing the YOUC program and complete the course at the home institution

NOTE:

An applicant loses his/her eligibility to enroll in or attend the YOUC program when he/she loses a student status at the home institution.



Academic period

In principle, the YOUC Program is a one-year program from September to August. Except for subjects held in breaks, ordinary courses are held in the Fall, Winter, Spring or Summer quarter.

Official academic semester/Quarter:

(Fall Semester)

Fall Quarter: September – November

Winter Quarter: November – February

(Spring Semester)

Spring Quarter: April-June

Summer Quarter: June - August

Fields of study

The YOUC Program is designed for economics and business students in their junior year when the program commences. The program primarily focuses on economics and business related subjects.

Registration requirements

In order to complete the YOUC program, students must register and earn 30 credits in total including 10 credits from core subjects in a year. A certificate of completion will be issued to students who fulfill the above requirement. Japanese language classes can be counted as core subjects up to four credits.

Students must register classes with at least 10 hours classroom commitment per week regarding residential status.

Prerequisites

Sufficient proficiency in English, elementary knowledge of economics, business, first year calculus, and university level writing skills are required to enroll in the YOUC Program. Some YOUC classes require the use of the internet and the World Wide Web. Students in the YOUC Program are expected to have well-developed computer skills and be able to use computers to write papers, search for research material, prepare presentations, etc.

Language Requirements

All lectures are conducted in English and require English language proficiency (TOEFL score PBT 550 or iBT 80 is recommended) and no prior knowledge of Japanese is required. Even though the YOUC Program is not a program for language training, it provides a good opportunity to acquire Japanese proficiency. The students who already have good Japanese skills can attend regular classes offered in Japanese.

Credit transfer

Credits at the YOUC Program can be transferred via the UCTS (University Credit Transfer Scheme) as agreed by UMAP (University Mobility in Asia and the Pacific). The UCTS points of credits obtained at Otaru University of Commerce are as follows:

Courses except language courses Otaru University of Commerce	UCTS	Language Courses Otaru University of Commerce	UCTS
1 credit	1 UCTS points	2 credits	4 UCTS points
2 credits	2 UCTS points	3 credits	6 UCTS points
3 credits	3 UCTS points	4 credits	8 UCTS points
4 credits	4 UCTS points		

Arrival and Mandatory Orientation

New YOUC students must arrive in Otaru no later than **September 18, 2025**. The mandatory orientation for students will be held on **September 22, 2025**. Some necessary procedures upon arrival will be conducted during the above period.



Tuition

The following table lists educational institutions that have exchange agreement with Otaru University of Commerce. Students in good academic standing nominated from these institutions can apply for the YOUC program with tuition fee waiver.

Region	Universities and Colleges
Asia	Chungnam National University (Korea)
	Dongbei University of Finance and Economics (China)
	Lanzhou University (China)
	Vietnam National University Ho Chi Minh City International University (Vietnam)
	University of Malaya (Malaysia)
	Hong Kong Baptist University (Hong Kong)
	National Taipei University of Business (Taiwan)
Europe	Far Eastern Federal University (Russia)
	Vienna University of Economics and Business (Austria)
	University of Bayreuth (Germany)

	Berlin School of Economics and Law (Germany)
	Aix-Marseille University (France)
	University of Sheffield (United Kingdom)
	University of Burgos (Spain)
	Bifröst University (Iceland)
	Oulu University of Applied Science (Finland)
North America	Oglethorpe University (United States)
	University of South Dakota (United States)
	Western Michigan University (United States)
Oceania	University of Otago (New Zealand)
	University of Wollongong (Australia)

Application procedure

To apply for the YOUC Program, students must fill out the YOUC Program application form. An applicant must also send certified copies (either in English or Japanese) of the transcript issued by his/her home institution. For other materials, please refer to the check-list on the application form. All application material should be sent to the International Office of Otaru University of Commerce through the study abroad office of the applicant's home institution by e-mail (no need for postal submission). All application materials have to be received by the International Office of Otaru University of Commerce no later than **April 10, 2025 for 2025 September intake / October 10, 2025 for 2026 March intake**. For further information, please contact the study abroad office at your home institution or the International Office of Otaru University of Commerce directly.

**Center for Glocal Strategy, Glocal Education Division,
Otaru University of Commerce (International Office)**

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Subject List

Offered courses are subject to change. Will update the list when applicable.

Japanese language subjects are counted as optional subject credits toward completion.

Up to four credits of Japanese language courses can be counted in as core subject credits.

A semester is 15 weeks and a quarter is of 7.5 weeks period.

Fall Semester “Fall Quarter” and “Winter Quarter”

Fall Quarter (September - November)

Core subjects	Credits	Course Code	Page
Business Economics I	2	4101120	9
Introduction to Empirical Studies	2	4101140	10
International Development Cooperation	2	4101200	11
Marketing Strategy in Asia and Pacific	2	4101210	12
Japanese Companies in Global Business	2	4101220	14

Winter Quarter (November - February)

Core subjects	Credits	Course Code	Page
Tourism Marketing	2	4101240	15
Glocal Field Work II	2	4101170	16
Glocal Internship I	1 or 2	-	6
Glocal Internship II	1 or 2	-	6

Optional subjects	Credits	Course Code	Page
Exercise and Sports IIc (Skiing: Intensive course)	1	1101070	17

Fall Semester (September - February)

Core subjects	Credits	Course Code	Page
Introduction to Glocal Management	2	4101110	18
Glocal Seminar I	2	4101250	6, 32
Glocal Seminar III	2	(See P6)	6, 34
Glocal Seminar IV (Only for the students who have completed “Glocal Seminar III”)	2	(See P6)	6, 34
Research Paper I (Co-registered with Glocal Seminar III)	2	(See P6)	6
Research Paper II (Co-registered with Glocal Seminar IV)	2	(See P6)	6

Japanese language subjects	Credits	Course Code	Page
Japanese I	3	4300100	37
Japanese II (Fall Semester)	3	4300120	38
Japanese Affairs II (*sufficient Japanese skill required)	2	1130140	-

Note: “Japanese Affairs II” will be conducted basically in Japanese for the regular international students. If you are interested in it, please check the guidance by the instructor before registration.

Spring Semester “Spring Quarter” and “Summer Quarter”

*Course Codes will be announced before the semester begins

Spring Quarter (April - June)

Core subjects	Credits	Page
Business Economics II	2	21
Japanese Economy	2	22

Summer Quarter (June - August)

Core subjects	Credits	Page
Glocal Field Work I	2	23
Glocal Internship I	1 or 2	6
Glocal Internship II	1 or 2	6

Spring Semester (April - August)

Core subjects	Credits	Page
Introduction to Japanese Management	2	24
Glocal Seminar II	2	6, 33
Glocal Seminar III	2	6, 34
Glocal Seminar IV (Only for the students who have completed “Glocal Seminar III”)	2	6, 34
Research Paper I (Co-registered with Glocal Seminar III)	2	6
Research Paper II (Co-registered with Glocal Seminar IV)	2	6

Optional subjects	Credits	Course Code	Page
Japanese Culture	2	1100210	26
Foundation Seminar	2	1100830	27

Japanese language subjects*	Credits	Page
Japanese II (Spring Semester)	3	40
Japanese III	3	40

NOTE: There is no Japanese language subjects of beginner level in the Spring Semester (March Intake). If you have no previous knowledge of Japanese language and hope to learn it, you should apply for the Fall Semester (September Intake).

Glocal Seminar I / II/ III / IV / Research Paper

Course	Description
Glocal Seminar I	The course is designed to provide students with intensive instruction on learning styles and strategies that result in academic success in English. This course is offered to YOUC Students and Japanese freshmen who would like to study abroad in the future and develop their English Language skills through the course. YOUC Students or Japanese students at the sophomore level or above are expected to facilitate the class activities such as discussions.
Glocal Seminar II	
Glocal Seminar III	Glocal Seminar III/IV is a seminar style course for YOUC students. You can choose one seminar for one semester from the below list and learn a specific field. Students are expected to register for “Glocal Seminar III” in their first semester and “Glocal Seminar IV” in their second semester. Research Paper I/II is an optional course for students who would like to learn basic knowledge for writing an effective research paper on the topic covered in the Glocal Seminar III/IV each. Thus, Research Paper I/II students must be registered with Glocal Seminar III/IV each.
Glocal Seminar IV	
Research Paper I/II	

Glocal Seminar III & IV

Core subjects	Credits	Course Code (Fall)	Page
The economics-oriented series (GSEcon)	2	(as GSIII) 4101280	34
		(as GSIV) 4101320	
The commerce-oriented series (GSComm)	2	(as GSIII) 4101300	
		(as GSIV) 4101340	

For more information, please refer to each syllabus.

Research Paper I & II

Core subjects	Credits	Course Code (Fall)
The economics-oriented series supervised by <u>Prof. Ikeda</u>	2	(as RPI) 4200130
		(as RPII) 4200200
The economics-oriented series supervised by <u>Prof. Matsumoto</u>	2	(as RPI) 4200110
		(as RPII) 4200180
The commerce-oriented series supervised by <u>Prof. Wang</u>	2	(as RPI) 4200140
		(as RPII) 4200210
The commerce-oriented series supervised by <u>Prof. Kobayashi</u>	2	(as RPI) 4200160
		(as RPII) 4200230

Glocal Internship I / II

To deepen student understanding of the working condition in local areas (Otaru, Shiribeshi, Hokkaido) and various problems of regional society in Japan, we offer some internship opportunities for exchange students. The choices of internship vary each year. Please refer to the below list of past internships.

