

Orientation Schedule and Course Outline

There will be two types of orientations: "International Student Orientation", which are for newly admitted international students, and "Freshman Orientations," for all the new students of each college.

1. International Student Orientation Sessions

The "International Student Orientation" covers residence status and life in Japan. This is an important session for living a university life as an international student. **All international students MUST attend this session.** The pre-registration is required to attend the session and the orientation format (on-line/face-to-face/hybrid) is to be determined. Please make sure to attend this orientation as it provides you with all the essential information you need to help settle into the University and Japan.

DATE: September 16th, Fri, 1PM-3PM

Pre-registration for the orientation

The instructions for pre-registration and the orientation format will be announced on 1st September on our webpage below. Due to the time constraints, we cannot give you all the information during the orientation that we would like to. However, we will post any other necessary information and further details on the same web page at a later date.

<https://global.support.ritsumei.ac.jp/hc/en-us/sections/1500000746141>

2. Freshman Orientation Sessions

The University will hold a series of orientation sessions and all freshmen MUST attend these sessions.

The sessions cover how the University works. The University also provides important information regarding your life at Ritsumeikan and in Japan.

① Orientation Schedule

Freshman Orientation Sessions will be held in person. Please check the 'Startup site' web page for the place, date and other details. Please contact the IR office by email (irpost01@st.ritsumei.ac.jp) **by Monday, September 5th** if you cannot attend the orientation due to an unavoidable reason. If you become unable to attend the orientation after September 5th, immediately contact the IR office.

Startup site (Released on September 1st) : <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/startup/eng/2022f/kic/>

② About the English Placement Test

- The English Placement Test is required for all students. Based on the result of the test, the level for the Fall Semester's English "Academic Skills" classes is determined.
- Online version of the Writing Test and the TOEFL® is used for the placement.

【About Writing Test】

The Writing Test will be held on **September 8 (Thu) 9:00 am - 5:00 pm** (Time Limit: 60 min). Please check the [Notice

from College] on the Startup site Guide for more information about the test and be sure to take it on a required day.

【About TOEFL-ITP® Digital Edition】

The College of International Relations administers the online pre-entry English test (test type: TOEFL-ITP® digital version). In [Academic Skills], which is offered to first-year students in the Global Studies Major and Joint Degree Program, students are placed in classes according to their level of proficiency. Scores from the pre-entrance English online test will be used to determine class placement.

All new students are required to take the test during the following test period using their computers at home.

Test Period: September 9th (Fri) 10:00 a.m.-, 1:00 p.m.-, 3:00 p.m.-

September 12th (Mon) 10:00 a.m.-, 1:00 p.m.-, 3:00 p.m.-

***Please choose one of the dates and times to take the test.**

Please refer to the following websites for details.

Website of the Language Education Center, Ritsumeikan University (Pre-entrance English Online Test page)

URL: http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gengo/online/GS_Sep.html

3. Fall 2022 Matriculation Ceremony

Date: September 24 (Sat), 2022

We welcome new students who will begin their studies at Ritsumeikan University in Fall 2022 and hold matriculation ceremonies on each campus. For more details, please refer to the Startup Site after September 1st.

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/startup/eng/2022f/kic/>

4. When Fall Semester Classes Start

Classes begin on **September 26 (Mon), 2022**

5. College of IR Policy for AY 2022

The following are the policy for courses offered by the College of International Relations beginning with IR18-, IR-, and RUIR. For English Language Courses, Second Foreign Language Courses, Elective Foreign Language Courses, Advanced Foreign Language Courses (International Relations), and Sub-Major Courses, please check the class format stipulated in the class implementation policy of the Language Education Center syllabus.

At Ritsumeikan University, the BCP Level is determined once every two weeks; please refer to the following website for the latest BCP Level of Ritsumeikan University.

<http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/news/detail/?id=475>

BCP Level 3 or 4

■In principle, all classes are web-based.

A hybrid class format (face-to-face + web-based) is allowed for small-group courses (Introductory Seminar) essential for student communities. Hybrid class formats will take place under the instructor's discretion, in agreement with the students and in a sufficiently

infection-controlled circumstance.

■ When the BCP level is changed in the middle of the semester, classes will be conducted according to the updated BCP level as listed in the syllabus.

BCP Level 1 or 2

■ **Half the total number of classes or more are conducted in a hybrid format (face-to-face + web-based).**

The remaining classes are to be conducted web-based.

