



# **Aoyama Gakuin University**

## **School of Global Studies and Collaboration**

### **Information for Exchange Students**

**Aoyama Gakuin University**  
**School of Global Studies and Collaboration**  
**Academic Affairs Division**  
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**NOTE: This is information for exchange students. Please confirm with your home institution whether you are enrolled at AGU's partner institutions. Visiting students and non-degree students at the partner institution are not eligible. To find out more about studying for a full degree at Aoyama Gakuin University, please visit the following site:**  
<http://www.aoyama.ac.jp/en/prospective/>.

## **Introduction**

Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU), established in 1949, is the largest division within the Aoyama Gakuin system. AGU has established a reputation for the quality of its education and its international ambience, and is widely recognized as one of the leading universities in Japan. In addition to specialized instruction, it cultivates individuals with strong ethics and social values, who actively carry out their responsibilities toward all peoples and communities of the world. The school of Global Studies and Collaboration (GSC) has opened its doors in April, 2015 as the 10<sup>th</sup> faculty in AGU. GSC takes an interdisciplinary curricular approach by integrating four clusters based on the broad social science field. GSC develops students' global perspectives especially in the context of inter-Asian collaboration and cooperation.

## **About GSC**

### **◆ Location**

Sagamihara Campus

Address: 5-10-1 Fuchinobe, Chuo-ku, Sagamihara-shi, Kanagawa 252-5258, Japan

\*7 minute' walk from Fuchinobe Station of the JR Yokohama Line

\*a short train ride away from the center of Tokyo

\*1 hour away from Aoyama campus

### **◆ Facts**

\* Student intake capacity: 190 (for full-time students)

\* Faculty size: 23 full-time faculty members

\* Student enrollment (AGU): total 18,835 (undergraduates: 17,618, graduates: 1,217) \*as of May, 2015

\* # of overseas partner universities: 113 institutions \*as of July, 2015

\* Overseas office: in Thailand and Taiwan



↑ Mandai Memorial Library @ Sagamihara Campus



↑ Sagamihara Campus

## Academics

### ◆ Language of Instruction

Japanese and/or English

### ◆ Academic Calendar

1<sup>st</sup> semester: April – 1<sup>st</sup> week of August

2<sup>nd</sup> semester: mid-September – 1<sup>st</sup> week of February

### ◆ Taking courses

Exchange students can take any courses at any of the colleges that they wish, in addition to the compulsory courses of Japanese language and Japanese culture and society.

### ◆ Academic Units & Grading

Most AGU courses count for either 1 or 2 units of credit. A two-unit course meets for one 90-minutes period per week.

Transcript Mark	Score	Evaluation
AA	100-90	Pass
A	89-80	
B	79-70	
C	69-60	
XX	Under 59	Fail

### ◆ Programs

#### <Japanese Language Courses> \*compulsory

AGU offers Japanese Language courses ranging from introductory to advanced levels. Introductory courses at Sagamihara Campus do not require any Japanese language proficiency at the time of entrance.

### <Japan Studies Courses>

With accomplished scholars, policy experienced professionals, renowned artists and entrepreneurs, the GSC Japan Studies Program offers unique opportunities for exchange and international students to be immersed in the multi-facets of Japan, by acquiring in-depth knowledge on culture, economy, business, policy, history, and geography. The program is also designed for Japanese students to acquire the knowledge and skills to introduce Japan overseas in their future careers. Some of the coursework involves excursions or hands-on experiences. This program consists of 16 courses (32 credits) in English, starting from the fall semester, 2015.

