Global Exchange Program

Osaka, Japan
Kansai University

USC’s exchange program in Japan is designed to expose USC students to Japanese life and culture. The program is located in Osaka, Japan’s third largest city with a population of over 2.5 million people. Located on the coast of Osaka Bay, the city is surrounded by mountains on three of its four sides. Known as the “Venice of the East” for its network of canals, Osaka is considered by many the gourmet food capital of Japan. Students can sample traditional sushi as well as the more exotic cuisines of the region such as pan-fried batter cake and octopus dumplings.

Kansai University is located approximately one hour from downtown Osaka. At Kansai University, students will study Japanese language and culture while also participating in a wide range of extracurricular activities with Japanese students. All courses are taught in English with the exception of the Japanese language courses. Students with more advanced Japanese language proficiency may enroll in regular courses taught in Japanese.

As a prerequisite, students must have attained at least sophomore standing prior to attending Kansai University. Only USC undergraduates are eligible to participate on this program. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required. There are no language proficiency requirements, although some knowledge of Japanese is recommended.

Courses and Credits
Students typically enroll in two Japanese language courses for eight credits each and three Japanese Studies courses for six credits each. Listed below are a few examples of courses offered at Kansai University. A full list of courses with descriptions can be found at [http://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/Kokusai/english/exchange/syllabi.html](http://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/Kokusai/english/exchange/syllabi.html)

Subject Offerings

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Study Abroad Office, Legare College, Suite 321, Columbia, SC 29208
Phone: 803.777.7557 ♦ E-mail: saabroad@mailbox.sc.edu ♦ Web: www.sa.sc.edu/sa
Living Arrangements
Students are guaranteed on-campus housing in shared dormitories with Japanese and international students. There are meal plans available in both the male and female dormitories. Information on the male and female student dormitories can be found at this link: http://www.kansaiu.ac.jp/Kokusai/english/exchange/exchange.html#ANCHOR2

Budgeting
Students who plan to live on-campus should expect to pay roughly ¥49,000 a month for their accommodation, which includes maintenance fees, linen, and student council membership. Students are required to pay a housing security deposit before departing the US. All costs are estimates and may fluctuate based on the exchange rate. Students pay current USC tuition and technology fees to USC.

Master Calendar
The Fall semester at Kansai University begins in mid-September and runs through the end of January. There is a two month spring break before the Spring semester which starts in early-April and runs through the end of July. USC students can attend Kansai University during the fall semester, spring semester, or academic year. A detailed schedule can be found at http://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/Kokusai/english/exchange/manual/Guide%20English.pdf

Insurance
Students are required to subscribe to the National Health Insurance provided by Kansai University at the cost of roughly ¥12,500 a semester. Students enroll in the plan once they arrive in Osaka. This is in addition to the required USC insurance. Per university policy, all USC students will be charged emergency medical, evacuation and repatriation insurance for their time abroad.

Orientation
Orientation consists of a two-day field trip to visit culturally significant locations throughout Japan.

Excursions
While attending Kansai University, students receive a 20% discount on travel by train and ship from Osaka. Kansai also organizes two trips throughout the year for students to learn about Japan.

Extra-Curricular Activities
Student run activities are very popular at Kansai University. Students can participate in over 100 clubs including soccer, baseball, judo, karate, swimming, orchestra, tea ceremony, drama, flower arrangement, calligraphy, and Chinese cultural studies to name just a few.

Entry Visa
All students must have a valid entry visa in order to study in Japan. Students can learn more about the visa process by visiting the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta’s website at http://www.atlanta.us.emb-japan.go.jp/.

Footnotes
For more information on the exchange, visit the Kansai University website at http://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/Kokusai/english/exchange/index.html.

For more information on Japan, please visit the Japan National Tourist Organization website at http://www.jnto.go.jp/eng/.

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