If you are interested in the Glocal Internship, please attend the orientation session. The date will be announced to you later. (Registration is not required for this course.)

- English Camp at Yubari
- Assistance Teaching English to Children at an After School Day Care Center in Otaru
- Metalworking company

Syllabus

Fall Semester Subjects

Business Economics I

Instructor: Ikeda Shinsuke

Credits: 2 (Fall Quarter)

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101120

1. Course objectives and method

This is the first half of the Business Economics series in the “glocal” education program at Otaru University of Commerce (OUC). The class accommodates YOUC international students and OUC regular students who wish to learn Business Economics in English.

The main objective of this course is to provide you with some opportunities to learn the microeconomics of business enterprises and their pricing strategies based on the theory of monopoly. I will follow my slides in class, but I will encourage your active participation by asking various questions.

I do not assume your previous knowledge to learn in elementary microeconomic courses (e.g., Introduction to Economics I (経済学入門 1) in the spring semester for first-year students). However, you are in a relatively advantageous position if you have such exposure previously.

The class will be “in-person”. The primary language in this course is English, and Japanese is a complementary language for reviews. I have an email account for you to send any assignments and questions:
ikedainotaru3@gmail.com

This course is quarterly with two sessions each week: one on Monday 3rd, and another on Wednesday 3rd (12:50-14:20). The course spans from September 24th (Wed) to November 11th (Mon), with two holidays on Mondays (Oct 13th and Nov 3rd).

2. Course Goals

I want you to become more familiar with economists’ ways of thinking about business issues from the viewpoint of optimality/incentive and efficiency for individuals and firms. Given assumptions on the competitive environment and information among them, you are supposed to apply your acquired knowledge to some business and managerial cases. This aspect distinguishes my class from most other courses in the Econ department. In particular, I will ask you to write a case report about an actual business (restaurant, souvenir shop, café, rotating sushi bar, etc.) that interests you.

3. Course contents

1. Theory-1: The Market Demand Curve.
2. Theory-2: The Production Cost.
3. Case-1: Economies of Scale and Price vs. Average Cost.
4. Theory-3: For-profit Monopoly.
5. Theory-4: Margin.
6. Case-2: Revenue or Profit at a Ramen Noodle Shop in Otaru.
7. Theory-5: Price Elasticity of Demand.
8. Case-3: Surge Pricing and Economists vs. People.
9. Theory-6: Direct Price Discriminations.
10. Theory-7: Indirect Price Discriminations.
11. Case-5: Funeral Industry

4. Preparation and review class

No particular ones are planned.

5. Teaching materials

My slides (circulated for free) will be uploaded on Manaba regularly. I can adjust them appropriately if you are medically challenged. My slides are based on various references (you can find them in a printed syllabus I will upload on Manaba). I will reserve some of them on the entrance floor of the OUC library.

6. Grading

- [1] Attendance (15%)
- [2] T/F Questions (20%)
- [3] In-class discussions and presentations (25%)
- [4] Report (40%)

7. Grading Criteria

All previous students who attended as many classes as possible and submitted as many assignments as possible could pass this course. However, you must work harder to get an “A” grade. Here are some tips about each of the grading criteria.

[1]: I will record your attendance through “Respon” on the Manaba system.

[2]: You will have “T/F” questions after each “Theory” session.

[3]: We will have several in-class discussions and perhaps one group-based presentation. [4]: You can work on this project in a group of three or four (TBD).

8. Remarks

If you wish to cancel your registration for this course, please do so from October 15th to 20th. I cannot manage your petition for canceling this course after this period. Please remember that this schedule differs from canceling most other semester-wide courses (November 19th to 25th).

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

10. Additional information

Includes learning content on region (Hokkaido)

11. Detailed information on additional information

A case study of a business in Otaru.

Introduction to Empirical Studies

Instructor: Onozuka Yuki

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101140

Credits: 2 (Fall Quarter)

1. Course objective and method

In this course, students will gain experience processing data for analysis using statistical software "R", Git, and GitHub. First half of the course is intended to help students learn how to use R and how to control versions with Git and GitHub. In the second half of the course, students will be assigned to a group of 2 or 3 to work as a team. Research paper(s) in Economics will be assigned to each group. Then, each group will replicate the paper (tables, figures, etc. in the paper) as much as possible.

2. Course Goals

Students will

- 1) learn how to use statistical software "R"
- 2) learn version control with Git
- 3) gain experience collaborating with multiple people using GitHub.

3. Course Contents

- 1: How to install R and RStudio
- 2-4: R basics
- 5: R Markdown
- 6: Data Processing I
- 7: Data Processing II , Replication paper selection
- 8: Git
- 9-10: GitHub
- 11: GitHub, Group work
- 12-14: Group work

4. Preparation and review class

Students will be given some amount of time to work on their assignment and replication project during class, but they will probably need to work outside of class to finish them.

5. Teaching materials

No textbook.

Materials will be provided by the instructor.

Reference book (for R basics): Kosuke Imai (2018), "Quantitative Social Science: An Introduction," Princeton University Press.

6. Grading

Group output (30%)

- Degree of replication of a research paper

Individual output (70%)

- Assignment (20%)

- Contribution in group (30%)

- Contribution in class (20%)

7. Grading Criteria

100-90 A

89-80 B

79-70 C

69-60 D

0-59 F

7. Remarks

Bring your own laptop.

Having basic knowledge of programming would be helpful for a better understanding of this course.

This course will be provided in English, but Japanese may be used supplementarily depending on the situation.

The schedule is subject to change.

8. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

International Development Cooperation

Instructor: Matsumoto Tomoya

& Nguen Kim Lan

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101200

Credits: 2 (Fall Quarter)

1. Course objective and method

In this lecture, we will learn the economies of less-developed countries and their recent development in relation to international development assistance. The lecture covers poverty, education, public health, agriculture, and infrastructure in less developed countries, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), impact evaluation of aid programs, and the effectiveness of development aids. We will discuss related topics based on actual data. To do so, we often use methods of statistics to analyze socio-economic data in the course.

2. Course Goals

The students are expected to learn the current situation of less-developed countries, activities of aid agencies, their objectives, and consequences through the course. In particular, this lecture aims to enhance students' knowledge on the following topics:

How do people live in less developed countries?

What are the challenges in their lives?

Who are the major players in development assistance?

What issues do they try to address?

What are their goals?

Do they succeed or fail?

What can we do for people in less-developed countries?

3. Course Contents

Every week (two sessions), we will study a single topic. In the first session, the instructor will lecture on the topic and discuss it in the second session. Topics covered in the course are given as follows:

Week 0: Introduction (no discussion session)

Week 1: Lives in less-developed countries

Week 2: Aid agencies and their activities (including SDGs)

Week 3: Universal Primary Education

Week 4: Public health programs
Week 5: Improvement of infrastructure and its impact on poverty
Week 6: Agricultural development
Week 7: Merits and demerits of aid

4. Preparation and review class

Reading assignments are given every week to prepare for the discussion session.

5. Teaching materials

Materials are given by the instructor.

6. Grading

Class participation (30%)

Presentation (30%)

Final report (40%)

7. Grading Criteria

A(秀): 100-90

B(優): 89-80

C(良): 79-70

D(可): 69-60

F(不可): 59-1

F(不可): 0

7. Courses conducted by the ones with practical experiences

Yes

8. Outline of their practical experiences

I was a visiting scientist at International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, for three years.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Marketing Strategy in Asia and Pacific

Instructor: WANG Liyong

Credits: 2 (Fall Quarter)

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101210

1. Course objectives and method

Classes are conducted with lectures followed by case studies that serve to reinforce the lecture material. One entire class could be devoted to either a lecture or a case study. Students are challenged to understand the theoretical frameworks and processes that business people use to develop marketing strategies or to deal with various market phenomena, especially in the Asian and Pacific region.

2. Course Goals

The primary goal of this course is to introduce students to global marketing issues that face Asian and Pacific companies. Students are expected to apply their knowledge and critical thinking skills in the context of real-life business dilemmas.

3. Course contents

Course plan – Each class is 90 minutes in length

Class 1 Course introduction

Including an overview of the course. I will discuss the schedule, materials, expectations for student participation and performance, and open the floor to students for questions about the course.

Class 2 Introduction to global marketing

Class 3 Case study

Class 4-5 The global marketing environment

Class 6 Global market entry strategy

Class 7 Case study

Class 8-9 Product decisions in global marketing
Class 10-11 Case study
Class 12-13 Global marketing communications decisions
Class 14-15 Case study
Course plan and schedules are apt to change according to study progress.

4. Preparation and review class

All students must participate in class with questions and opinions. Since this course will proceed with a case study format, it is absolutely essential that students actively participate in class discussions.

Students are required to read the lecture material and case study prior to class.

Based on the discussion of the case study, group members are required to prepare PPT slides and to do presentations. Each member of the group is encouraged to present a part of the case.

5. Teaching materials

We will use the below textbook in this course. Due to the difficulty of purchasing the textbook within limited time, copies of the chapters we are going to cover have been uploaded to manaba.

ATTENTION: those materials are only limited to your personal study purpose and should not be spread around.
Global Marketing by Warren J. Keegan and Mark C. Green. Global edition (9th ed.) 2017.

6. Grading

Grading will be based on class participation, performance in the presentation, and a final report.