\*courses are subject to change\*

Title	Description	Semester
Topics in Japanese Culture I	Introduction to Japanese Culture: From Noh, Kyogen, Kabuki, Bunraku, architecture of shrines and temples, and food culture (Washoku) to Animation, Manga and Kawaii Culture, Japanese culture has attracted many people in other countries. This lecture introduces students to traditional and modern Japanese culture in the various field such as theatre, dance, literature, music, film, arts, architecture and so on, and aims to deepen the understanding of some factors which influenced it such as natural environment, social history, and cultural exchange with other areas.	Fall
Topics in Japanese Culture II	Japanese World Heritage Sites: This course introduces World Heritage sites both cultural and natural in Japan registered in the UNESCO list. Through the sites, it showcases how Japanese appreciate what nature brings to their lives. It introduces some representative sites that allow students to learn how Japanese have appreciated nature in their lifestyle including a possible visit to one of the sites such as Tomioka Silk Mill, which was recently registered as a World Cultural Heritage site. This will reveal the development of Japanese industry in the 19th century and how it is related to daily life at that time. The course also introduces Japanese Washoku cuisine, which has also been designated as the World Intangible Cultural Heritage list, and demonstrates how Japanese food culture reflects appreciation of four seasons and culture at large. Included also is an exposure to Japanese sweets which shows how Japanese appreciate the beauty of changing seasons.	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Topics in Japanese Culture III	<p>Japanese Traditional Culture: In this course, you will not only learn in detail about Japanese traditional arts such as flower arrangement, calligraphy, tea ceremony, Noh, Kyogen and Kabuki but also acquire the ability to introduce Japanese culture abroad. Guest speakers who are internationally active in these fields will lecture and demonstrate their performances when possible.</p> <p>You will also have opportunities to experience some of the traditional art such as flower arrangement which would allow you to show your skill overseas as a part of cultural exchange.</p> <p>The course allows you to deepen your understanding of the geographical and historical background of Japanese culture as well as how Japanese appreciate and express beauty in respective art representations.</p>	Spring
Topics in Japanese Culture IV	<p>Japanese Contemporary Culture-Cool Japan: The course introduces Japanese contemporary cultural features such as anime, fashion, music, robot theater and origami. It will also enable the students to acquire skills to introduce Japanese contemporary culture globally. Guest speakers will demonstrate the so-called 'cool Japan' and show how Japanese contemporary art is shown to promote cultural exchanges. Included in the course is actual hands-on experience of origami making etc. The course allows students to appreciate the Japanese 'hearts and minds' as reflected in contemporary culture.</p>	Spring
Topics in Japanese Economy, Business, and Policy I	<p>This course mainly examines the activities of famous Japanese entrepreneurs, for example at SONY, HONDA, and so on. And secondly, the course examines some structures or systems of the Japanese economy, business, and industrial policy of Japanese government from studies of their activities. Through the course, students will be able to understand the essence of Japanese economy and companies.</p>	Fall
Topics in Japanese Economy, Business, and Policy II	<p>This class examines several topics concerning the education system of Japan and related issues. It also makes a comparative review of educational issues in Japan and developing countries. Topics include the education system of Japan, educational issues in Japan, and the central administrative and budgetary system of education. The class also covers curricula, school management, efforts aimed at global human resource development, trends in international education cooperation, education issues in developing countries, the World Bank's initiatives to provide education assistance to developing countries and others. The class will also involve presentations and group discussions to promote communication among students.</p>	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Topics in Japanese Economy, Business, and Policy III	The policy-making process of the economic field in Japan will be examined, based on several topics on the viewpoints of the national economic competitiveness. Japan swiftly achieved economic development in Asia, but faced various problems as well. This class inspects how Japan dealt with such problems, considering the relationship between the economy and politics. Issues such as "energy policy", "trade liberalization", "regulatory reform", and "international standardization" are discussed.	Spring
Topics in Japanese Economy, Business, and Policy IV	Over the 60 years, Japan has provided Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries in order to contribute to the peace, stability and prosperity of the international community. ODA is one of the most important diplomatic tools for the Japanese government and the assistance for the self-help efforts is its philosophy on the basis of Japan's experience of the reconstruction after the World War II. On the other hand, the environment surrounding ODA has been significantly changing in recent years by the rapid change of the political and security environment surrounding Japan. This course introduces the philosophy, transitions and features of Japan's ODA focusing some successful projects in Southeast Asia, Africa or Latin America. You will also have opportunities to study the project formulation and the post evaluation of ODA's projects through workshops	Spring