Web-based classes (live streaming of face-to-face classes or on-demand streaming of recorded data) will be provided for students who meet the following criteria:

[Criteria for web-based classes eligibility]

<1> Students who are at high risk of becoming seriously ill if infected, such as those with underlying conditions or chronic illness (*).

<2> Students living with a family member who is at high risk of becoming seriously ill if infected, such as those with underlying conditions or chronic illness (*).

<3> Students who are unable to enter Japan due to international travel restrictions.

(*) If the student has an underlying condition defined by the government, such as respiratory disease, diabetes, heart failure, etc.

(Reference) Definition of a person with an underlying condition defined by the government

People with the following illnesses or conditions who receive outpatient or inpatient care

- Chronic respiratory disease
- Chronic heart disease (including hypertension)
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic liver disease (liver cirrhosis, etc.)
- Diabetes being treated with insulin or medication, or diabetes associated with other diseases
- Blood diseases (excluding iron deficiency anemia)
- Diseases that impair the functioning of the immune system (including malignant tumors under treatment)
- Receiving treatment that depresses the immune system, including steroids
- Neurological and neuromuscular diseases associated with immune abnormalities
- Decreased body functions due to neurological or neuromuscular diseases (including breathing disorders)
- Chromosomal abnormality
- Severe mental and physical disabilities (severe physical disabilities and severe intellectual disabilities)
- Sleep apnea syndrome
- Severe mental illness (hospitalized for treatment of mental illness, holding a mental disability certificate or falling under the category of "severe and continuous" in self-supporting medical care (psychiatric hospital care)) or intellectual disabilities (holding a rehabilitation certificate)

<CAUTION>

To attend the web-based classes, students need to notify the instructor by the first day of class. Please note that students who do not submit a request will not be eligible for the web-based classes and will be treated as absent. The class instructor's contact information

will be posted on the manaba+R (online cloud system for Ritsumeikan University students. Log-in will be enabled after the enrollment) course by the first class. Some instructors may ask you to submit a written request.

■ As the number of registered students is not fixed yet at the time of the first lesson, the first lesson is conducted online to prevent the classrooms from becoming crowded (e.g. live streaming of the class or on-demand streaming of recorded data).

■ Due to unavoidable reasons related to COVID-19, such as the health of faculty members, there will be some courses in which the number of face-to-face classes is reduced to less than 1/2 and the classes are mainly web-based with fewer face-to-face classes. Please check the syllabus for details.

■ Only face-to-face classes are held for courses that require the use of the information processing labs.

■ When the BCP level is changed in the middle of the semester, classes will be conducted according to the updated BCP level as listed in the syllabus.

Notes on the class format when BCP Level is 2 or lower for AY 2022

■ Please check the syllabus for details on the class format of each course.

■ For those who do not fall under the above [Criteria for web-based classes eligibility], all face-to-face classes are to be taken at Kinugasa Campus.

<For students residing in Japan>

※For those who do not live in the Kansai area but do not fall under the [Criteria for web-based classes eligibility] category above are prohibited from attending web-based classes. Please be prepared to commute to the university for AY 2022.

<For students residing outside of Japan>

※If you cannot enter Japan due to international traffic restrictions, please notify the instructor in charge of each class by the first class, as you are [Eligible for web-based classes] during the period you are unable to enter Japan. Please prepare to come to Japan as soon as the restrictions are lifted and attend face-to-face classes.

■ Your grades will not be affected by not attending face-to-face classes as long as you meet the [Criteria for web-based classes eligibility] and make the request for eligibility by the first day of class.

■ Apply for [Eligible for web-based classes] anytime during the semester if the need arises.

■ Be sure to check the syllabus as some courses will have regular exams.

■ Campus facilities such as the library, self-study classrooms and classrooms for web-based lessons will be open.

AY 2022 Schedule for Fall Semester Registration

■ September 15 (Thu), 10:00 am – [Time Schedule] and [Course Registration Guidebook] available on manaba+R

※Please confirm the Lottery-Based, Selection-Based and Queue-Based Courses on the Time Schedule.

■ September 17, 6:30 am – Announcement of courses registered by the IR Office (confirmed on CAMPUS WEB)

■ September 20, 6:30 am – September 22, 11:00 am – Lottery-Based Courses registration period (Course registration)

■ September 27, 6:30 am – September 29, 11:00 am – Regular Courses registration period (Course registration)

Advice for Course Taking and Planning

At the orientation on Thursday, September 15th, there will be an explanation of how to register for courses as well as how to check

timetables and syllabus. If you have any questions or concerns about course planning after the orientation, please come to the IR Office and ask for advice.

