

## Curriculum

The HIF Japanese Language and Japanese Culture Program is a university level intensive summer course that focuses on proficiency-oriented instruction. The program aims to help participants acquire or improve communication skills in all aspects of Japanese language through the integrated study process of the classroom, homestay, and local community environments in Hakodate. The total hours of Japanese class is 140 hours and equivalent to two semesters of Japanese study at most universities.

We offer an opportunity for all participants to take an unofficial Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) conducted by a certified tester at the beginning and the end of the program. Each student can take advantage of this opportunity to practice their speaking as well as to measure their progress over the summer.

## Class Levels & Main Textbooks

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| Intermediate-Low or above (2 classes)                                       |
| Genki II [Second Edition]   |
| Tobira: Gateway to Advanced Japanese  |
| Intermediate-Mid or above (2 classes)                                       |
| Tobira: Gateway to Advanced Japanese  |
| Advanced-Low (1 class)  |
| Authentic Japanese: Progressing from Intermediate to Advanced [New Edition] |
| Advanced-Mid or above (1 class)   |
| Authentic Japanese: Progressing from Intermediate to Advanced [New Edition] |

## Faculty

### Program Advisor

Osamu Kamada (Nanzan University)

### Program Consultant

Seiichi Makino (Princeton University)

### Academic Coordinator/ Instructor

Yoshimi Sakakibara (University of Michigan)

### Instructors

Highly experienced instructors from Japan and overseas

## Independent Study (IS)

IS is designed to enhance your Japanese proficiency by accomplishing your individual study objectives, in addition to the regular Japanese classes. The study objectives, method, timelines, and the tangible result should be discussed and defined by consulting with your instructor. You may choose a theme related to your interests provided that you can finalize and submit the outcome before the summer program is completed. You are required to report the progress of your IS to your instructor and peer group named "support group" at least once a week so that you can refine your work. Participants are strongly encouraged to choose a theme for their IS before the program begins. This will provide you with sufficient time for a full discussion of your project's objectives, methods, timelines, etc. with your instructor and support group members.

## Prerequisites

### Academic Background

Applicants should be enrolled at an institution of higher education in an undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate course. Professionals or graduates with at least a bachelor's degree are invited to apply.

### Japanese Proficiency Level

Applicants should have studied at least the first half of the elementary level of Japanese at any appropriate institutions, and have attained a proficiency of higher than Novice-Mid as outlined in the ACTFL proficiency guidelines.

### Non-academic Requirements

Applicants should have willingness to abide by the program's regulations. Also they should be able or willing to adapt to new situations with social and cross-cultural sensitivity.

### Commitment

Applicants should be able to participate in the program for the full duration and be committed to an intensive Japanese language and Japanese culture study program.

\*Please note that the above conditions are negotiable only in exceptional cases.

## Homestay

The eight-week homestay provides you with full immersion in Japanese language and Japanese culture. Host families volunteer to participate in the program not merely to accommodate you but also to help you to practice your Japanese and deepen your understanding of Japanese. They are also willing to learn the language(s) and culture of your country. The homework and class topics are expected to reflect your homestay experience. During the homestay period, staying out overnight is prohibited whether at another student's home or at a hotel, except for the semester break.

## Tuition & Fees

### Application Fees

Regular: \$80 (Nov. 1, 2015 – Feb. 5, 2016 JST)

Late: \$100 (On and after Feb. 6, 2016 JST)

**Tuition** (including homestay fee\* & main teaching materials)  
\$5,500

\*Homestay fee includes: 1) accommodation (furnished private room), 2) breakfast and dinner during weekdays, and 3) three meals a day on weekends.

### Medical Insurance

HIF requires all participants to obtain medical insurance to cover possible illness and accidents while staying in Japan.

## Academic Credits

Participants who satisfactorily complete the Japanese Language and Japanese Culture Program will receive certificates of completion and grade transcripts. Since HIF is not an affiliated institution, participants are responsible for consulting their academic dean to find out if it is possible to transfer credits to their home institutions. Most participants have received credits equivalent to one year's work from them.

## Financial Aid

HIF does not provide financial assistance or scholarships for tuition, homestay, travel costs or living expenses. Your home institution may provide financial assistance. Please contact your study-abroad program director for further information.

**Application Deadline: February 5, 2016 (JST).**

## COMMENTS FROM 2015 PARTICIPANTS

**Stephen Hagelin**



**University of Washington**

I did not expect to learn as much, or enjoy this city, or the cultural activities as much as I did. The importance of living here to learn the language cannot be over-emphasized, and the host family is the best part. I made friends that I will come back to see, and connections for when I live here again. It is a beautiful place, and peaceful. And I highly recommend this program.

**John Crumpler**



**University of Notre Dame**

I recommend the HIF program to anyone studying Japanese. The program is intense and can be exhausting, but it pays. And the whole time here isn't just spent doing work. The culture exchange events provide excellent opportunities to relax and enjoy ourselves, while still practicing what we have been studying. If you have the chance to participate in this program, please don't miss it!

**Richa Mehta**



**University of Pennsylvania**

HIF has provided me with an unparalleled opportunity to completely immerse myself in Japanese culture over the past eight weeks. Discussing thought-provoking news articles in class and spending quality time with my host family every night have allowed me to exponentially improve my Japanese skills. I feel incredibly privileged to have spent the summer in the beautifully scenic, historically-rich city of Hakodate.



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The 31<sup>st</sup>  
Japanese Language and  
Japanese Culture Program



June 8 - August 6, 2016

えがお たっせいかん  
～笑顔と達成感～

“Smile and a Sense of Achievement”

<http://www.hif.or.jp/en/summer>