



Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies
Harvard University

PROGRAMS IN JAPAN & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR HARVARD UNDERGRADUATES

2025 - 2026



EDWIN O. REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES

Founded in 1973, the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University promotes research on Japan and brings together Harvard faculty, students, leading scholars from other institutions, and visitors to create one of the world's leading communities for the study of Japan.

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Photo: Eric Sui '28

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University is one of the world's leading institutions for the study of Japan. Through the Reischauer Institute and numerous programs, Harvard provides undergraduates with resources to study about, visit, and deepen their engagement with Japan through immersive cultural experiences. Each year, a diverse group of Harvard College students engage in Japanese language studies, internships, research projects, and more, cultivating a deeper understanding and appreciation for Japanese culture and society.

Dive into Japan with the Reischauer Institute! Whether you're a first-year contemplating a study abroad adventure or a junior pondering internships in Japan, let the Reischauer Institute be your springboard. This brochure shines a spotlight on an array of exciting programs and funding opportunities tailored for undergraduates looking to study, work, and immerse themselves in the vibrant culture of Japan. The earlier you delve into these opportunities, the more doors you open to enrich your Harvard experience and weave Japan into your academic tapestry.



Photo: Jonas Hansen '24

Expect a true Harvard experience this summer. During a Harvard Summer School study abroad program, you will engage your intellectual curiosity with Harvard faculty, build a new network of friends, and expand your understanding of the world.

Harvard Summer School Study Abroad Programs provide a range of credit-bearing academic experiences and opportunities, from focused foreign language and culture courses to immersive study of location-specific topics in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences.

For general inquiries on Harvard Summer School Study Abroad Programs, please contact the office at summerabroad@dcemail.harvard.edu, or (617) 998-9602.

For summer 2026, Harvard Summer School will offer a summer study abroad program at Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan.

HARVARD SUMMER SCHOOL IN KYOTO DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY

Program Length: 8 weeks (in 2025: May 30 - July 26)

Housing: Homestay

Tuition: TBA

Prerequisites: None

Application Deadline: **January 29, 2026**

Apply Online: <http://www.summer.harvard.edu/study-abroad/kyoto-japan>

Program Faculty: Prof. Yukio Lippit and Prof. Alexander Zahlten

Program Inquiries: Dr. Gavin Whitelaw, whitelaw@fas.harvard.edu

- Two credit-bearing courses on Japan and East Asian Studies
- Courses taught in English. No Japanese language background required
- Apply for funding consideration as part of program application

*Please note that program date, tuition cost, and faculty are subject to change.



Photo: Grace Kahler '26

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM IN JAPAN

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS), in partnership with the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, coordinates a wide array of summer internship opportunities in Japan for Harvard students of any concentration who are in good academic standing and are returning for the fall semester as full-time students. As interns, students learn about the local culture of the host city and workplace while contributing to a project defined by the host organization.

Internships last a minimum of 8 weeks, usually from early June through early August. RIJS has limited internship positions available and cannot guarantee placement. Acceptance is contingent on finding a fit between available positions and applicants. Some Japanese language ability is preferred by most host organizations. Preference is given to students enrolled in Japanese language courses and to first-time Japan internship holders. For those who are interested in conducting research in engineering sciences, please go to page 6: Japan Summer Science Undergraduate Research Program.

Self-arranged Track: Due to the limited number of available internships, we strongly encourage students, especially those who are interested in doing very specific projects or tasks, to arrange an internship in Japan on their own and apply to the Program for funding support only. Self-arranged internships must meet the minimum 8-week requirement. It is highly recommended that students start the search process as early as October/November. Self-arranging students can seek advice from various entities at Harvard, including but not limited to the Mignone Center for Career Success, Harvard faculty, and the vast Harvard alumni network.

There is no separate application for funding. Applicants who are placed into the Program will receive a grant package put together by the RIJS and the host organization, which includes round-trip discount airfare, housing accommodation, and a small subsidy for some meals.

Application Deadline: **Saturday, January 10, 2026, 11:59 PM ET**

Application Guidelines: <https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/undergraduate/internship>
Program Inquiries: Ms. Jenni Ting, wting@fas.harvard.edu



Photo: Masato Perera '26

Selected Past Internship Host Organizations (* denotes self-arranged internships)

a+u*
Asian Development Bank Institute*
Asia Pacific Initiative
City of Rikuzentakata*
Harvard Business School Japan Research Center
International Christian University
Jenerate Partners, Inc.
Kahoku Shimpō
Kamonohashi Project*
Keizai Koho Center
Kengo Kuma and Associates*
Mie Prefectural Government*
Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting*
Morrison & Foerster LLP
P&E Directions, Inc.
Patience Capital Group
Reimei Global*
Research Institute for Economy, Trade and Industry
Showa Women's University
SIMONE, Inc.
Sony Interactive Entertainment*
teamLab*
Temple University Japan*
Techouse, Inc.*
Venture Republic, Inc.*
Waseda University*

The Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies (RIJS) provides opportunities for Harvard College students in life, physical/natural, engineering, and applied sciences to conduct research in a leading science laboratory in Japan for at least 8 weeks. This is a non-credit, independent science research internship designed to prepare outstanding students for postgraduate fellowships, graduate/doctoral study, and post-baccalaureate research positions in the private sector. Applicants must be in good academic standing and return in the fall as full-time students.