Quality of class participation: 30%

Group presentation: 30%

Final report: 40%

7. Grading Criteria

This class follows the OUC guideline for grading, which is given by

A(秀): 100-90

B(優): 89-80

C(良): 79-70

D(可): 69-60

F(不可): 59-1

F(不可): 0

8. Remarks

This subject is conducted in English.

9. Courses conducted by the ones with practical experiences

Yes

10. Outline of their practical experiences

Marketing and sales promotion in Nigeria

Marketing and reservation handling at the DMC in Sapporo

11. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

12. Additional information

Includes learning content on region(Hokkaido)

13. Detailed information on additional information

Course content includes the knowledge on tourism industry in Hokkaido.

1. Course objective and method

The aim of this course is to explore and analyze various aspects of international business and management of Japanese multinational companies. The key concepts covered in this course include strategic management, strategic alliance, modes of market entry and analysis of competitive environment, advantage and potential. While the content revolves around issues of corporate strategy, most of the discussions that take place during the course relate to selected cases of Japanese multinational companies operating overseas and the challenges emanating from their distinctive political, social and cultural orientations. As such, international knowledge and experience of the students are of great relevance and strength in the problem-solving exercise.

To improve and maintain the level of their participation in class, this course requires students to engage in case studies and make a group presentation on a selected case in class within the second half of the course. Preparatory materials will be uploaded to the Manaba system or other online platforms where appropriate.

A field trip may be arranged depending on the availability and circumstances, and accordingly the course schedule may have to be changed to accommodate the field trip.

2. Course Goals

By completing this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the basic concepts of global and international strategies and how they apply to Japanese multinational companies
- Assess and discuss pros and cons of various theoretical approaches to analyze international business and management of Japanese multinational companies
- Discuss and cooperate with other classmates to conduct a groupwork and present their findings in class in an informed and effective manner
- Conduct a case study on a Japanese multinational company, apply an analytical framework and offer insight into how the current strategies or practices may be improved for better performances

3. Course contents

Class 1: Course introduction

Class 2-7: International business environment, strategic management, strategic alliance, modes of market entry and analysis of competitive environment, advantage and potential

Class 8: Case studies and report instruction

Class 9-14: Cases of Japanese multinational companies (with student group presentations)

Class 15: Course summary

Course plan and schedule are subject to change depending on study progress and/or availability of field trip and guest speakers.

4. Preparation and review class

Preparation: Students are required to prepare and read assigned materials prior to each class. Students are also expected to have checked Manaba frequently and kept themselves updated on any news, messages and changes.

Review: Students are expected to review the materials covered in class and make the most out of them when participating in class and completing course tasks including the report.

5. Teaching materials

Teaching materials will be uploaded to the Manaba system or other online platforms where appropriate.

Recommended readings include the following:

Motohashi, K. (2015). *Global Business Strategy: Multinational Corporations Venturing into Emerging Markets*. Tokyo: Springer. Available at: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-4-431-55468-4#about>

6. Grading

Grading is based on outcomes of the following course tasks:

- Individual class participation (including attendance) - 25%
- Quiz on academic writing - 5%

- Group presentation - 20%
- Individual questions to the presenters – 5%
- Report plan - 10%
- Report - 35%

7. Grading Criteria

- A (Excellent): 100 - 90
- B (Very good): 89 - 80
- C (Good): 79 - 70
- D (Satisfactory): 69 - 60
- F (Unsatisfactory): 59 – 0

8. Remarks

In 2025, the course will be mainly organized and delivered by Dr. Koji Kobayashi (Glocal Education Division, Centre for Glocal Strategy). Please contact him directly if you have any questions about the course.

As this is a course available to our international exchange students, class communication and discussion will be conducted mainly in English but may be supplemented in Japanese when it is deemed necessary and appropriate. However, please note that the class readings, instructions and materials will be provided mainly in English and that the course tasks will need to be completed in English unless there is any agreement made to allow for exceptions.

本科目は海外からの短期交換留学生にも開かれた科目であるため、授業での会話および議論は主に英語で行いますが、必要かつ適切と判断される場合には日本語で補足することがあります。ただし、リーディング、インストラクションや資料は主に英語で提供され、例外を認める合意がない限り、科目の課題は英語で提出する必要がありますのでご注意ください。

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Tourism Marketing

Instructor: WANG Liyong

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101240

Credits: 2 (Winter Quarter)

1. Course objectives and method

This course aims to outline the main characteristics of tourism marketing both on a business level and a destination level. It provides a comprehensive introduction to various aspects of tourism marketing helping students to understand the importance of marketing and the functions of marketing in the tourism industry. Building upon theories and models to experiential tourism marketing, this course investigates a range of approaches and challenges associated with destination marketing.

Classes are conducted with lectures by the instructor and student-initiated case studies. Active learning is highly evaluated and implemented.

2. Course Goals

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Examine and discuss the key concepts and principles of marketing as applied to destinations and the tourism experience
2. Demonstrate an evaluative understanding of current issues associated with destination marketing
3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the principles of sustainable tourism.

3. Course contents

- Week 1. Introduction of marketing for tourism and hospitality
- Week 2. Service characteristics of hospitality and tourism marketing
- Week 3. Experiential marketing
- Week 4-5. Marketing strategy and management
- Week 6-7. Destination marketing

Course plan and schedules are apt to change according to study progress.

4. Preparation and review class

Students should read materials for preparation prior to attending class.

5. Teaching materials

Materials will either be provided by the instructor or will be available from the internet/manaba system.

Readings:

1. Marketing for Hospitality and Tourism, 7th ed. by Philip Kotler, John Bowen, James Makens, Seyhmus Baloglu.
2. Marketing for Tourism and Hospitality: Collaboration, Technology and Experiences, by Alan Fyall, Patrick Legohérel, Isabelle Frochot, Youcheng Wang.

6. Grading

Grading will be based on the level of preparation, class participation, performance in the presentation, essays, and a final report.

7. Grading Criteria

Quality of prior learning and class participation: 30%

All students should participate in class by actively asking questions and presenting opinions. It is absolutely essential that students actively participate in group discussions.

Group presentation: 30%

Each group member is required to be in charge of a part of the presentation.

Final report: 40%

8. Remarks

This subject is conducted only in English.

9. Courses conducted by the ones with practical experiences

Yes

10. Outline of their practical experiences

Working experience in the tourism industry, focused on the inbound tourists to Hokkaido.

11. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

12. Additional information

Includes learning content on region (Hokkaido)

13. Detailed information on additional information

Course content includes the knowledge on tourism industry in Hokkaido.

Glocal Field Work II

Instructor: Matsumoto Tomoya

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101170

Credits: 2 (Winter Quarter)

1. Course objective and method

Fieldwork is the process of observing research subjects (more specifically, people in social science) and collecting observational data in the actual field.

The objective of this course is to learn how to plan and implement fieldwork. In this course we visit some sites in Hokkaido for fieldwork, including ski areas, local factories, workshops, companies, tourism facilities, and markets.

2. Course Goals

This course aims to understand how to implement fieldwork, collect helpful information from research targets, summarize the collected information, and present the research outcomes.

3. Course Contents

This course covers the following contents:

1. Introduction
2. Finding research questions
3. Designing a research plan
4. Implementing fieldwork in Hokkaido
5. Reporting fieldwork outcomes
6. Presenting findings

4. Preparation and review class

Prior to each visit of the fieldwork site, students must collect as much information as possible and prepare research questions in advance.

5. Teaching materials

The material will be given by the instructor.

6. Grading

Class preparation and participation (20%)

Fieldwork (50%)

Presentation (30%)

7. Grading Criteria

This class follows the OUC guideline for grading, which is given by

A(秀): 100-90

B(優): 89-80

C(良): 79-70

D(可): 69-60

F(不可): 59-1

F(不可): 0

8. Remarks

The Global Fieldwork II will be given in the winter quarter (December and January). Besides Monday afternoon, we may also adjust fieldwork schedule to other weekdays or even weekends.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Exercise and Sports IIc (Skiing: Intensive course)

Instructor: Nakagawa Yoshinao, et al

Credits: 1 (3 days)

Optional Subject **Course Code:1101070**

Ski Area: Asari-gawa onsen. Meet in front of Center House

Date: December 25 (Thu), 26 (Fri) AND 27 (Sat), 2025

Hours: 8:50-16:00 hrs

Lift Ticket: 3,000 yen (1,000 yen per day), Beginner (first time skiing):2,000 yen

Application: Applications will be accepted at the gymnastic office located in OUC.

1. Course objective and Method

Providing information related to the basics of Alpine skiing such as balance, basic position, gliding wedge, wedge turns, and safe controlling of the skis. Providing opportunities to ski on the various different types of slopes and snow such as powder snow, slushy snow, bumpy slopes, moguls but also steep slopes as well as terrain.

2. Course contents

Levels of skiing class (beginner/intermediate/advanced)

1. Advanced class (able to make short parallel turns and execute tight turns)
2. Intermediate (able to make long parallel turns)
3. Intermediate (able to negotiate narrower trails)
4. Intermediate (able to maintain both skis in same direction)

5. Intermediate (able to control your speed)
6. Beginner class (able to slow down and stop in a wedge or have skied 2 or 3 times)
7. Beginner class (first time skiing)

3. Course goals

- **Beginner** class: getting used - sliding – gliding wedge
- **Intermediate** class: parallel skiing (longer radii) – basic elements of modern carving-techniques - carving in long radii with speed control
- **Advanced class: top** carving (longer & shorter radii) – dynamic change of direction - precise carving in short radii- skiing on steep slopes

4. Grading

This course will be graded on a pass/fail basis. A maximum of one-day absences will be allowed. Non-participation will count as an absence. The grade will be based on attendance, participation, and attitude.

