

Why I Chose to Study in Japan

Listen to what they have to say!



Nguyen Thi Tuong Van

Aoyama School of Japanese



Vietnam

I started studying Japanese because I loved Nintendo games. Even though I had studied for a long time, though, I still couldn't speak it at all. Because of this, even when I found a good job, things didn't go well and I lost confidence. I was so frustrated! I wanted to be able to express what I was thinking freely and expand my world, so I decided to study in Japan.

When I first arrived in Japan, I couldn't understand what Japanese people were saying at all. Nothing made me happier than when I gradually got used to the language and began to understand what they were saying. Then, before I knew it, my confidence swelled and I came to feel like I could do anything. I also had fun and made a lot of friends. Now I'm studying the Japanese language at a Japanese language institute while learning about Japanese culture and ways of thinking. It's extremely interesting and I think it will be useful. I am truly glad I came to Japan.



Julia Saranya Meyner

Ochanomizu University



Sweden

When I read about the programs at Ochanomizu University, I knew it was the place for me. I plan on advancing into the Global Studies for International Cooperation course, but the fact that I get to study so many fields—especially with a focus on women, leadership and gender—is a huge plus for me. At first I was a little nervous about being at an all-women's university since we don't have institutions like these in Sweden, but after studying here for half a year I can say with confidence that I have never been in a more nurturing and supportive environment. All my classmates and professors are wonderful, and seeing our cute campus cats and turtles every day always brightens my mood.



Alvin Sanjaya

Master's Program in Science and Technology, Sophia University



Indonesia

When I was a high school student, I learned that Japan was among the first nations in Asia to industrialize. Given that fact—and compounded by the notion that Japan remains a developed, safe and peaceful society—I believed studying in Japan would give me a way to actualize myself, either personally or professionally. Indeed, the Japanese capacity to be relatively unperturbed by change (even though they might be staunchly conservative in some aspects) could not be overemphasized. Aside from providing generous scholarships schemes, Japan's reasonably good sense of tolerance has given it an advantage in the competition to attract the world's brightest minds. Additionally, Japan now seems to be the first in Asia to experience a population decrease. Those population dynamics—quite different from what I encounter in my home country—sparked my interest in learning from the Land of the Rising Sun, because I do have concerns about overpopulation in developing countries, and what sort of culture is necessary to decelerate that population growth.



Radoslav Tsvetanov Tsvetkov

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University



Bulgaria

Ever since I visited Japan for the first time five years ago, I have had a strong affection for this country and its people. At that time I was sixteen years old, and I came to Osaka as a participant in a short-term intercultural exchange program. I was living with a Japanese host family that was extremely kind and took care of me as though I was their real son. In only a month we developed a connection closer and stronger than any other relationship I had with people I had known for years. At that point, I realized there is something special in Japanese society that makes me want to stay longer in this country: the kindness and consideration that Japanese people have always had toward everyone around them. I believe this is a rare social characteristic that can be found only in Japan. This is how the warm-heartedness of Japanese people captured my mind and my heart, and made living in Japan my biggest dream. It also became the decisive factor for choosing to continue my higher education as an undergraduate student at Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University.