Based on students' interests and skills, the Program will try to find and match them to appropriate laboratories in Japan. Prior to submitting an application, students must review the list of principal investigators at each institution and contact Professor Takao Hensch (for all science students; hensch@mcb.harvard.edu) and/or Professor John Doyle (for physical science students; doyle@physics.harvard.edu) to express their interest in the program.

Self-arranged Track: Due to the limited number of positions available, we strongly encourage students to arrange an internship in Japan on their own and apply to the Program for funding support only. Self-arranged internships must meet the minimum 8-week requirement. It is highly recommended that students who are looking to self-arrange their internships start the search process as early as October/November. While students can seek advice from various entities at Harvard, students who have successfully self-arranged their internship in the past have taken the initiative and contacted principal investigators at various Japanese research universities themselves.

There is no separate application for funding. Applicants who are placed into the Program will receive a grant package put together by the RIJS and the host institution, which includes round-trip discount airfare, housing accommodation, and a small subsidy for some meals.

Application Deadline: **Saturday, January 10, 2026, 11:59 PM ET**

Application Guidelines: <https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/undergraduate/science>

Program Inquiries: Ms. Jenni Ting, wting@fas.harvard.edu

Participating Institutions

Hiroshima University

Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology

RIKEN Center for Brain Science

RIKEN Center for Integrative Medical Sciences

University of Tokyo International Research Center for Neurointelligence

University of Tokyo Kavli Institute for the Physics and Mathematics of the Universe

Selected Past Projects

Effect of macromolecular crowding on collagen deposition in fibroblasts and keratinocytes

Mechanism of cleavage plane determination in mouse oocytes and early blastomeres

Chloride ion dynamics in the mouse brain during wake and sleep cycles

Equivariant Ehrhart theory

Tumor immune responses targeting tumor-associated carbohydrate antigens

Development of neuronal circuits during adolescence



Photo: Hannah Perry

SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN JAPAN

RIJS awards competitive grants for undergraduates who enroll in summer Japanese language study programs in Japan above the first-year level. Students must be in good academic standing and intend to return for the fall semester as full-time students. Preference will be given to those students whose concentrations either require or give credit for language study, or who plan to pursue a senior thesis project that makes use of Japanese.

HOKKAIDO INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION (HIF) HAKODATE

Program Length: 8 weeks (in 2025: June 12 - August 10)

Tuition: \$8,000 (tuition, course materials, activities, housing)

Prerequisites: Completed at least 1 year of university-level Japanese

Website: <https://www.hif.or.jp/en/summer/index.html>

KYOTO CONSORTIUM FOR JAPANESE STUDIES (KCJS) KYOTO

Program Length: 8 weeks (in 2025: June 2 - July 25)

Tuition: \$8,057 in 2025 (tuition and housing)

Prerequisites: Completed at least 1 year of university-level Japanese

Website: http://www.kcjs.jp/summer_programs/index.html

PRINCETON IN ISHIKAWA (PII) ISHIKAWA, KANAZAWA

Program Length: 8 weeks (in 2025: May 31 - July 26)

Tuition: \$8,320 in 2024 (tuition, homestay, course materials, and activity fees)

Prerequisites: Completed at least 1 year of university-level Japanese

Website: <http://www.princeton.edu/pii/>

INTER-UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR JAPANESE LANGUAGE STUDIES (IUC) YOKOHAMA

Program Length: 7 weeks (in 2025: June 19 - August 6)

Tuition: \$5,200 (A guaranteed tuition scholarship of \$600 for Harvard applicants)

Prerequisites: Completed 2 to 3+ years of university-level Japanese

Website: <https://iuc.fsi.stanford.edu/>

In addition to applying to the desired summer program(s), students must submit an application to the Office of International Education (OIE) by the start of Spring term. For more information, please visit the OIE website at <https://oie.fas.harvard.edu>.



Photo: James Rankin '28

OTHER SUMMER LANGUAGE PROGRAMS IN THE U.S.

HARVARD SUMMER SCHOOL CAMBRIDGE, MA

Program Length: 7 weeks (in 2025: June 23 – August 8)

Registration Begins: **Early March** (pre-registration in late February)

Website: <http://www.summer.harvard.edu/>

MIDDLEBURY JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL MIDDLEBURY, VT

Program Length: 8 weeks (June 19 - August 14, 2026)

Application Opens: **November 3, 2025** (\$75 Fee; rolling decision)

Merit Scholarship Deadline: **December 15, 2025**

Website: <https://www.middlebury.edu/language-schools/languages/japanese>

*Please note that US-based programs are not eligible for RIJS funding. All program dates and tuition costs are subject to change.