Topics in Japanese History I	The Tokugawa Shogunate maintained peace for 260 years, but was overthrown in 1867. The new regime worked to modernize the country immediately under the 16-year-old Emperor Meiji. Meiji Japan relied on various innovations to create a new nation. Students will explore what happened, and how it happened, in modern Japan from the viewpoint of cultural history.	Fall
Topics in Japanese History II	The aim of this course is to gain a general overview of Japanese history dating from the eighth to the mid-nineteenth century. In order to understand the nature of contemporary Japanese society and its people, it is essential to look into the past and reevaluate the modernization process. Japanese history must be focused from the aspect of bifurcated sovereignty between the emperor and the shogun. The emperor in Kyoto represented religious and cultural authenticity, while the samurai rulers represented the authority of military and governmental affairs. This class will focus on the political role of the samurai as well as their social influence. We will also discuss how social systems and norms developed in the process of reinterpreting foreign civilization. Finally, we will also look into the role and social status of Japanese women from the Medieval Period to the eve of the Meiji Restoration.	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Topics in Japanese History III	<p>This course offers a broad survey of Japanese history from the Jōmon to the modern era. In particular it gives attention to the modern era from the fall of the Tokugawa Bakufu to the end of World War Two. The course examines the development of Japan in the broader context of world history. Thus it looks at the cultures of trade and interaction, and the mutual images held between Japan and its neighbors in China and Korea. Similarly it investigates Japanese relations with European nations from 1600 and eventually the US from 1853 onward.</p> <p>Some of the questions the course seeks to answer include: What have the patterns of interaction been like between Japan and its Asian neighbors throughout history?; What unique/local factors contributed to the early development of technology and industry in Japan?; What factors contributed to shaping a sense of Japanese nationalism/nationhood?; What factors have shaped Japanese religious, political, and popular thought over the centuries?</p>	Spring
Topics in Japanese History IV	<p>This course examines war in Japan from the Sino-Japanese War in 1884-5 to World War Two in 1941-5. The main focus of the course is World War Two. The course attempts to gain a broad understanding of the conflict by situating it in the broader context of world history and by incorporating a multitude of perspectives from Japan, the U.S., China, Korea, and Southeast Asia. It also takes an interdisciplinary approach to the war by integrating literature, visual sources, and oral histories. In particular some of the questions the course examines are: What motivating factors guided U.S. and Japanese decision makers throughout the war?; How did average soldiers and civilians on all sides experience the war?; How did each side view each other during the battle?; What factors played a part in ending the conflict?; What lasting effects has the war had on all sectors of society?; How has the war been remembered and how does it continue to be remembered today?</p>	Spring
Topics in Japanese Geography I	<p>Google / Ingress I - Beyond Google Earth.</p> <p>Google Earth has changed the educational method of geography. It is a very useful visualization tool, but only for the cyber world. Not for real world. Google has known this demerit on Google Earth, so they have launched the Ingress system on the mobile phone in 2012. The Ingress can make the chances for outdoor actives in the city. This course will explain the state of the Ingress in Japan for geospatial education and tourism.</p>	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Topics in Japanese Geography II	<p>Safecast - State of Radiation Mapping in Japan.</p> <p>Safecast is a global project working to empower people with data, primarily by mapping radiation levels and building a sensor network, enabling people to contribute and freely use the data collected. After the Mar. 11 earthquake and resulting nuclear situation at Fukushima Daiichi, it became clear that people wanted more data than what was available. Safecast has been building a radiation sensor network comprised of static and mobile sensors actively being deployed around Japan – both near the exclusion zone and elsewhere in the country. This course will explore the recent situation of radiation in Japan, and also how to make community with international citizens.</p>	Fall
Topics in Japanese Geography III	<p>Google / Ingress II - The world around you is not what it seems.</p> <p>Ingress is an augmented reality large-scale multiplayer online role playing GPS/GNSS-dependent game created by Niantic Labs, a startup within Google. On the other hand, JAXA of Japan is to complete the new positioning satellite system - Quasi-Zenith Satellite System (QZSS) in 2018. It will cover Japan, Southeast Asia and Oceania. Soon QZSS, GPS/GNSS-dependent games will spread by geospatial innovations. This course will share Google's strategy, technology, next generation GPS/GNSS and state-of-the-art Geospatial Gaming community in Japan.</p>	Spring
Topics in Japanese Geography IV	<p>How can Disaster Mitigation Communities be made by Spatial thinking? After the Mar. 11 earthquake, Japanese civic hackers have launched various applications for disaster prevention /mitigation in Japan. In particular the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) has started a Global Disaster Risk Management Hackathon with geospatial information managed by World Bank. Those results have been shared to developing countries via the international community. In addition, geospatial data and spatial thinking methods can help create innovative applications. This course will explore about making a disaster prevention/mitigation community using by spatial thinking methods with World Bank.</p>	Spring