5. Remarks

Students will be required to wear proper ski clothing with skis, boots, gloves and cap.

Introduction to Glocal Management

Instructor: Inoguchi Junji et al

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101110

Credits: 2 (Fall Semester)

1. Course objective and method

The objective of this course is to assist students in developing abilities they will need to analyze business case studies that concern management and marketing strategy issues from a glocal point of view.

The course uses interactive and practical case methods in order to teach students to think analytically, creatively, and cooperatively.

Class members are divided up into small groups who discuss issues that pertain to each case. Each group frames its analysis and strategy and makes a presentation to the group at large.

2. Course Goals

The main objectives of this course are to improve the student's ability in the following ways:

- Analyze a variety of business problems logically.
- Communicate cooperatively with other group members.
- Develop appropriate solutions (strategies) to solve the problems.
- Organize and present ideas effectively.

3. Course contents

Different instructors will focus on different types of business disciplines and perspectives such as marketing, strategy, organizational issues, and other topics.

Instructors guide students through these case analyses, ask questions, and present issues relevant to the case.

Different instructors may approach cases differently.

A tentative schedule of the course is as follows.

1. Introduction
2. Glocal Management: Marketing
3. Glocal Management: Marketing
4. Glocal Management: Marketing
5. Glocal Management: Strategy
6. Glocal Management: Strategy
7. Glocal Management: Strategy
8. Glocal Management: Management
9. Glocal Management: Management
10. Glocal Management: Management
11. Glocal Management: Marketing
12. Glocal Management: Marketing
13. Glocal Management: Marketing
14. Glocal Management: Strategy
15. Glocal Management: Strategy

4. Preparation and review lesson

In weeks that follow instructors will provide students with case materials in advance of group discussions.

It is absolutely necessary that students carefully read materials prior to performing group work. Any student who registers for this class agrees to have the discipline to read the material in advance – This is an absolute requirement.

5. Teaching materials

Printed materials for each case will be provided at least one week in advance of group discussions.

Students may also be asked to perform supplemental research on the Internet.

Instructors will provide guidance.

6. Grading

Class participation : 30%

Case presentation : 30%

Case study report : 40%

7. Grading Criteria

100–90 Outstanding

89–80 Very good

79–70 Good

69–60 Satisfactory

59 – 0 Fail

8. Courses conducted by the ones with practical experiences

Yes

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Spring Semester Subjects

(*This is the Spring 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

This is the second half of the Business Economics series in the “glocal” education program at Otaru University of Commerce (OUC). The class accommodates YOUC international students and OUC regular students who wish to learn Business Economics in English.

The main objective of this course is to provide you with some opportunities to learn the microeconomics of business enterprises and their competitive strategies based on the traditional economic theory of monopoly/oligopoly and recent insights from behavioral economics. I will follow my slides in class, but I will encourage your active participation by asking various questions and letting you do group work in class.

You should know the basics of Business Economics I (BE1), such as monopoly pricing, price elasticity of demand, marginal revenue, marginal cost, etc., at the beginning of this class. I will briefly and selectively review them in the first couple of classes. If you have previously been exposed to (and understood) such knowledge, you are at a good advantage over your classmates without such knowledge.

Regular classes will be “in-person”. The primary language in this course is English, and Japanese is a complementary language for reviews. I have an email account for you to send any assignments and questions: ikedainotaru3@gmail.com

This course is quarterly with two sessions each week: one on Wednesday 3rd and another on Friday 3rd (12:50-14:20). The course spans from April 9th (Wed) to June 3rd (Wed), with the cancellation of classes on April 30th (Wed) and May 2nd (Fri) for the benefit of almost everyone.

2. Course Goals

I want you to become more familiar with economists’ ways of thinking about business issues from the viewpoint of optimality/incentive and efficiency for individuals and firms. Given assumptions on the competitive environment and information among them, you are supposed to apply your acquired knowledge to some business and managerial cases. This aspect distinguishes my class from most other courses in the Econ department. In particular, I will ask you to write a case report about an actual business (restaurant, souvenir shop, café, rotating sushi bar, etc.) that interests you.

3. Course Contents

Theory:

1. Review of Monopoly Pricing Rule.
2. Asymmetric Sunk Cost to Sustain Monopoly
3. Bertrand Competition as a “Price War”.
4. Product Differentiation as a survival strategy
5. Behavioral Economics (1) The replication crisis
6. Behavioral Economics (2) The anchoring effect
7. Behavioral Economics (3) TBA.

Cases:

1. Hokkaido Chuo Bus’s reluctance to promote the “sea of clouds” on Mt. Tengu
2. The electric power market in the US and the capacity constraint
3. Coke vs. Pepsi
4. A bottle of wine made in Yoichi and in-class evaluation
5. Yoshinoya’s struggle to increase the unit price

4. Preparation and review class

No particular ones are planned.

5. Teaching materials

My slides (circulated for free) will be uploaded on Manaba regularly. I can adjust them appropriately if you are medically challenged. My slides are based on various references (you can find them in a printed syllabus I will upload on Manaba). I will reserve some of them on the entrance floor of the OUC library.

6. Grading

- [1] Attendance (15%)
- [2] T/F Questions (20%)
- [3] In-class discussions and presentation (25%)
- [4] Final Group Report (40%)

7. Grading Criteria

All previous students who attended as many classes as possible and submitted as many assignments as possible could pass this course. However, you must work harder to get an “A” grade. Here are some tips about each of the grading criteria.

- [1]: I will record your attendance through “Respon” on the Manaba system.
- [2]: You will have “T/F” questions after each “Theory” session.
- [3]: We will have several in-class discussions and perhaps one group-based presentation. [4]: You can work on this project in a group of three or four (TBD).

8. Remarks

If you wish to cancel your registration for this course, please do so from April 28th to May 7th. I cannot manage your petition for canceling this course after this period. Please remember that this schedule differs from canceling most other semester-wide courses (June 9th to June 13th).

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

10. Additional information

Includes learning content on region (Hokkaido)

11. Detailed information on additional information

A case study of a company in Hokkaido

Japanese Economy

Instructor: Matsumoto Tomoya

Core Subject

Credits: 2 (Spring Quarter)

(*This is the Spring 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

This course aims to understand the causes of successes and failures of the Japanese economy and learn public policies for creating a better and more prosperous society. To achieve this objective, we examine Japan's historical and contemporary economic issues by analyzing data on the Japanese and world economy and reviewing articles in newspapers and academic journals..

2. Course Goals

To learn the history of the Japanese economy.

To learn the problems Japan faces today.

To learn innovative policies for creating a better and prosperous society from the Japanese experience of successes and failures.

To learn valuable lessons from Japanese experiences for developing countries.

To learn how to read journal articles.

3. Course Contents

The course covers the following contents:

1. The economic development of Japan
2. Aging in Japan
3. Energy crisis in Japan
4. Trade policies in Japan
5. NEET and Hikikomori in Japan
6. Poverty in Japan
7. Tourism in Japan

4. Preparation and review class

Assignments for each topic will be given through Manaba.

5. Teaching materials

The instructor gives materials.

6. Grading

Grades will be determined based on assignments (reports) and contributions to the class through discussion.

7. Grading Criteria

This class follows the OUC guideline for grading, which is given by

A(秀): 100-90

B(優): 89-80

C(良): 79-70

D(可): 69-60

F(不可): 59-1

F(不可): 0

8. Remarks

No advanced knowledge of economic theory is required beyond the basic knowledge of introductory economics.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Glocal Field Work I

Instructor: Matsumoto Tomoya

Core Subject

Credits: 2 (Summer Quarter)

(*This is the Summer 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

Fieldwork is the process of observing research subjects—particularly people in the social sciences—and collecting data in real-world settings. The objective of this course is to develop students' ability to design and conduct effective fieldwork. Through this course, students will gain hands-on experience in fieldwork, enhance their teamwork and communication skills, and learn how to apply their findings to real-world issues.

2. Course Goals

This course aims to help students identify, analyze, and develop solutions for regional issues through fieldwork. Throughout the term, students will engage in the following activities:

- Designing innovative and engaging tour plans for inbound tourism in Otaru.
- Creating effective promotional materials (e.g., flyers, video clips) tailored to potential tourists.
- Conducting fieldwork by interacting with tourists and gathering market feedback.
- Analyzing collected data and refining tour plans based on key insights.
- Strengthening presentation skills through final proposal presentations and peer evaluations.

3. Course Contents

This course covers the following contents:

1. Introduction
2. Finding research questions
3. Designing a research plan
4. Implementing fieldwork in Hokkaido
5. Reporting fieldwork outcomes
6. Presenting findings

4. Preparation and review class

Prior to each class and fieldwork activity, students must read the instructional materials provided by the instructor in advance.

5. Teaching materials

The material will be given by the instructor.

6. Grading

Class participation (30%)

Fieldwork participation (40%)

Presentation (30%)

7. Grading Criteria

This class follows the OUC guideline for grading, which is given by

A(秀): 100-90

B(優): 89-80

C(良): 79-70

D(可): 69-60

F(不可): 59-1

F(不可): 0

8. Remarks

Glocal Fieldwork will be conducted during the summer quarter. Students are required to participate in both classroom-based sessions and intensive fieldwork activities.

