



# Hirosaki University (Aomori Prefecture)



## Establishing a Global Identity, Creating with the Community.

### ■ Introducing

#### ① Characteristics and Overview

Hirosaki University is the only National University in Aomori Prefecture. It is now comprised of 5 faculties and 7 graduate schools.

Established : 1949

Number of students : 6,812

Undergraduate : 5,930

Graduate : 882

International students : 200

#### ○ Faculties :

Humanities and Social Sciences, Education, School of Medicine, Science and Technology, Agriculture and Life Science

#### ○ Graduate schools

Humanities and Social Sciences (M)

Education (M)

Science and Technology (M&D)

Agriculture and Life Science (M)

Medicine (D)

Health Science (M&D)

Regional Studies (D)

#### ② International Exchange

Sister Universities: 45 (20 countries)

Overseas offices: 2 (China 1, Thai 1)

#### ③ Number of Japanese Studies Students in past 3 years (including students recommended by the University)

2018:200 International students, 1 JSSs

2017:156 International students, 1 JSSs

2016:144 International students, 1 JSSs

#### ④ Characteristics of Town

Hirosaki city where Hirosaki University is located is a university town, having 4 universities with a population of 180,000. Hirosaki has been prospered originally as a castle town, used to be ruled by the Tsugaru clan, however it's surrounded by farming areas. The living cost is relatively low, and it's livable for students from abroad. Students would feel comfortable to live in, because there are many students in this area. You can find apartments, dining, and bars for students around this university area. And you can go to the downtown in about 15-30 minutes on foot. Most students use bicycles as a primary means of transportation.

### ■ Outline

#### ① Purpose of Course

This course is mainly about Japan and Japanese culture with supplementary study to improve Japanese language proficiency.

#### ② Characteristics of Course

○ Environments making it possible for various subjects of study

Department of International Education & Collaboration staff will support students' investigations, experiments, and research.

Because they will be assigned an Academic Advisor in a faculty, it is possible for them to receive the same supervision as Japanese students, depending on their level of Japanese proficiency.

Though Hirosaki city is local and small, you can experience conventional, real Japanese culture in this traditional castle town.

○ Join faculty and become a member of a laboratory

As students who belong to Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences or Faculty of Education, those who have high Japanese language proficiency can attend seminars and use the facilities like the Japanese students. They can take part in events organized by seminars, such as trips.

(Specialized fields of recent accepted Japanese Studies Students are: Japanese Literature, Comparative Literature, Japanese History, History of Thought, Japanese Philology, Linguistics, Language Education, Sociology, Japanese Arts, Folklore, Archeology, International Politics)

○ Fulfilling field trips, hands-on experiences

Many of "Japanese language and culture classes" feature field trips and hands-on experiences.



③ Number of students to be accepted:  
4 people (University recommendation = 2)  
(Embassy recommendation = 2)

④ Conditions for eligibility

Please read the guidelines for the scholarship program carefully.

- For students researching/studying in Japan: Adequate language proficiency in order to carry out investigations and conduct research
- For students acquiring documents in Japan: Adequate language proficiency in order to read academic papers

**Please Note:**

Students planning to study specific areas concerning Japan are required to define their fields of study as clearly as possible.

For example, Japanese Literature (Ancient, Middle, Modern, and Postmodern), Japanese Linguistics (Ancient, Middle, Modern, and Postmodern), Japanese History (Ancient, Middle, and Modern), Archeology, History of Art, Japanese Management, Japanese Folklore, etc.

Japanese Language, Japanese Culture, and Japanese Affairs are not considered as course names, so without further specification, students may be assigned to an Academic Advisor outside their preferred field.

⑤ Course Goals

- Japanese : Should aim to improve Japanese skill (N3~N1 or above)
- Research subjects: Should aim to be able to work on a project or make a presentation on their research field.

⑥ Duration

Oct. 1,2019 ~Aug. 31,2020  
 1 : Fall semester Oct. 1 ~ Early Feb.  
 2 : Spring semester Early Apr. ~ Early Aug.  
 (16 weeks each)  
 Commencement will be held on Aug.

⑦ Outline of trainee subject

Students are provided guidance regarding collecting materials and conducting research in their field while taking classes for regular students and the Short-Term Student Exchange Program course.

