HIROSAKI UNIVERSITY

Short-Term Program
Short-term study at Hirosaki University provides International Students with a matchless opportunity to immerse themselves in regional Japanese culture. While offering students solid Japanese language training and progressive academic instruction, we encourage them to take their newly-found knowledge with them outside our campus and put it to use in the context of first-hand experiences. Our hands-on approach offers students strong incentives to achieve academically during their stay in Hirosaki, which many of them come to call their “second hometown”. Glimpses of a typical day in the lives of our international students show some of what there is to offer. Study “JAPAN” in Hirosaki!!
Hirosaki city where Hirosaki University is located is a university town, having 4 universities with a population of 180,000. Hirosaki which prospered originally as a castle town, used to be ruled by the Tsugaru clan. It is surrounded by farming areas to this day. Hirosaki is one of the best places for cherry blossom viewing in Japan, and is widely known for its Neputa festival in summer. The cost of living is relatively low, making it livable for students from abroad. It offers a comfortable environment for students to live in because there are many apartments, dining places and bars geared to their needs in the vicinity of the university. It is possible to go downtown in about 15-20 minutes on foot. Most students use bicycles as a primary means of transportation.

Hirosaki City Events

- Cherry blossom Festival
- Neputa Festival
- Hirosaki Castle Autumn Festival
- Snow Lantern Festival
- Tsugaru Shamisen World Championships
Hirosaki University

“Establishing a Global Identity, Creating with the Community”

Overview
Hirosaki University was established in the former castle town of Hirosaki in 1949. It is a national university and is located in Aomori prefecture, situated at the northern end of Honshu Island. Hirosaki University enrolls in about 7,000 students, including graduate students.

Ideals and Principles
Hirosaki University has, in the spirit of the Fundamental Law of Education, established the following institutional goals:

1) to incorporate extensive bodies of knowledge into our campus culture;
2) to engage in the teaching of and research in a broad range of specialized scholarly fields;
3) to educate persons of character and integrity who can contribute to human culture.

Organization

Faculties and Schools
- Humanities and Societies
- Education
- School of Medicine
- Science and Technology
- Agriculture and Life Science

Research Institute
- North Japan Research Institute for Sustainable Energy
- The Shirakami Institute for Environmental Sciences
- Institute of Radiation Emergency Medicine
- Research Institute of Food Science
1. Japanese Studies Course

This course is designed for international students who wish to study Japanese language and culture for either one semester or two but have not yet reached the advanced level of Japanese language proficiency required to understand mainstream lectures which are taught entirely in Japanese.

It offers:
*Japanese language classes at four levels:* basic, upper elementary, intermediate, and upper-intermediate.
*Classes which explore subjects related to Japanese culture taught in English* or with English language support
*Internships* for students at varying levels of language proficiency
*Independent studies* for students who wish to engage in a research project of their own

Students are required to enroll in a minimum of seven classes each semester.

2. Specialized Studies Course

This course is designed for international students who wish to enroll in regular courses offered by the faculties and General Education Program of Hirosaki University. They must have advanced levels of Japanese language proficiency in order to attend lectures taught entirely in Japanese and may also choose to complete internships or undertake other career-oriented projects in tandem with local communities. This course can be enrolled in for up to two semesters.

It offers:
*Japanese language classes at upper-intermediate and advanced levels
*Regular courses except those offered by Faculty of Medicine. Some classes are taught in English or with English language support.
*Internships for students at varying levels of language proficiency

Students are required to enroll in a minimum of seven classes each semester.

3. Japanese Area Studies Course

This course is designed for international students who wish to explore issues in Japanese society and culture with special focus on various but distinct aspects of northern mainland Japanese (Tohoku) region. The classes in this course is mainly offered in English (with some Japanese) and open to any levels of Japanese language skill. This course can be enrolled in for up to two semesters.

1) Area Studies classes which explore subjects related to Japanese regional culture and society. This includes research classes to engage in a research project designed by the students.
   Minimum of four classes from Area Studies per term must be taken.