- Classroom sessions: Held during the 4th and 5th periods on Mondays (3–4 sessions in June and July), these sessions will cover fundamental concepts, group discussions, and project planning.
- Fieldwork: Students will engage in intensive fieldwork activities from July 18 to July 21, applying their learning in real-world settings.

Active participation in both components is essential for successful completion of the course.

9. Outline of their practical experiences

As a visiting scientist in International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya, I conducted several research projects in East African Countries.

10. Relevance between their practical experiences and the course

The experience gave me the practical knowledge on fieldwork.

11. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Introduction to Japanese Management

Instructor: Kobayashi Koji

Credits: 2 (Spring Semester)

Core Subject

(*This is the Summer 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

The aim of this course is to introduce concepts and cases of Japanese management to students. The course is designed to explore strengths and weaknesses of Japanese businesses and management in contrast to non-Japanese, mostly Western, counterparts. While the content is about management, strategies and business organizations, most of the discussions that take place during the course relate to values, cultures and practices that are unique to the context of Japanese business.

To improve and maintain the level of student participation in class, this course employs teaching styles and methods for active learning. Preparatory materials will be uploaded to the Manaba system or other online platforms where appropriate. The classes will be mainly run in a style of group and individual discussions by students.

A field trip may be arranged depending on the availability and circumstances, and accordingly the course schedule may have to be changed to accommodate the field trip.

2. Course Goals

By completing this course, students will be able to:

- Explain the basic concepts of Japanese management and their differences from Western counterparts
- Discuss their own perspectives on pros and cons of Japanese management and appreciate diverse opinions of other classmates
- Assess the uniqueness and location of Japanese management within a wider discussion of the best managerial strategies and practices worldwide
- Identify and analyze the characteristics of Japanese management academically in a written form

3. Course contents

Class 1: Course outline

Class 2: Overview of Japanese management

Class 3 & 4: Japanese human resource management

Class 5 & 6: Japanese cultural orientations

Class 7 & 8: Japanese production system and quality management

Class 9 & 10: Japanese industrial structure and arrangements

Class 11 & 12: Academic writing exercise

Class 13 & 14: Report planning

Class 15: Course summary

Course plan and schedule are subject to change depending on study progress and/or availability of field trip and guest speakers.

4. Preparation and review class

Preparation: Students are required to prepare and read assigned materials prior to each class. Students are also expected to have checked Manaba frequently and kept themselves updated on any news, messages and changes.

Review: Students are expected to review the materials covered in class and make the most out of them when participating in class and completing course tasks including the report.

5. Teaching materials

The textbook for the course is as follows:

Haghirian, P. (2010). *Understanding Japanese Management Practices*. Business Expert Press.

The textbook is available for purchase at the bookshop on campus or digitally through commercial services. A hardcopy of the book is also available at the library on campus for borrowing.

Other teaching materials will be uploaded to the Manaba system or other online platforms where appropriate.

6. Grading

Grading is based on outcomes of the following course tasks:

- Individual class participation (including attendance) - 40%
- Academic writing exercise - 10%
- Report plan - 10%
- Report - 40%

7. Grading Criteria

A (Excellent): 100 - 90

B (Very good): 89 - 80

C (Good): 79 - 70

D (Satisfactory): 69 - 60

F (Unsatisfactory): 59 - 0

8. Remarks

In 2025, the course will be mainly organized and delivered by Dr. Koji Kobayashi (Glocal Education Division, Centre for Glocal Strategy). Please contact him directly if you have any questions about the course.

As this is a course available to our international exchange students, class communication and discussion will be conducted mainly in English but may be supplemented in Japanese when it is deemed necessary and appropriate. However, please note that the class readings, instructions and materials will be provided mainly in English and that the course tasks will need to be completed in English unless there is any agreement made to allow for exceptions.

本科目は海外からの短期交換留学生にも開かれた科目であるため、授業での会話および議論は主に英語で

行いますが、必要かつ適切と判断される場合には日本語で補足することがあります。ただし、リーディング、インストラクションや資料は主に英語で提供され、例外を認める合意がない限り、科目の課題は英語で提出する必要がありますのでご注意ください。

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Japanese Culture

Instructor: Ohsawa Yuki

Optional Subject

Credits: 2 (Spring Semester)

(*This is the Summer 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

This course analyzes manga (Japanese comics) and anime (Japanese animation), in order to consider the relationship between humans and technology: how technology influences the human body and life; how the definition of “human” has been changing because of technology; and what kinds of problems are presented or hidden in the visual context.

The course also incorporates a range of genres of manga and anime that target a variety of audiences, and for each text we consider the question of who consumes it and why.

We will examine the distinctive media characteristics of manga and of anime, and their intermedial connections and contexts. We will practice analyzing manga and anime texts not simply as narratives but also as visual media.

2. Course Goals

LO1. Students will have gained a working knowledge of important events, issues, and themes in the cultural history of modern Japan, and how popular culture forms such as manga and anime interpret and influence those events and issues.

LO2. Students will have mastered critical and analytical tools useful for the study of visual culture, such as manga techniques and anime techniques.

LO3. Students will have gained experience in writing expository essays using both primary (anime/manga) and secondary sources (academic articles/books).

LO4. Students will have gained experience in creating visual art.

3. Course contents

*Tentative schedule

Week 1	Course Introduction and Modern Japanese history
Week 2-3	History of Manga
Week 4	Visual Language of Manga
Week 5-6	Manga genres and History of Anime
Week 7	Midterm Exam (in-class manga analysis)
Week 8-9	Classical Cinema and Anime Techniques
Week 10	Theme # 1: Early cyborgs/robots/posthumans
Week 11-12	Tezuka Osamu's Metropolis (2001)
Week 13	Tezuka Osamu and early concepts of the posthuman in Japan
Week 14	Post-Tezuka cyborgs/robots/posthumans Ghost in the Shell (1995)
Week 15	In-class final exam

4. Preparation and review class

Required Readings:

Students are expected to come to each class having already read all the required readings and prepared to discuss them. The purpose of the reading assignments is to supplement and/or reinforce ideas and information covered in the lectures, and to prepare students to participate in discussion. Required readings include both primary materials (manga) and secondary materials (critical/analytical articles about manga, anime, or other relevant topics).

When reading required manga excerpts or viewing anime clips, remember to think about them analytically—don't just read for pleasure (though I do hope you enjoy them).

Recommended Readings:

Recommended readings are usually the critical works that provide the ideas, concepts, and arguments discussed in the in-class lecture. Reading them before class will allow you to participate fully in the discussion.

Required Readings and Recommended Readings—both manga and critical works—will be posted on manaba.

5. Teaching materials

All the academic articles, manga, and anime that you need to read or view will be on manaba.

Other teaching materials will be uploaded to the Manaba system or other online platforms where appropriate.

6. Grading

Participation (including homework/assignments) : 15 %

Pop Quizzes: 20%

Midterm Exam (in-class manga analysis): 25%

Final Exam: 40%

7. Grading Criteria

A-range (90-100%): Exceptional work that engages deeply with the assignment, offering original and well-supported arguments. It excels in content, format, style, and organization.

B-range (80-89.99%): Meets requirements with good engagement, but analysis is limited. Shows originality, but could be more persuasive. Contains occasional errors.

C-range (70-79.99%): Fulfills basics but lacks depth. Argument may be vague or overly reliant on class materials. Writing issues affect clarity.

D-range (60-69.99%): Barely meets requirements with minimal effort. Consistent problems in argumentation, analysis, and writing.

F (below 60%): Fails due to missed exams, lack of effort, or misconduct. Plagiarism results in automatic failure.

8. Remarks

All of the lectures, discussions, and assignments will be in English only.

The midterm exam will be an in-class manga analysis of an excerpt from a manga previously covered in class.

The in-class final exam will be during the last regular class in week 15.

There will be no alternate or make-up exams without a doctor's note/medical receipt, so if you miss an exam, you will get zero points for that exam.

If you miss 6 classes or more, you cannot take the final exam. However, if you provide the instructor with your doctor's note, the relevant absence will be excused.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Foundation Seminar

Instructor: de Burgh-Hirabe Ryoko

Credits: 2 (Spring Semester)

Optional Subject

(*This is the Summer 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

The course is designed to provide a range of learning opportunities, materials and activities that help students improve their fundamental skills for English communication and academic performance. In particular, TOEFL is one of the foci in this course, and students are expected to familiarise themselves with its test format and learn about the ways to improve their test scores. In addition, the course helps students to develop their four linguistic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in English.

As this course is designed to equip students with English language skills, class communication and discussion will be conducted mainly in English but also supplemented in Japanese as necessary. The class readings, instructions and materials will be provided mainly in English, and the course tasks will need to be completed in English.

本科目は英語力の向上を目的とした科目であるため、授業での会話および議論は主に英語で行われますが、必要に応じて日本語で補足されます。ただし、リーディング、インストラクションや資料は主に英語で提供され、科目の課題は英語で完了する必要があります。

2. Course Goals

By completing this course, students will be able to:

- Improve the four linguistic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in English
- Increase vocabulary in English
- Improve their scores on official English language tests such as TOEFL
- Develop fundamental skills for academic writing and presentation

3. Course contents

Week 1: Course introduction

Week 2: Induction into Glocal Course

Week 3: Library tour - How to search for resources online and use library services

Weeks 4-5: Learn from people who have studied abroad

Week 6: TOEFL ITP Test overview,

Weeks 7-8: TOEFL ITP practice test

Week 9: TOEFL revision and grammar practice

Week 10: TOEFL grammar practice / Essay and presentation overview

Week 11: Essay planning and writing

Week 12: Presentation skills

Weeks 13-14: Presentations

Week 15: Summary

Note: Subject to revision throughout the semester.

