

KU GLOBAL CONNECTIONS: JAPAN

The University of Kansas has maintained academic partnerships in Japan since the 1960s. The following profile highlights KU research and teaching associated with Japan.

STUDENTS & VISITING SCHOLARS

KU enrolled **38 students** from Japan in Spring 2015. **Four visiting scholars from Japan** conducted research at KU in 2014 - 2015.

FACULTY ENGAGEMENT IN JAPAN

KU faculty teach and/or conduct research on Japan and collaborate with Japanese researchers on a wide range of areas, some of whom are highlighted below.

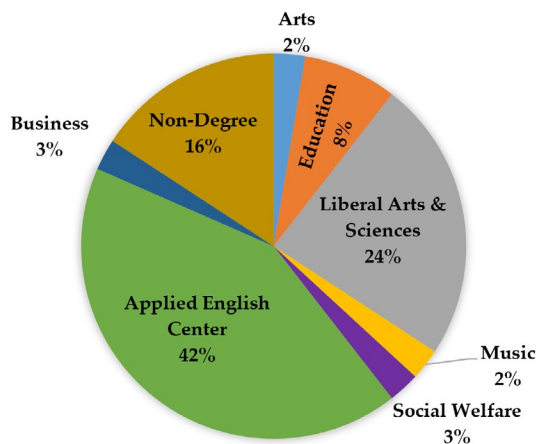
[Michael Baskett](#), Film & Media Studies ■ [Edward Canda](#), Social Welfare ■ [Margaret Childs](#), Premodern Japanese Literature ■ [Kris Ercums](#), Curator of Asian Art ■ [Sherry Fowler](#), Art History ■ [Alison Gabriele](#), Second Language Acquisition ■ [Elaine Gerbert](#), Modern Japanese Literature & Culture ■ [Donna Ginther](#), Economics ■ [Michiko Ito](#), Japanese Studies Librarian ■ [Maki Kaneko](#), Art History ■ [William Lindsey](#), Religious Studies ■ [Sanako Mitsugi](#), Second Language Acquisition & Japanese Linguistics ■ [Ayako Mizumura](#), Contemporary East Asia ■ [Yoonmi Nam](#), Visual Art ■ [Joe Potts](#), International Programs ■ [Eric Rath](#), History ■ [Akiko Takeyama](#), Women's Studies & Sociocultural Anthropology ■ [Benjamin Uchiyama](#), History ■ [Joy Ward](#), Ecology & Evolutionary Biology ■ [Jiso Yoon](#), Political Science ■ [Jane Zhao](#), Business

STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

KU students engage in language training and comparative academic studies, receive practical training, and visit sites of academic and cultural relevance in Japan. More than **90 KU students** have participated in study abroad programs in Japan during the past five years. In addition to the below programs, Study Abroad offers various educational and internship opportunities in Japan.

- [Architecture in Asia](#) (Faculty-led Winter Break)
- [Japan Then and Now](#) (Faculty-led Summer Break)
- [Visual Art in Japan](#) (Faculty-led Summer Break)
- [Okayama University](#) (Semester or Year)
- [Sophia University](#) (Semester or Year)

Japanese Students by Major



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The University of Kansas

The University of Kansas maintains one of the strongest Japanese language programs in the Great Plains. The [Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures](#) (EALC) offers advanced programs in Japanese languages, literatures, and cultures. EALC graduates pursue careers in business, technology, diplomacy, and education, among others.

5

levels of Japanese language instruction at KU

245

KU students in Japanese language courses

18

KU students studied abroad in Japan

81,000+

books and materials in KU Japanese library collection

Above data from 2014-2015

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AGREEMENTS

J.F. Oberlin University ■ Kanagawa University ■ Kansai University ■ Kyoritsu College of Pharmacy ■ Meiji University ■ Nihon University ■ Okayama University ■ Sophia University ■ Tokyo Medical University ■ Tsuda College

RESOURCES

[Department of East Asian Languages & Cultures](#)

[East Asian Library Collection](#)

[Center for East Asian Studies](#)

[School of Languages, Literatures & Cultures](#)

[Center for Global and International Studies](#) ■ [International Programs](#)

[Office of Study Abroad](#) ■ [Global Awareness Program \(GAP\)](#)

[Global Scholars](#) ■ [Int'l Recruitment and Undergraduate Admissions](#)

[Japan World Factbook](#)



Students from Kanagawa University pose for a picture at their KU orientation. They will take English classes, participate in conversation groups, and learn about American culture during their month-long program at the Applied English Center. Highlights include a KU basketball game, ice skating in Kansas City, and a homestay. Japanese students have been participating in this unique program for more than 25 years.



KU students met firemen from Hiratsuka during their 2015 visit to the city. The Summer in Japan: Japan Then and Now program includes visits to various cities and historical sites along with a homestay and experiential learning activities.

Photo courtesy of Sanjay Parashar

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

The University of Kansas

During the [Japan Then and Now](#) study abroad program, students explore the past eras of Japan's history and culture and how these experiences have shaped and influenced present-day Japan. The KU faculty-led program is open to all majors.

The three-week summer program is based at Kanagawa University. KU students stay with a Japanese family for part of their visit, take part in student activities at Kanagawa, and participate in traditional activities, such as rice planting and calligraphy. In addition to experiential learning opportunities, students visit several cities during this three-credit hour course.

"Going on the Japan: Then and Now study abroad program allowed me to improve my language skills, gain a better understanding of both modern and historical Japanese culture, and make friendships I hope to keep for the rest of my life," said Sanjay Parashar, a cellular biology major from Overland Park. "One of my favorite experiences was staying with a host family because it gave me a better understanding of daily life in Japan as well as a chance to improve my Japanese by constantly talking with my host family."