### <GSC courses>

GSC takes an interdisciplinary curricular approach through four clusters (Media/Spatial Information, Sociology, Collaboration and Business) based on the broad social science field. Through project-based learning activities taught by experienced practitioners, the students will integrate theories into professional practice for solving today's social problems and improving the global society. The following list shows examples of courses taught in English.

\*courses are subject to change\*

Title	Description	Semester
Introduction to Leadership Studies I (Seminar)	This course focuses on introducing leadership competency (facilitation, communication, conflict management, problem-solving, evaluation) for managing group diversity on university campuses. The course also aims at practicing culture building activities for integrating diversity into the learning teams. The course is open to both local and international students, and the participants will be able to raise their awareness of their own leadership styles, and contribute to manage cultural diversity in the learning team.	Fall
Introduction to Leadership Studies II (Seminar)	This seminar focuses on studying interpersonal interactions across cultures by using Japanese culture as a reference. The seminar's goal aims at understanding issues and solutions related to building a bridge across "Cultural Differences" at the interpersonal level. The seminar also assists the participants with understanding their own cultures and their identities more objectively. The seminar is open to both local and international students, and the participants will be able to not only prevent interpersonal conflicts from occurring but also developing skills for a mutual cooperative relationships across cultures.	Spring
Introduction to Social Inquires and Methods	This course focuses on developing participants' knowledge and skills for social research designs: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed method approaches. The course is designed for participants who have little or no experience in social science research projects, although it requires the participants to have a basic familiarity of completing academic assignments in English at the high school level. The participants will be able to define and describe social research designs and methods.	Fall
History of Japanese Journalism	This course reviews the development of modern journalism in Japan since the Meiji Restoration in 1868 when this island nation in the Far East embarked upon a modernization project. Students will be invited to examine how print media in the first years, and electronic media to be added in the later years, contributed to the formation of a nation-state in Japan by forging a shared "imagined community." The course also looks into various challenges the nation-state-oriented media has faced throughout modern history and in this globalized age.	Spring

Title	Description	Semester
Introduction to Asian Economies	This course is designed for students to understand the basic information and characteristics of the Asian economies. This course is also expected to encourage the students to have their keen interests in further study on the Asian economies. In the 1960s, most of the Asian countries were suffering from the common issue of very low GDP per capita income, namely serious poverty. In the 1990s, inequality in the GDP per capita income has been increased among the Asian countries. Furthermore, in the 21st century, the Asian economies are often called as an engine for the economic growth of the world economy. This course will provide the students with an opportunity to understand not only the characteristics of the Asian economies, but also the history of the Asian economic development in the last 50 years.	Spring
Cultural Resources and Media	This course focuses on the relation between accumulation and creation of cultural products such as literature (writing), music, and moving images. Rich accumulation of existing cultural products as cultural resources are needed to create outstanding new works and the accumulation is more important in the Internet era from the viewpoint of business. We examine media and cultural resources through several examples from printing in the early modern period to the Internet in present.	Spring
Sociology of Gender	This course serves as an introduction to the study of gender from a sociological perspective. The course focuses on gender as a major organizing principle of societies, from the individual level through groups and organizations, social institutions of families, work, school, and so forth, to macro-social structures. We will learn basic concepts and approaches of the sociology of gender and examine the ways that gender is socially constructed and the ways in which gender influences social life and social organization.	Spring
Interviewing: Principles and Practices	The interview is a cardinal element of journalism. This course offers an overview of interviewing principles, practices and techniques, with emphasis on interview preparation, information gathering and persuasive interviewing techniques. Gaining experience as both an interviewer and an interviewee in Japan and globally online will help you understand interview dynamics and cultivate effective interviewing skills. This course will also examine attitude, empathy and non-verbal communication in the context of various interviews.	Fall