4. Preparation and review class

Preparation: Students are required to prepare and read assigned materials prior to each class. Students are also expected to have checked manaba frequently and kept themselves updated on any news, messages and changes.

Review: Students are expected to review the materials covered in class and make the most out of them when participating in class and completing course tasks.

5. Teaching materials

ポール・ワーデン, ロバート・ヒルキ, & 藤井哲郎 (2015). 完全攻略! TOEFL ITPテスト模試4回分. (ISBN 978-4-7574-2622-1)

Supplementary materials will be provided by the teacher.

6. Grading

Grading is based on outcomes of the following course tasks:

- Active class participation (e.g., homework completion, engagement in learning activities, volunteering questions and answers) - 10%
- Weekly reflection - 20%
- Presentation - 25%
- Essay plan - 10%
- Essay - 35%

7. Grading Criteria

成績評価の基準 (Grading criteria)

A (Excellent): 100 - 90

B (Very good): 89 - 80

C (Good): 79 - 70

D (Satisfactory): 69 - 60

F (Unsatisfactory): 59 - 0

8. Remarks

Students majoring in Glocal Course are strongly encouraged to enrol in this course.

本科目はグローバルコース所属生の履修を奨励します。

Students are required to attend ten classes or more to pass the course. In the event of absence from a class, e-mail the teacher with the date of the class and explain the reason for missing the class. It is the students' responsibility to catch up with the missed class.

All classes will be held face-to-face on campus unless otherwise instructed.

English is the medium of instruction in this class.

Please note that any assignment that is late is subject to a 10% deduction off the mark per day. It is the students' responsibility to submit the assignment properly on time.

Regarding the use of AI tools in this course, you may use AI tools for brainstorming, for comprehension, and finding new ways to say things. You may not use AI tools for the writing up of entire assignments, presentations, or reflection. Those should be written by you. Failure to do your own work may result in a lower grade or in failing the course.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

10. Additional information

Includes learning content on region(Hokkaido)

Glocal Seminars

Glocal Seminar I

Instructor: de Burgh-Hirabe Ryoko

Credits: 2 (Fall Semester)

Core Subject

Course Code: 4101250

1. Course objective and method

This course aims to improve students' skills in academic English: essay writing skills in particular. To achieve this aim, students will learn how to structure a paragraph and an essay, how to choose appropriate sources, and how to cite them correctly using APA style.

Students are expected to work on the Academic Word List outside the classroom throughout the course. In class, they will practice paragraph writing, read and analyze academic texts, and discuss contemporary issues facing Japanese society and cultural concepts of Japan. Learning activities will involve both individual and pair/group work.

2. Course Goals

Upon completing this course, the students will be able to:

1. Recognize the meaning of more words in the Academic Word List
2. Develop an outline and plan to write a basic academic essay
3. Communicate their discoveries to an audience in English verbally and through a PowerPoint presentation
4. Write an academic essay in English using APA style appropriately.

3. Course Contents

Week 1: Course information

Week 2: Introduction to academic writing

Weeks 3-6: Writing a paragraph (topic sentence, supporting details [statistics])

Weeks 7-9: Paraphrasing, Quotations

Week 9: Writing an essay

Weeks 10: Evaluating sources

Weeks 11-13: Student presentations

Weeks 14-15: References - APA style

Note: subject to revision throughout the semester

4. Preparation and review class

Preparation: There will be assigned readings and/or tasks prior to each class. It is important to come to class prepared so that learning is effective. Students are also expected to check manaba frequently and keep themselves up to date with any news, messages and changes.

Review: Students are expected to review the materials covered in class and complete unfinished tasks before the next class.

5. Teaching Materials

Materials will be supplied by the teacher.

Recommended text (No need to purchase):

Oshima, A., & Hogue, A. (2006). *Writing academic English* (4th ed.). Pearson Longman.

6. Grading

Grading is based on outcomes of the following course tasks:

- Active class participation: 15%
- Formative assessment (e.g., academic word list quizzes and APA style tasks): 25%
- Essay outline and plan: 10%
- Written essay: 30%
- Presentation of essay: 20%

7. Grading Criteria

A (Excellent): 100-90

B (Very good): 89-80

C (Good): 79-70

D (Satisfactory): 69-60

F (Unsatisfactory): 59-0

8. Remarks

- All classes will be held face-to-face on campus (subject to change in circumstances).
- Students are required to attend 10 classes or more to pass the course. In the event of absence from a class, e-mail the teacher with the date of the class and explain the reason for missing the class. It is the students' responsibility to catch up with the missed class.
- English is the medium of instruction in this class.
- Students are expected to communicate in English during the class.
- Please note that any assignment that is late is subject to a 10% deduction off the mark per day. It is the students' responsibility to submit the assignment properly on time.
- Students will receive zero mark for an in-class test if they are absent without notifying the teacher in advance.
- Regarding the use of AI tools in this course, you may use AI tools for brainstorming, for comprehension, and finding new ways to say things. You may not use AI tools for the writing up of entire essays, assignments, or presentations. Those should be written by you. Failure to do your own work may result in a lower grade or in failing the course.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Glocal Seminar II

*Instructors: Praet Carolus et al
Credits: 2 (Spring Semester)*

Core Subject

(*This is the Spring 2025 syllabus for reference)

1. Course objective and method

The purpose of this course is to give students insights into what it theoretically and practically means to work in a globalizing world.

This course will employ an omnibus style, in which 7-9 guest speakers will talk about their work and career experiences in different industries.

Classes will feature lectures by a guest speaker, group discussion, presentation, and Q&A. In addition, some classes will focus on preparatory study of the industry in which a specific guest speaker works/has worked.

After each class, students will need to submit an assignment given by the coordinator or the guest speaker.

Classes will most likely be held on Zoom in real time. Depending on the pandemic situation, it may be possible to invite guest speakers to come physically and give lectures in the classroom.

2. Course Goals

The course objectives are as follows.

- 1) give students a better understanding of theoretical knowledge and its use in the business world (and/or in non-profit organizations);
- 2) help students think about their own future career plans;
- 3) re-recognize the importance of English skills.

3. Course Contents

To be announced soon after adjusting schedules and contents with the guest speakers.

4. Preparation and review class

Students need to preview material prior to attending class and submit essays after each module.

5. Teaching Materials

Materials will either be provided by the instructor or will be available via our 'manaba' system.

6. Grading

Grading will be based on level of preparation, class participation, performance in the presentation and individual essay reports.

7. Grading Criteria

Quality of prior learning and class participation: 40%

All students should participate in class by actively asking questions and presenting opinions. It is essential that students actively participate in group discussions.

Group presentation: 30%

Each group member is required to take charge of a part of the presentation.

Essay reports: 30%

8. Remarks

All classes will be conducted in English.

9. Courses conducted by those with practical experiences

Yes

10. Outline of their practical experiences

To be announced at the start of the course.

11. Relevance between their practical experiences and the course

Guest speakers have extensive working experience in the business world and have used English as an essential part of their jobs.

12. Method of class

Face-To-Face class (including online classes less than 7 weeks)

12. Additional information

Includes learning content on region (Hokkaido)

Glocal Seminar III & IV (Econ, Comm)

Core Subject

Course Code (Fall):

Econ III: 4101280 / Econ IV: 4101320

Comm III: 4101300 / Comm IV: 4101340

Instructors:

(Econ) Matsumoto Tomoya & Ikeda Shinsuke

(Comm) Wang Liyong & Kobayashi Koji

Credits: 2 (Fall & Spring Semester)

1. Course objective and method

Glocal Seminar III (GS3) and IV (GS4) are designed to develop knowledge and skills to pursue academic research. In GS3, students 1) learn the basics of qualitative and/or quantitative social science studies with instructors' tutoring through readings of existing studies, discussions in the class, and/or fieldwork, and 2) find their research topic by the end of the course. In GS4, students pursue their research along with instructors' guides.

2. Course Goals

The seminars focus on the acquisition of knowledge and skills that are necessary to conduct empirical research. Empirical research uses qualitative and quantitative data and methods to understand the mechanism behind real-world phenomena. It complements theoretical research and helps us deeply understand social issues and problems and develop policy implications for their solutions by combining theoretical analyses. Students learn the basics in GS3, and apply the knowledge and methods for their research projects and summarize the outcomes in GS4.

The GS3 goals are to learn the basics of:

1. How to find research questions in the field of social science through the reading of existing studies (literature review).
2. To learn how to collect observational, experimental, and dialogical information (e.g., survey, experiment design, case study, interview, and participant observation).
3. How to analyze and summarize the information to be collected.

4. To choose a research topic.

The GS4 goals are to apply the basics of the empirical research learned in GS3:

1. How to design a research project using a relevant method for the research topic.
2. To implement the project and collect the information necessary for the study.
3. How to summarize and present the research outcomes in the seminar.

3. Course Contents

We offer two series of Glocal Seminars parallelly in each semester. One is the economics-oriented series called GSEcon (referring to GS3Econ and GS4Econ), and the other is the commerce-oriented series called GSComm (referring to GS3Comm and GS4Comm). Students can choose either GSEcon or GSComm based on their interests.

Profs. Ikeda and Matsumoto are in charge of GSEcon, while Profs. Kobayashi and Wang are of GSComm.

