Keio University (Tokyo)

Program summary
The Japanese Language Program (JLP) is designed at each level to help students attain the Japanese language skills necessary for future research in specialized fields. The program also offers a range of levels and subjects to meet the needs of students studying at Keio University on exchange. Curriculum change is scheduled starting in Spring Semester 2015.

Overview of Keio University

History
Originally established in 1858 as Keio Gijuku, a school of Dutch learning by Yukichi Fukuzawa, a highly respected intellectual leader, Keio University is the oldest and one of the most renowned private institutions of higher education in Japan. Keio’s first university departments were established in 1890 and were followed by the establishment of Keio Yochisha Elementary School in 1898. Since then, Keio University has expanded into a comprehensive educational system comprising primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

Organization

Undergraduate faculties: Letters, Economics, Law, Business & Commerce, Medicine, Science & Technology, Policy Management, Environmental & Information Studies, Nursing & Medical Care, Pharmacy.
• No. of students: 28,885 (as of October 1, 2014)

• No. of students: 4,681 (as of October 1, 2014)
• No. of International exchange students: 1,303
• No. of students studying overseas: 342 (as of May 1, 2014)
• No. of academic staff: 5,493 (international staff): 98 (as of May 1, 2014)

Program Outline (for Monbukagakusho and regular students)

1. Program features
The JLP is taught using the direct method of teaching and offers a range of course levels and subjects allowing students to find a program of study that matches their needs and interests. The curriculum is designed at every level to help students to build the language skills necessary for future research in specialized disciplines. Students in advanced levels are also able to deepen their cultural knowledge by taking subjects from Japanese Studies on Society and Culture. Subjects who meet the registration requirements may also take a limited number of subjects with a Specific Focus and/or Japanese Studies on Society and Culture.

2. Quota: 180 students (including a small no. of Monbukagakusho students) The average class size is 20 students, with enrollment varying from semester to semester.

3. Prerequisites
Applicants must have graduated from senior high school or the equivalent. Preference is given to applicants who are studying or have studied in a specialized discipline in their undergraduate programs.

4. Program dates
Fall Admission: September 22, 2015~ September 21, 2016
End of the Course
Spring Semester: end of July
Fall Semester: end of January

No. of Monbukagakusho JLP Students in the past 3 years
※Embassy Nominated Students: EJ
※University Nominated Students: DJ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EJ</th>
<th>DJ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Study paths
The JLP is comprised of “The Comprehensive Course” and “The Alternative Course.”

1. The Comprehensive Course: Students will comprehensively study Core Subjects, Subjects with a Specific Focus and/or Japanese Studies on Society and Culture.

2. The Alternative Course: This course is open for students at level four or above and for students taking only Subjects with a Specific Focus and/or Japanese Studies on Society and Culture.

Summary of course content
(for Monbukagakusho students and regular students)

1) Compulsory subjects
Subjects are divided into Core subjects, Subjects with a specific focus, Japanese Studies on Society and Culture and Optional Subjects. For successful program completion subjects must be taken from all categories except “Optional Subjects”.

2) Core Subjects
Core Subjects are intended to develop the fundamental Japanese skills necessary for study at each level.

3) Subjects with a Specific Focus
The goal of Subjects with a Specific Focus is to improve the “speaking, listening, reading, and writing” skills of each student.

4) Japanese Studies on Society and Culture
Japanese Studies on Society and Culture are designed to deepen students’ knowledge of Japanese culture and society. They are suitable for students at advanced levels.
<Other Subjects>
Students also have the option of taking subjects conducted in English offered by International Center. Students with the Japanese language proficiency equivalent to N2 level of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) may also take a maximum of two subjects (four credits) from among the courses offered in the university departments or graduate schools.

2) Levels
The program curriculum is designed for students at every level and accepts students regardless of their Japanese ability or previous marks as long as they have advanced skills in a specialized field and a strong motivation to learn the Japanese language.

There are 12 language levels in the JLP. Student levels are determined by a placement test given at the beginning of semester. The levels are described below.

<Levels 1–3>
Suitable for beginners. Successful completion should enable facility in conversation necessary for everyday life, and an ability to read and write simple sentences.

<Levels 4–7>
Suitable for students who have mastered the fundamental Japanese skills. Students who complete the course will be able to use and understand average levels of spoken and written Japanese.

<Levels 8–10>
Suitable for students who have sufficient knowledge of Japanese to express themselves and understand most Japanese used in daily life. These levels aim to equip students with the skills to sufficiently understand university lectures, read text/reference books, write papers and take examinations.

<Levels 11–12>
Suitable for students who have attained a high level of Japanese proficiency. These levels aim to produce students who can:
1) understand lectures in a specialized discipline,
2) participate in discussions and present reports at seminars,
3) read specialized books at a good pace and
4) write a thesis.

3) Compulsory courses and credits
Registration requirements for each semester are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels</th>
<th>Core Subjects</th>
<th>Subjects with a Specific Focus, and/or Japanese Studies on Society and Culture</th>
<th>Total minimum credits to be registered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1, and 3–12</td>
<td>6 (8 credits)</td>
<td>1 (1 or 2 credits)</td>
<td>7 (7 or 8 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10 (10 credits)</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>10 (10 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Each subject is 90 minutes duration (once a week)

<The Alternative Course> Students must register for seven or more classes per a week from Subjects with a Specific Focus, and Japanese Studies on Society and Culture.

7) Faculty members and academic guidance (as of November 1, 2014):
1) Professors in charge
Director: Susumu TOMOOKA
Vice Director: Minori MURATA
Academic Advisor: Mihoko OHBA

2) Collaborating faculties
- Full-time professors (Center for Japanese Studies): 9
- Full-time professors (undergraduate programs and part-time lecturers): 40

3) Chief Executive
- Administrative staff: Hideto WATANABE

4) Student guidance
Class coordinators provide individual counseling to students regarding their studies and daily life. Further study guidance support is available from a team of three academic advisors.

8) Activities
International student organizations arrange activities such as conversation partners, Japanese Club, speech contests, cultural exchanges, excursions, Japanese cultural activities, and bazaars.

9) Completing the Course of Study
To successfully complete the program, students must be enrolled for one year and pass two different levels. To pass each level, students must meet the requirements regarding subjects and credits (Ref. see 6) Compulsory Courses and credits). Those who have completed the program will be awarded a Certificate of Completion.

10) Recognition of credits; transferring credits
Students with the Japanese language proficiency equivalent to N2 level of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) may take undergraduate and graduate subjects. In the JLP, students are able to receive credits for a maximum of two subjects (four credits). The rules of students’ home institution apply regarding the transferring of credits.

■ Housing
Keio University has a limited number of off-campus rooms. Arrangements will be on a first-come, first-served basis. The monthly rent is about 56,000–77,000 yen, with most rooms about an hour away from Mita Campus.

■ Follow-up to JLP graduates
Each semester, the JLP office send out questionnaire to those students who just completed JLP study to ask their courses after JLP. Among the various courses they take, three most frequent choices are “Return to home country to work”, “Advance to graduate school in Japan”, “Work in Japan”. Most JLP graduates continue to pursue their successful career in their own field.
Contact
MEXT Scholarship Coordinator
International Exchange Services Group
Office of Student Services

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• International Center
  URL: http://www.ic.keio.ac.jp/en/

• Keio University
  URL: http://www.keio.ac.jp/index-en.html

• Center for Japanese Studies