Title	Description	Semester
Sociology of Environment	The aim of this course is to help students develop the ability to explore the complexities of and solutions to global environmental issues using a multi-tiered structural analytical approach. Focus will be placed on the issue of deforestation and reforestation in tropical regions. Specifically, two types of approaches will be used to examine this issue. The first approach is to review each development in multiple domains consisting of the international arenas (e.g., the United Nations), the governments in developing countries, and their rural villages, and then to consider the connection and disconnection among each development. The second approach is to use a temporal perspective to perform the analyses (i.e., examine current problematic situations and possible solutions by considering both history and the desired future).	Fall
Asian Development Strategies I	In the last 30 years, the most important factors, which deeply affected the development of emerging Asian economies, are: (i) the 1985 Plaza Accord, and (ii) the end of the Cold War in 1991. In the next 30 years, the most important elements, which will affect emerging Asian economies, are: (i) the middle-income trap, and (ii) state-owned enterprise reform. This course reviews the past forces that have offered ASEAN countries competitive opportunities and outlines future expectations regarding remedies and economic development strategies they will undertake to compete in global markets.	Spring
Asian Development Strategies II	Two giant Asian countries, China and India, are expected to become the two largest economies by the mid-21st century. However, a study of both countries reveals that they must first overcome significant challenges. This course will provide clearer understandings of the development challenges those countries must confront and strategies they must adopt before these two giant Asian emerging countries can achieve sustainable economic development.	Fall
Agriculture in Asia	The course will start from the overview of world agriculture and food, followed by the examination of individual issues necessary for in-depth understandings of facts and news being taken up by the media. The issues include peasants and poverty trap, trade and its rule-making, agricultural policies, commodity market, economic development and the roles of agriculture, agri-environment (land and water), and so on, with more attention to Asia than the rest of the world. Through the lectures and discussions in the class, students will understand the facts with multiple perspectives and are expected to gain a way of thinking how the issues should be tackled on the ground and in the arena of policy-making as well.	Spring

Title	Description	Semester
Hospitality Management	<p>This program is designed not only for students from overseas but also for Japanese students. This class is divided into three parts.</p> <p>In the first part we study the principles of Hospitality. In the second we study and analyze the specific hospitality business like hotels, restaurants and airlines. In the third part we examine the differences of cross-cultural hospitality businesses between South-east Asia like Thailand and Japan. I would like to manage the class by the seminar style in order to exchange views of mutually in the class.</p>	Fall
Tourism Management	<p>This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of tourism, with stress on the dynamic benefits tourism development brings to the communities. This study on tourism begins from understanding the four basic elements that create the traveler movement; namely i) tourism destination, ii) tourism information, iii) tourism transport, and iv) the traveler. Tourism management is an act of optimizing the distribution of these elements to maximize the impact of tourism to the community. Many tourist destinations will be used to illustrate the condition of international and domestic tourism development cases.</p>	Fall
Special Lecture B (II)	<p>Special Topics in U.S. Policies toward Asia</p> <p>This course will explore America's political, economic, and security relations with Asian countries, particularly with Japan and China, after World War II. Using an International Relations conceptual framework, students will learn how U.S. foreign policies have changed after the Cold War, and will also understand future prospects for peace and conflict in the region.</p>	Fall

## **Application**

Exchange student candidates should submit their applications through the International Office of their university.