2) Optional courses which can be selected from: Japanese language of an appropriate level, Internships for international students, and regular fulltime courses offered by General Education or each Faculty.
   Minimum of three classes from the Optional must be taken regardless of category.

Please see our website:
http://www.kokusai.hirosaki-u.ac.jp/en/studyabroad/sa_page1/ for details regarding these courses.
## Student Support & Fees

### Home Visit Program

By joining our home visit program, International Students are “adopted” by volunteer host families from the Hirosaki City community. They are periodically invited to their host families’ homes for meals and other occasions for the duration of the time they are in Japan, for a wonderful opportunity to experience Japanese family culture.

### Tutor System

International students are assigned tutors to help them get used to campus life quickly and improve their academic work. Tutors provide assistance on an individual basis in such areas as Japanese language, class work and daily life.

### Accommodations

#### 1. Apartment

We help students find apartments and complete renting procedures. (Average rent 20,000-40,000 yen)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food</td>
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<td>Books</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>¥80,000</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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#### 2. International House

The Hirosaki University International House is established to provide foreign students and researchers. Exchange students can apply while understanding that the number of rooms available is limited. All rooms have a kitchen and bathroom with toilet. In addition, furniture and electrical appliances, such as a bed, desk, desk lamp, bookcase and vacuum cleaner are provided.

*Room type
- Single room: **5,900 yen** / month
- Couple room: **11,900 yen** / month
- Family room: **14,200 yen** / month

*Estimated living expenses per month (If you live in an apartment)
I have been studying at Hirosaki University for almost an entire semester now and I can only say good things. Despite what some might think because of the location, I would definitely say it is the best way to get a great impression of Japan. You might think you would run out of things to do but the various programs and clubs will keep you busy and help those studying Japanese immensely.

One of my favourite parts of studying at Hirosaki University would have to be the home-visit program they have. The home-visit program will give you an idea of Japan without any books or study. Overall Hirosaki so far has been a very positive experience and I encourage anyone who likes nature and an authentic experience to take part!

My daily life here is quite different from the one I led in France. For example, I used to take a tramway to go to school. Here in Hirosaki, I ride my bike or I just walk to the university. It is quite great, because living with many other students in the international house make our paths cross when we all go to our classes or come back home. It’s always fun to talk about our classes together, or to make plans for some activities together on some special days. I used to simply come back home after classes in France, so this was a big change for me.

Hirosaki was the ideal place to develop my interest in Japan and its culture was the course given at the university. Between Japanese classes, I could assist to lessons about the Tsugaru region’s history, or Japanese literature – which already interested me back in France – and even tourism classes. In many field trips I had the opportunity to discover sides of Hirosaki I wouldn’t have suspected the existence without my classes; I had the chance to see the Iwaki-san shrine, to have a zazen experience or even to go skiing here in Japan. Thanks to these classes I took, I have seen I only could imagine before arriving in this city, and I have the sensation that my insatiable curiosity finds satiety.
Q. Why did you want to study in Japan?
I am majoring in Japanese language at my University in New Zealand, and I decided in my first year of University to go on an exchange because I wanted to improve my Japanese and experience Japanese culture by living in Japan.

Q. Why did you choose Hirosaki University?
In my first year of study, some students and teachers from Hirosaki University came and did presentations at my University. I also got to know some Hirosaki students as my friends and I heard from them about Hirosaki city and University, and I thought it sounded like a nice place to live in.

Q. What kind of classes did you take?
In addition to Japanese language classes based on my level, I took Japanese culture classes taught in half English and half Japanese, general education classes taught in entirely Japanese with regular Japanese students. Also I did internship at tourist facility called “Tsugaru Han Neputa Mura”.