1) Required subjects

Japanese Language

Subject:	Times/week
Intermediate Speaking and Listening	twice
Intermediate Reading	once
Intermediate Writing	once
Intermediate General	once
Upper Intermediate Speaking and Listening	once
Upper Intermediate Reading	once
Upper Intermediate Writing	once
Upper Intermediate General	once
Advanced Speaking and Listening	once
Advanced Writing	once
Advanced Listening and Reading	once
Advanced General	once

Level of Japanese Language classes depends on the result of a placement test held during orientation.

2) Field trip and region participating subjects

Subject:  
 Traditional Japanese sports  
 Crafts of the Tsugaru Region  
 Cultural anthropology of exhibitions  
 Research in communal sustainability  
 Regional Tourism in Japan  
 Japanese consumer culture  
 Internship

3) Research Project

Students belong research group of a supervisor and attend workshops, and it is opportunity to get involved with Japanese students and study together.

4) Study with Japanese students

Subject:  
 Let's talk with International Students in easy Japanese  
 Communication using language we are learning

And other classes held in Humanity and Social Science department

5) Other subjects

Subject:  
 Survey of the Modern Cultural History of Tsugaru  
 Human conditions : An anthropological perspective  
 Making Ethnography of local issues  
 The World of Japanese Picturebooks  
 Modern Japanese literature and the formation of identity  
 Anthropology of Music  
 Japanese Women Writers and Their Literature  
 Japanese Situation  
 Special Research of Japanese language and culture

## ⑧ Annual Event

- Sep. Arrival (about third week)
- Oct. Fall term orientation
- Oct. University Festival
- Oct. Jamboree trip
- Nov. International night
- Dec. Kikyono Community rice cake-making party
- Dec. Christmas party
- Feb. International student graduation and completion celebration
- Apr. Spring term orientation
- May. Sakura festival
- Aug. Participation in the Neputa festival and graduation and completion celebration
- Aug. Kikyono community bon dance
- Aug. Leaving and go back to own country.



## ⑨ Teaching Staff

- Staff in charge of Japanese language courses:

**Nobuko Oyama**, Associate Professor,  
Department of International Education and  
Collaboration,  
specializing in Japanese language pedagogy

**Akira Kashima**, Associate Professor,  
Department of International Education and Collaboration,  
specializing in Japanese language pedagogy

- Staff in charge of Japanese cultures and affairs:

**Junichiro Suwa**, Associate Professor,  
Department of International Education and Collaboration,  
specializing in Anthropology

**Hannah Sawada**, Associate Professor,  
Department of International Education and Collaboration,  
specializing in Comparative literature and culture

Academic advisors and teachers in the Department of International and Collaboration are in charge of providing guidance regarding study and all teachers in the department are in charge of providing advice regarding life in Japan.

## ⑩ Requirements for completing the program

○A certificate of completion is awarded for students completing this program with 20 credits in a year and submitting a report of completion.

○Students receive credits when they take class subjects and pass the exam.

## ■ Housing

There are no specific accommodations for national scholarship students. The Department of International and Collaboration will help the students find apartments, it takes approximately ¥25,000 to ¥45,000 per month.

## ■ Follow-ups for completed students

○Example of the follow-up

- Support by teachers of Hirosaki University to guide the students' report of completion in their thesis
- Support by teachers of Hirosaki University for students who wish to continue their study and apply for a graduate school in Japan

○Example of career path

- Japanese language teacher in students' home countries
- Work for companies of Japan or students' countries by utilizing their specialties

## ■ For further information

Hirosaki University  
Department of International Education and  
Collaboration

1 Bunkyo-cho, Hirosaki, Aomori 036-8560 JAPAN  
Tel.: +81-172-39-3109  
Fax: +81-172-39-3133  
E-mail: [jm3109@hirosaki-u.ac.jp](mailto:jm3109@hirosaki-u.ac.jp)

Department of International Education and  
Collaboration Home Page Address:  
<http://www.kokusai.hirosaki-u.ac.jp/>

Hirosaki University Home Page Address:  
<http://www.hirosaki-u.ac.jp>

Website for Japanese Studies Students:  
[http://www.kokusai.hirosaki-u.ac.jp/studyabroad02/sa02\\_page5/](http://www.kokusai.hirosaki-u.ac.jp/studyabroad02/sa02_page5/)