The GSEcon focuses more on quantitative studies (e.g., statistics, survey, and experimental design), while the GSComm does more on qualitative studies (e.g., case study, interview, and participant observation).

When students take the Glocal Seminar series, the first course is counted as GS3, while the second course is counted as GS4. For instance, a typical student takes GS3 in the fall semester of the 3rd year to learn the basics of research methods and takes GS4 in the fall semester of the 4th year to apply the methods to implement their research projects.

Although students can technically take GS3Econ and GS4Comm, or vice versa, the instructors highly recommend you enroll in both GS3 and GS4 from the same series (i.e., GS3Econ and GS4Econ, or GS3Comm and GS4Comm) to deepen your knowledge and skills in either field, particularly for the Glocal Course students (グローバル主専攻学生).

4. Preparation and review lesson

Assignments will be given through Manaba.

5. Teaching Materials

Materials are given by the instructors.

6. Grading

Grades will be determined based on seminar participation, class presentation, and final report. The details are given by instructors.

7. Grading Criteria

This class follows the OUC guideline for grading, which is given by

A(秀): 100-90

B(優): 89-80

C(良): 79-70

D(可): 69-60

F(不可): 59-1

F(不可): 0

8. Remarks

Students must attend the course orientation session, where course details are given. The session schedule (URL and time) will be announced through Manaba.

There are no prerequisite courses for this class. However, it is preferred to take some basic courses such as Business Economics I/II (ビジネス経済学 I/II), Microeconomics (ミクロ経済学), Introduction to Empirical Research (実証研究入門) and Statistics (統計学) for GSEcon; and marketing and management related courses for GSComm in advance.

9. Courses conducted by those with practical experiences

Yes

10. Outline of their practical experiences

Prof. Matsumoto: Visiting Scientist at International Livestock Research Institute, Nairobi, Kenya

Instructor Wang: Marketing and sales promotion in Nigeria

11. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

12. Additional information

Includes learning content on region (Hokkaido)

Japanese Language

1. Course objective and method

Japanese-I offers an introduction to Japanese language, and is designed for the international students who are in the short program. This course aims to acquire and improve the basic four skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing, and also deepen the sociocultural knowledge of Japan through face-to-face instruction, in-class activities (group works, etc.), assignments, and projects. This course will introduce hiragana, katakana, and about 150 kanji characters and cover from Lesson 1 to Lesson 10 in Genki-I. It will also use supplementary materials to introduce useful phrases and terminology for daily use.

2. Course Goals

By the end of the term, students will be able to:

- 1) speak Japanese with an intelligible pronunciation and appropriate fluency
- 2) demonstrate interactional competence relevant to everyday conversation
- 3) write short sentences or paragraphs on familiar topics, using hiragana, katakana, and some kanji.
- 4) read and understand the main points of beginner-level writings.
- 5) discuss various aspects of Japan's unique cultures.

3. Course Contents

Week 1: Orientation, Hiragana, Katakana, Pre-textbook exercises
Week 2: Hiragana, Katakana, Pre-textbook exercises, Lesson 1 'New friends'
Week 3: Lesson 1 'New friends', Review
Week 4: Lesson 2 'Shopping', Review
Week 5: Lesson 3 'Making a date', Review
Week 6: Lesson 4 'The first date', Review
Week 7: Review of Lesson 1-4, Lesson test
Week 8: Lesson 5 'A trip to Okinawa', Review
Week 9: Lesson 6 'A day in Robert's life', Review
Week 10: Lesson 7 'Family picture', Review
Week 11: Lesson 8 'Barbecue', Review
Week 12: Review of Lesson 5-8, Lesson test
Week 13: Lesson 9 'Kabuki', Review
Week 14: Lesson 10 'Winter vacation plans', Review
Week 15: Review sessions
(*The schedule is subject to change.)

4. Preparation and review class

Before you attend each class, you need to:

- 1) read the textbook (grammar points and vocabulary etc.) and get familiar with the materials.
- 2) do homework and assignments in order to participate in each class fully and actively.
- 3) actively engage in any kinds of activities in Japanese as much as possible.

After class, you need to:

- 1) Review each lesson and get familiar with new vocab, kanji, and grammar points.
- 2) Complete and submit homework assignments on time.
- 3) Prepare for lesson tests, and vocab & kanji quizzes (there might be pop quizzes).

5. Teaching materials

Genki-I, the 3rd edition, The Japan Times
Genki-I Workbook, the 3rd edition, The Japan Times

6. Grading

Attendance & Participation 20%
Homework 20%
Lesson Tests (including quizzes) 40 %
Presentation or Projects 20%

7. Grading Criteria

A: 100-90%

Can communicate in Japanese in daily life and deal with common situations.

B: 89-80%

Can mostly communicate in Japanese in daily life and deal with common situations.

C: 79-70%

Can mostly communicate in Japanese with some help in daily life and deal with common situations.

D: 69-60%

Can mostly communicate in Japanese with a lot of help in daily life.

F: 59-0%

Difficult to communicate in Japanese in daily life.

8. Remarks

You must attend and actively participate in each class.

You are expected to come to class well-prepared for each lesson.

You are expected to study and use Japanese at least two hours a day outside of our class.

You are allowed to make 6 unexcused absences. If you provide the instructor with your doctor's note (or a receipt), your absence will be excused.

Missing 7 or more classes lowers your final course grade by 5%. Your final course grade will be lowered an additional 2% for each class missed over and above the first 6.

If you miss 10 classes, you cannot take the final exam.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Japanese II (Fall Semester)

Instructor: Takebe Yu

Credits: 3 (Fall Semester)

Japanese language subject

Course Code: 4300120

1. Course objective and method

Japanese II is designed for international students who are in the short program and have successfully completed Japanese I or the equivalent. It aims to further improve the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing, and also deepen the sociocultural knowledge of Japan through face-to-face instruction, in-class activities (group works, etc.), assignments, and projects. This course will use Genki-I and Genki-II and cover from Lesson 11 to Lesson 21 and introduce about 300-400 kanji characters. It will also use supplementary materials to introduce useful phrases and terminology for daily use.

2. Course goals

By the end of the term, students will be able to:

- 1) speak Japanese with an intelligible pronunciation and appropriate fluency
- 2) demonstrate interactional competence relevant to everyday conversation
- 3) write short sentences or paragraphs on familiar topics, using hiragana, katakana, and some kanji.
- 4) read and understand the main points of beginner-level writings.
- 5) discuss various aspects of Japan's unique cultures.

3. Course Contents

Week 1 : Orientation, Review Session, Lesson 11 (Genki-I)

Week 2 : Lesson 11 (Genki-I), Review

Week 3 : Lesson 12 (Genki-I), Review

Week 4 : Lesson 13 (Genki-II) 'Looking for a Part-time Job', Review

Week 5 : Lesson 14 'Valentine's Day', Review

Week 6 : Review of Lesson 11-14

Week 7 : Lesson 15 'A Trip to Nagano', Review

Week 8 : Lesson 16 'Lost and Found', Review

Week 9 : Lesson 17 'Grumble and Gossip', Review

Week 10: Lesson 18 'John's Part-time Job', Review

Week 11: Review of Lesson 15-18

Week 12: Lesson 19 'Meeting the Boss', Review

Week 13: Lesson 20 'Mary Goes Shopping', Review

Week 14: Lesson 21 'Burglar', Review

Week 15: Review sessions

(*The schedule is subject to change.)

4. Preparation and review lesson

Before you attend each class, you need to:

- 1) read the textbook (grammar points and vocabulary etc.) and get familiar with the materials.
- 2) do homework and assignments in order to participate in each class fully and actively.
- 3) actively engage in any kinds of activities in Japanese as much as possible.

After class, you need to:

- 1) Review each lesson and get familiar with new vocab, kanji, and grammar points.
- 2) Complete and submit homework assignments on time.
- 3) Prepare for lesson tests, and vocab & kanji quizzes (there might be pop quizzes).

5. Teaching materials

Genki-I, the 3rd edition, The Japan Times

GENKI-II, the 3rd edition, The Japan Times

GENKI-II Workbook, the 3rd edition, The Japan Times

6. Grading

Attendance & Participation 20%

Homework 20%

Lesson Tests (including quizzes) 40 %

Presentation or Projects 20%

7. Grading Criteria

A: 100-90%

Can communicate in Japanese in daily life and deal with common situations.

B: 89-80%

Can mostly communicate in Japanese in daily life and deal with common situations.

C: 79-70%

Can mostly communicate in Japanese with some help in daily life and deal with common situations.

D: 69-60%

Can mostly communicate in Japanese with a lot of help in daily life.

F: 59-0%

Difficult to communicate in Japanese in daily life.

8. Remarks

You must attend and actively participate in each class.

You are expected to come to class well-prepared for each lesson.

You are expected to study and use Japanese at least two hours a day outside of our class.

You are allowed to make 6 unexcused absences. If you provide the instructor with your doctor's note (or a receipt), your absence will be excused.

Missing 7 or more classes lowers your final course grade by 5%. Your final course grade will be lowered an additional 2% for each class missed over and above the first 6.

If you miss 10 classes, you cannot take the final exam.

9. Method of class

Face-To-Face class

Japanese II (Spring Semester)

Instructor: TBA

Japanese language subjects

Credits: 3 (Spring Semester)

TBA

Japanese III

Instructor: TBA

Japanese language subjects

Credits: 3 (Spring Semester)

TBA

Daily Life

After your arrival

A tutor will be arranged to meet you when you arrive at Otaru station. Your tutor will take you to The International House and help you settle down.