Course Outline

(1) About Non-English Foreign Languages and Japanese

[Global Studies Major, Department of International Relations]

① Language Selection

Students will be placed in Japanese or a non-English foreign language course track based on the conditions below.

1) Students without any experience in studying Japanese

Students who have never studied Japanese do not need to take the “ROJPT Ritsumeikan Online Japanese Placement Test”. They will automatically be placed in Level I class of Japanese.

2) Students who can submit a JLPT N1 Certificate or who are native speakers of Japanese

Students with native level Japanese proficiency can choose one of six languages (See Table 2 below). Students cannot choose a language of which they are native speakers. Taking the “ROJPT Ritsumeikan Online Japanese Placement Test” is not necessary.

3) Students except those of (1) and (2)

These students must take the “ROJPT Ritsumeikan Online Japanese Placement Test” **between August 1st and 5th, 2022.**

<IMPORTANT>

Your ID is valid from August 1st.

If these students are placed in Level VII, they can choose to take a different foreign language. However, these students CAN NOT take a foreign language of which they are native speakers.

Table 1: Japanese Language Levels

One class per week per semester in Japanese courses counts as one credit.

Class Level	Required No. of Credits for Japanese or Introductory Foreign Language	1 st year		2 nd year
		1 st Semester	2 nd Semester	3 rd Semester and beyond
VII	Choose 1 language from Table 2 below (6 credits)	Japanese: 3 classes a week	Japanese: 3 classes a week	Japanese: Students may continue taking Japanese classes if they wish.
VI	Japanese (6 credits)	6 classes a week	Students may continue taking Japanese classes if they wish (i.e. take the next level of Japanese).	Students may continue taking Japanese classes if they wish (i.e. take the next level of Japanese).
V	Japanese (6 credits)	6 classes a week		
IV	Japanese (6 credits)	6 classes a week		
III	Japanese (6 credits)	6 classes a week		
II	Japanese (6 credits)	6 classes a week		
I	Japanese (6 credits)	3 classes a week	3 classes a week	

Table 2: Other Foreign Language Courses Available for Students with Native Level Japanese Proficiency

1 Japanese (Post-Advanced)	4 Korean (Elementary)	7 French (Advanced)	10 German (Elementary)
2 Chinese (Elementary)	5 Korean (Advanced)	8 Spanish (Elementary)	11 German (Advanced)
3 Chinese (Advanced)	6 French (Elementary)	9 Spanish (Advanced)	

- You cannot choose to study a language of which you are a native speaker of.
- Foreign Language Course other than Japanese has 3 classes per week up to the 2nd semester of the 1st year.
- One class per week per semester in Foreign Language Courses counts as one credit.

About Foreign Language Courses

1) Japanese

Level VII classes are open to students with a Japanese ability equivalent to or higher than JLPT N1 (approximately 900 study hours of Japanese) and who wish to further improve their Japanese ability. In these classes, students will mainly develop their grammar ability, learn how to write reports and short essays [文章表現], increase their vocabulary and reading ability by reading various writings [読解] and develop their listening abilities and logical expressiveness through presentations and debate [聴解口頭].

2) Chinese, Korean, French, Spanish, German (Elementary)

Each language will be studied from an elementary level. Please note that all classes are conducted in Japanese.

3) Chinese, Korean, French, Spanish, German (Advanced)

These classes are available to students who have studied a language before or lived for over one year in a country where the language is spoken. A separate orientation session will be held for students who wish to take advanced classes.

② Purpose of Studying the Japanese Language

Although the Global Studies Major is an English-based major, to ensure that students studying in Japan experience well-rounded student life and education and have a variety of career options, we recommend that students take Japanese courses proactively with the following goals in mind.

- 1) Acquire basic skills that allow one to engage in daily conversation.
- 2) Develop a base so that one can continue improving in the future.

The minimum required number of credits is explained in the tables above. However, if they wish, students can continue taking Japanese classes beyond the minimum requirements until graduation. In the future, if a student chooses an occupation in Japan or one with a strong connection to Japan, a high level of Japanese ability will be desired. We urge you to take advantage of the Japanese curriculum at Ritsumeikan University.

Introducing Our Community

To give you an idea of what it is like to study at the College of International Relations, we have posted interviews with faculty members and upper-level students below.

Please take a look!

International Relations and Global Studies Majors

Faculty https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o_6jkfPao68

Upper-level students <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ir/students/eng/>