Message
In comparison to Auckland city where I have grown up in and have become accustomed to a noisy and busy city, Hirosaki is a very comfortable and quiet place to live in, to which I have really enjoyed the change in lifestyle, especially with having the chance of being able to walk or bike to sightseeing places and experience many activities within the area. The people of Hirosaki are also very friendly and accommodating, especially in terms of the language barrier. A lot of Hirosaki people I talked with were very kind and willing to help me understand and communicate with them when I had difficulty, whether it was in very simple Japanese, or even the occasional English word. In regards to University life, classes at Hirosaki University are something to take good opportunity with. In my case, my classes ranged from regular Japanese classes, to an internship at a local tourist site, and I even got the chance to participate in a regular Japanese student seminar class, to which I have learnt and gained a great deal from taking these classes.

Q. How about Home Visit Program?
I quite enjoyed doing the Home visit program. On one occasion, I was able to go out with my home visit family for lunch and go see a dance musical that my home visit family’s daughter was dancing in, which was very fun.

Q. How about your Hirosaki life?
While I was surprised as to how much snow there was and how rural Hirosaki city feels, I found Hirosaki to be a very nice and quiet place to live in and I have very much enjoyed my exchange here. Although I did manage to slip on the snow and fracture my ankle, I also had an interesting experience staying two weeks in Hirosaki hospital alongside people who spoke mostly in Tsugaru dialect.

WEBB SQUIER JESSICA MAY
Auckland University of Technology (AUT)
Academic Calendar

We have two semesters, and students can start their studies at the beginning of either **Spring Term** (1st week of April to the beginning of August) or **Fall Term** (1st week of October to the middle of February). Students can choose to study for either one semester or two.

Application Procedure

- **Spring Term (Application Deadline : 15th November)**
- **Fall Term (Application Deadline : 30th April)**

Required documents

1. An application form for Short-Term Program
2. Confirmation
3. Certificate of enrollment and Most recent academic transcript from your home university.
4. A study plan of approximately 800 words.
5. Recommendation letter
6. Certificate of Health
7. Self Declaration
8. Three facial photos (3 × 4cm/ 1.2 × 1.5inch).
9. A copy of your passport
10. Application for certificate of eligibility.
11. Pledge


On receiving your application, we will process your documents. After your eligibility has been confirmed, you will receive a Letter of Acceptance and a document issued by Japanese Immigration, called a “Certificate of Eligibility”, which you will need to apply for your visa.

Note

Please contact us or the study–abroad advisor of your home university regarding to our exchange program.
University-wide Agreements

ASIA and THE PACIFIC

CHINA
- Yanbian University
- Harbin Normal University
- Zhengzhou University
- Dalian University of Technology
- Xinjiang Institute of Engineering
- Qingdao Agricultural University
- Taiyuan University of Technology
- Shenyang University of Chemical Technology

KOREA
- Nam Seoul University
- Kyungpook National University
- Pusan National University
- Kyonggi University

MALAYSIA
- Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman

THAILAND
- Khon Kaen University
- Chiang Mai University
- Thammasat University

INDONESIA
- Institut Teknologi Bandung
- National Nuclear Energy Agency (BATAN)

TAIWAN
- KaiNan University
- National University of Kaohsiung
- Mackay Medical College
- National Pingtung University

NEW ZEALAND
- University of Otago
- Auckland University of Technology

AMERICAS

USA
- University of Maine
- San Diego State University
- University of Tennessee at Martin
- University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges

CANADA
- Mount Royal University
- Thompson Rivers University
- University of Saskatchewan

MEXICO
- Benito Juárez Autonomous University of Oaxaca

CHILE
- University of La Frontera

EUROPE

FRANCE
- Université Bordeaux Montaigne

GERMANY
- University of Trier

HUNGARY
- University of Debrecen

ITALY
- University of Catania

ROMANIA
- Hyperion University

RUSSIA
- Far Eastern State Medical University
- Lomonosov Moscow State University
- Irkutsk State University

UZBEKISTAN
- Samarkand Agricultural Institute/University
- Tashkent State Agrarian University

AFRICA

ARGERIA
- University of Science and Technology of Oran
- Mohamed Boudiaf