Following are some useful information and the procedures that you will go through upon your arrival.

1. To Hokkaido

Otaru University of Commerce is located in Otaru city, Hokkaido Japan. Please arrange to have your flight arrive at New Chitose Airport (CTS).

Please arrange your flight to arrive in Otaru on the following suggested dates.

Suggested dates: September 16 – 18, 2025

*Note: Mandatory YOUC Orientation on September 22.

September 15 is the National Holiday and the university is CLOSED.

2. To Otaru City

From the New Chitose Airport, please come to Otaru City by train (via JR = Japan Railways Hokkaido, approx. 80 minutes, 1,910 JPY). A designated tutor (for YOUC students, we assign tutors) from OUC will meet you at the JR Otaru station. He/She will come with you to OUC campus either by a bus or a taxi (bus: 240 JPY, taxi: approx. 950 JPY).

(Note: Fares are subject to change)



3. Visit the International Office:

Your tutor will take you to the International office upon your arrival.

- Please bring your passport and residence card (given at the airport) for photocopies.
- You will be given the key for your room in the International House. Your tutor will take you to the House.
- You will be given your private on-campus mailbox for notices from the office. Your tutor will show you the location of your mail-box.

4. Necessary paper works

(1) Move-in notification

Foreign nationals in Japan must complete applications for Move-in notification at the municipal office of the area in which they live. Any changes of their status should be reported immediately. The following documents are required for registration:

1. Move-in notification form (prepared in the International Office)
2. Passport
3. Residence card *The address you report will be written on the back side of the card.

(2) National Health Insurance

All international students who will stay in Japan for 3 months or over are required to register for National Health Insurance. You shall apply for it at the city hall upon completion of your move-in notification.

For most of our students the insurance premium is around 1,600 yen per month (the insurance premium depends on the income levels earned in Japan). The insurance covers 70 percent of most ordinary medical costs. Students incurring major medical expenses because of hospitalization may be further eligible for a refund or loan from National Health Insurance to cover the excess amount.

5. Other important issues

(1) Part-time job (Out-of-status activities)

International students with a college student status visa are prohibited to work in Japan. However, a limited job to compensate academic and living expenses may be allowed as long as you obtain permission from the Immigration Bureau and the job does not interfere with academic studies. You can apply for permission at the Narita, Haneda, Chubu, Kansai, New Chitose, Hiroshima and Fukuoka airport or at Immigration Bureau in Sapporo with your residence card.

(2) Traveling outside Japan

When traveling outside of Japan during the term of your Japanese visa, students are required to notify the International Office. If you leave Japan temporarily with your residence card, you do not need to apply for a reentry permit at the Immigration Bureau before leaving.

International House

The International House, an apartment (flat) type dormitory for researchers and international students at Otaru University of Commerce, is located on campus of the university in the southwest of Otaru city, two kilometers up a steep hill from Otaru station. The address of the International House is: 4-4-15 Midori, Otaru, Hokkaido, 047-0034, Japan

1. Eligibility of residence

The following persons are eligible for residence in the International House:

1. International students attending OUC, and their spouse and children.
2. International researchers engaging in research at OUC for more than one month and their spouse and children.
3. Other persons approved by the house master.

2. Expenses to be paid by residents

1. Boarding fee

(1) Residents holding the title of international student must pay a boarding fee as listed below.

(2) The boarding fee shall be paid monthly and cannot be divided daily (even if you move-in or out halfway of the month you must pay fully for the month).

Boarding fee (international students)

Type of room	Boarding fee (monthly)
Single room	¥12,800
Double room	¥25,800

2. Utility costs

(1) A resident must pay electricity, gas and water charges for his/her own living space directly to related companies. Payment is measured by separate meters attached to each room.

(2) A resident is responsible for any payments which originate from a contract made by him/herself. Telephone is included in this example.

3. Security money deposit

A resident must pay the security money deposit when he/she starts dwelling in the International House as listed below. When a resident vacates his/her room, he/she must pay cleaning fees, which is deducted from the security money deposit.

Type of room	Security money deposit
Single room	¥60,000
Double room	¥100,000

3. Facilities

There are single and double rooms in the International House. Students with family members accompanying them may apply for a double room. Each room is equipped with a kitchen, a unit bath and the following facilities:

Items installed in each room:

(1) Single room

bed, quilt, mattress, mattress pad, desk, chair, desk lamp, bookshelf, refrigerator, microwave, wardrobe, gas range, gas water heater, gas heater, shower curtain, intercom, and dehumidifier

(2) Double room

bed, quilt, mattress, mattress pad, desk, chair, desk lamp, bookshelf, refrigerator, microwave, wardrobe, washing

machine, dining table, two dining chairs, cupboard, gas range, gas water heater, gas heater, intercom, and dehumidifier

There is a common lounge for the residents in the house. Coin-operated washers and dryers* are available in the laundry room for single room residents.

*Please note that you need 100-yen coins to use the washers and dryers and there is no change machine in the house.

4. Free Wi-Fi

There is Wi-Fi network free of charge in the International House for residents.

5. NO SMOKING and NO ALCOHOL POLICY

SMOKING and ALCOHOL beverages are NOT ALLOWED in the International House at any time.

Otaru University of Commerce is 100% Alcohol and Smoking FREE on its campus including university residence at any time.

Daily Life in Otaru

1. Living costs

Estimated living costs per month for the students living in the international house are as follows:

International House	12,800 yen
Food Expenses	18,000 yen – 25,000 yen
Books	5,000 yen – 10,000 yen
Utility	8,000 yen – 15,000 yen
National Health Insurance (mandatory)	Approx. 1,600 yen
Other expenses	10,000 yen – 20,000 yen
Total	55,400 yen – 84,400 yen

2. Transportation

There is a bus service from Otaru station to the university. To reach the university, take the route 19 bus from Otaru station and get off at the terminal. The university is only across the road from the bus stop. The fare is 240 yen and it is common for all bus routes in the city center. You can also use some Japanese transportation IC cards such as Kitaca and SAPIKA other than cash for payment. Frequency of the bus service is about once every thirty minutes for most of the day and every ten minutes in the morning.

It is also possible to walk from the station or the city center to the university, and it takes around twenty minutes. However, since the university is located at the top of the mountain, many students who commute from the outside of Otaru take a bus or a taxi to go to the university in the morning and walk when they go home in the evening. The taxi fare for one way between the station and the university is around 950 yen.

3. City life

There are supermarkets, drug stores, convenience stores and other shops for daily shopping around Otaru station and some Shopping Streets nearby.

From the station straight down to the sea, you can walk to the Otaru Canal. On the way and around, you can find many sightseeing spots and gift shops (such as glassware and music boxes) frequented by tourists.

For a bigger shopping or events, students probably want to go to Sapporo, the biggest city in Hokkaido. There are two alternatives to go to Sapporo station. One is to take JR (Japan Railway) train (one-way fare: 750 yen). The rapid train services (normally two services per hour) take you to Sapporo in 32 minutes while normal services take about 50 minutes. Although the highway bus fare is slightly cheaper (one-way fare: 730 yen), it takes about one hour or more depending on the road condition.

(Note: Fares are subject to change)



YOUUC Program FAQ

YOUC Program frequently asked questions

Q. Do I need a Visa to enter Japan even if Japan does not require a Visa for visitors from my country?

A. Yes, you **MUST** apply for a Student Visa prior to entering Japan

Q. How much cash should I bring with me?

A. Students usually need about 120,000 JPY (yen) in cash for the first 2 – 4 weeks in Japan. While main stores (including convenience stores) can accept overseas credit cards, some official procedures may require cash for the fee. We recommend students to have some cash always in hand. You can withdraw JPY with your credit card at some ATM (including on-campus one).

Estimate of minimum living cost for the first two weeks are approximately:

Transportation (from New Chitose Airport to Otaru): 3,000 yen

Security money deposit for your room: 60,000 yen

Food: 15,000 yen

Daily necessities and miscellaneous goods: 15,000 yen

Here is a list of approximate fees and prices for your information:

Soft drink (500ml): 150 yen

Milk (1L): 250 yen

Bread (1 loaf): 250 yen

Lunch at OUC: 550 yen

Movie: 1,800 yen

Dinner out: 1,500 – 3,500 yen

And please remember that the coin-operated washers and dryers in the International House accept 100-yen coins ONLY. We recommend you to keep 100-yen coins because there is no change machine nor any other instant way to get them in the house.

Q. Can I be certain that there will be a room available for me at the International House?

A. Yes, all the YOUC program students are eligible to live in the International House.

Q. How will I know my room number?

A. The International Office will give you the room information before you come to Japan and a key to the room upon your arrival.

Q. How far is the dormitory (International House) from the university?

A. The International House is on campus and it only takes within 5 minutes to walk to the main lecture building.

Q. Will I have free internet access in my room in the International House?

A. Yes, you can use Free Wi-Fi access there. However, its quality is not 100% guaranteed (best-effort service).

Q. Should I learn Japanese before coming?

A. We recommend that you study Japanese for your daily life before coming if possible. There are quite a few students who understand and speak English at the university, but with the exception of the information counter at the airport, most people whom you will encounter at shops, businesses, and restaurants do not speak fluent English. Many doctors at large hospitals are able to communicate in English and the names of train stations and other transportation information are also available in English.

Q. If I have very strong Japanese language skills may I enroll in courses that are taught in Japanese?

A. Yes, with permission from the instructor of the course, you are eligible to enroll in most of the same courses offered to Japanese students.