### **◆ Eligibility**

In order to apply for the School of Global Studies and Collaboration Exchange Program, you must:

1. be a student at one of Aoyama Gakuin University's partner institutions;
2. have a 2.5 GPA or higher (4.0 scale)

### **◆ Required Language Ability**

GSC requires exchange students to have the language ability equivalent to either of the below:

1. N4 Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) or above;
2. IELTS 6.0 or TOEFL iBT 78 or above
3. Native English speaker

### **◆ Application Materials**

When you apply for the Aoyama Gakuin University Exchange Students Program, you must submit all the following materials.

\*Application materials will be updated on the website, and further details will be announced to your institution later.

- Application for Admission\*
- Letter of Recommendation
- Evaluation of Japanese Language Proficiency (if applicable)\*
- Photocopy of TOEFL, IELTS, or JLPT Score Report (if applicable)
- Official Transcripts of Home University
- Statement of Academic Objectives
- Information for Tutors\*
- Certificate of Physical Condition\*
- Application for Certificate of Eligibility\*
- Original Official Bank Statement
- Photocopy of Valid Passport
- 5 ID photos Taken within 6 months
- Dormitory Application\*

### **◆ Visa**

Exchange students are required to have an official visa (student) for entry into Japan. AGU will, on behalf of exchange students, apply to the Tokyo Immigration Bureau for the Certificate of Eligibility (COE). As soon as the COE is issued, it will be sent to your institution. You will need to bring the COE to the local Japanese embassy or consulate and obtain a Student Visa.



◆ Schedule for Admission

Spring Semester (April) Application	Fall Semester (Sept) Application	
Mid November	Late April	Deadline for Exchange Application & Dormitory Application
Late December	Late May	Notification of admission to all the accepted exchange students (Email)
Late February	Early August	Welcome Package, including the Certificate of Eligibility and detailed information about orientation week, will be sent to your institution.
Late March-Early April	Mid-September	Orientations for Exchange Students
Around April 10	Around September 21	Classes begin



- ↑ Student Lounge  
 ← Wesley Chapel at Christmas time  
 ↓ Sagamihara Campus Main Street



## **Other Information**

### **◆ Accommodation**

AGU has dormitories for GSC exchange students.

Detailed information will be updated on the “Housing Information” handbook at a later date (Available at <http://web.iec.aoyama.ac.jp/english/exchange/housing.html>). GSC has dormitory fee waiver agreements with some of the partner institutions (For more information, please consult your home university). For students who do NOT wish to live in the dormitory specified by the school, information for other dorms, apartment, guest houses, and homestay is also in the “Housing Information” handbook.

### **◆ Living expenses**

The following is an estimate living cost of attending AGU as an exchange student for one semester (5months). Actual expenses vary depending on the type of housing and the individual student's lifestyle.

Room & Board (if not waived)	¥ 300,000 - ¥ 500,000
Food (lunch, etc.)	¥ 100,000 - ¥ 150,000
Books and Materials	¥ 30,000 - ¥ 40,000
Transportation	¥ 10,000 - ¥ 20,000
Extracurricular Activities	¥ 50,000 - ¥ 100,000
National Health Insurance	¥ 10,000 - ¥ 12,000
Miscellaneous	¥ 70,000 - ¥ 100,000

### **◆ Orientation** \*schedule details will be announced after applications have been received.

- End of March for spring semester
- Mid-September for fall semester

### **◆ Students Support**

#### **<Tutor System>**

Exchange students will be assigned Japanese students as tutors. These tutors assist exchange students in dealing with both academic and personal matters, such as coping with any language or intercultural problems that may arise.

#### **<Social Events>**

The International Exchange Center holds various events and get-togethers throughout the year.

### **◆ Extracurricular Programs**

#### **<Corporate Internships>**

GSC offers internship opportunities to exchange student through a partnership with Sagamihara city.

### <Field Trips / Japanese Culture Experience>

In addition to countryside trips coordinated by the International Exchange Center, GSC provides unique field trip programs to exchange students. Exchange students can also experience Japanese culture such as tea ceremony and flower arrangement.