TERM-TIME STUDY ABROAD PROGRAMS

Studying in Japan provides you with transformative experiences, makes you a more informed and empathetic global citizen, and creates lifelong memories. The Office of International Education (OIE) advises Harvard College students on all aspects of study abroad in Japan. The OIE will work closely with students to find a program that best matches their academic and personal goals, while also guiding them through the course approval and credit transfer process.

It is important that students begin the study abroad planning process early: first-year students are encouraged to begin thinking about how to incorporate this experience into their time at Harvard. Drop-in hours are held daily and introductory Study Abroad 101 information sessions are available on a regular basis at the OIE. All students should seek assistance from the OIE as early as possible to being planning the best study abroad experience for them.

The application process to study abroad is two-fold: (1) you must apply directly to your study abroad program or university for admission and (2) apply to the OIE for transfer credit. Applications for transfer credit for study abroad must be completed and submitted by the following deadlines:

October 1 for Spring Term

March 1 for Fall Term

April 1 for Summer Term (**January 29** for funding + credit)

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

3F, 1414 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02138

<http://oie.fas.harvard.edu>

oie@fas.harvard.edu

IN-PERSON DROP-IN HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 2PM - 4PM

VIRTUAL DROP-IN HOURS: Thursday, 2PM - 4PM



OIE PRE-APPROVED PROGRAMS IN JAPAN 2025-26

Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies (Kyoto)

<http://www.kcjs.jp/index.html>

Keio University (Tokyo)

<http://www.ic.keio.ac.jp/en/>

OTHER RECOMMENDED PROGRAMS IN JAPAN

Associated Kyoto Program (Kyoto)

<http://www.associatedkyotoprogram.org>

CIEE at Sophia University (Tokyo)

<http://www.ciee.org/go-abroad/college-study-abroad/programs/japan>

Inter-University Center for Japanese Studies (Yokohama)

<http://web.stanford.edu/dept/IUC/cgi-bin/programs/10-month-program.php>

Middlebury School in Japan at International Christian University (Tokyo)

<http://www.middlebury.edu/study-abroad/japan>

Nanzan University (Nagoya)

<http://www.nanzan-u.ac.jp/English/>

Waseda University (Tokyo)

<http://www.waseda.jp/inst/cie/en>

REISCHAUER INSTITUTE OF JAPANESE STUDIES

<http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/undergraduate>

Japan Summer Science Undergraduate Research Programs

Application Deadline: **January 10, 2026** on CARAT

Summer Internship Program in Japan

Application Deadline: **January 10, 2026** on CARAT

Summer Language Study Grant

Application Deadline: **February 14, 2026** on CARAT

Henry Rosovsky Thesis Research Travel Grant

Application Deadline: **February 14, 2026** on CARAT

Noma-Reischauer Essay Prize in Japanese Studies

Application Deadline: **June 1, 2026**

SUMMER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES OFFICE

<https://careerservices.fas.harvard.edu/channels/find-apply-for-funding/>

Harvard Summer School Study Abroad Program Funding

Application Deadline: **January 29, 2026** (as part of HSS application)

Eligibility: Harvard Summer School in Kyoto (Doshisha University)

Independent Internship and Volunteer Activity Funding

Application Deadline: **February 5, 2026** on CARAT

Eligibility: Independently secured internship or volunteer activity by the student

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

<https://oie.fas.harvard.edu/applying-credit-and-summer-funding>

Non-Harvard Summer Study Abroad Program Funding

Application Deadline: **January 29, 2026**

Eligibility: HIF, KCJS, PII, IUC, and other programs approved by faculty

WEATHERHEAD CENTER FOR INT'L AFFAIRS

<http://wcfia.harvard.edu/funding/student/undergraduate>

Independent Undergraduate Project Grants

Kenneth I. Juster Fellowships for Undergraduate Research & Travel

Summer Travel Grants

HARVARD UNIVERSITY ASIA CENTER

<http://asiacenter.harvard.edu/funding-opportunities/student>

Summer Term Undergraduate Research Grant

Conference Attendance Grant

Student Group Travel Grant

Student Organizations Grant

EXTERNAL FUNDING

AATJ Study Abroad Bridging Scholarship

Eligibility: US students participating in non-summer study-abroad programs

Website: <https://www.aatj.org/japan-bridging-scholarships/>

Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program

Eligibility: US citizens participating in a study abroad program or an internship abroad

Website: <https://www.gilmanscholarship.org/>

Blakemore Foundation Language Grant

Application Deadline: **11 PM PT on December 30, 2025**

Eligibility: IUC 10-month program participants

Website: <https://www.blakemorefoundation.org/blakemorefreeman>

Freeman Awards for Study in Asia

Eligibility: US students participating in a study abroad program

Website: <http://www.iie.org/programs/freeman-asia>

Japanese Government MEXT Scholarship

Eligibility: Students studying at a Japanese university for one or more years

Website: https://www.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/mext-scholarship-info.html

Mitsubishi UFJ Trust Scholarship

Application Deadline: **February 2, 2026**

Eligibility: Students studying at a Japanese university for one or more years

Contact: Professor Wesley Jacobsen, jacobsen@fas.harvard.edu



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