



Doshisha University

Exchange Program Guide

for Fall 2026

(Sep 2026 - Mar 2027/Sep 2027)

Global Education Module (GEM) & Japanese Language and Culture Module (Nichibun)



Nomination Deadline: February 27, 2026 (Fri)

***Please fill in a designated nomination form and upload it to the designated URL. (The nomination must be completed by program coordinator.)**

Application deadline: March 27, 2026 (Fri)

– The application documents with applicant's and coordinator's signature need to be uploaded to Doshisha's OneDrive through the program coordinator by the application deadline. Direct application from applicants is not acceptable. The URL of the OneDrive will be informed to the program coordinator and it should't be shared with applicants.

***Application documents don't need to be sent by international courier.**

Notification of Outcome of the acceptance: mid to late May 2026

Contact Information (Inbound)	
Manager	Shiori HATAYAMA (Ms.)
Assistant Program Coordinator	Kimika MORI (Ms.) - main contact person
Mailing address	Office of International Students, Doshisha University Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto-city, Japan 602-8580
Telephone	+81-75-251-3257
Email	ji-incmg@mail.doshisha.ac.jp <i>*In principle, ask questions through the home university</i>

Academic calendar	Spring Semester 2026	Fall Semester 2027
Dormitory move-in Dates	September 8 and 9, 2026 (Plan)	mid-March 2027 (TBA)
Orientation week	from mid-September	from mid-March
<p>※Please be sure to arrive in Japan on or before the designated move-in dates.</p> <p><u>Doshisha University is not liable for any loss resulting from missing events such as course guidance and registration during the orientation week.</u></p> <p>※Some events might be held on weekends (Sat and Sun) and National holidays, please refrain from scheduling travel on weekend during the orientation week.</p>		
Course registration	At the beginning of each semester	
Class starts	Late September	Early April
Class ends	Mid-January	Mid-July
Exam period	Mid - January - early February	Mid - late July
<p>※Students may return home after all their exams are completed. The exam schedule will be announced 2 or 3 weeks prior to the exam period.</p>		
Grade Report	March 7, 2027	Mid- September, 2027
Program End Date	March 31, 2027	September 14, 2027 (Plan)
<p>※During the period of the grade notification date until the program end date, students can download their grade report from Doshisha's student system.</p> <p>※After the grade notification date, students can apply for the issuance of an official transcript. The system also supports sending a digital certificate (PDF) online.</p> <p>(Japanese) https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/education/certificate/information/index.html#digital</p> <p>(English) https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/education/certificate/information/index.html#digital</p>		

Eligibility

- Students are required to be enrolled at the home university until the end of the program at Doshisha University. Students who are planning to graduate or withdraw from the home university before the program ends cannot apply.
- Students must meet the language requirement of the module (GEM or Nichibun) to which they are applying.

Student Visa

*Students who have Japanese citizenship must enter Japan with Japanese passport, therefore no need to apply for the student visa.

The digital "Certificate of Eligibility (e-CoE)" is a necessary document for students to apply for their student visa. Doshisha University will apply for their e-CoE on behalf of them to the Immigration Bureau in Kyoto, and as soon as the e-CoE is issued, it will be forwarded to them via email.

Please make sure students to apply for a student visa at the nearest Japanese Embassy/Consulate in their

home country or residence as soon as receiving the e-CoE and be sure to have the student visa issued in your passport before coming to Japan.

The purpose of “Student visa” applied through Doshisha University is only to study at Doshisha University. Therefore, it is not permitted to use this visa to enter Japan early or to stay after completion of the program for tourism purposes or to participate in a program conducted by another institutions or organization.

Accommodation

All students are entitled to live in one of Doshisha’s dormitory as long as rooms are available. Applicants need to submit the dormitory application form along with the application documents of the program by application deadline. Students choose preferences from the list of accommodation contained in the Application Pack and list their preferences on the accommodation application form, however there is no guarantee that the student will be allocated their first choice or second choice due to the limited capacity of dormitories. If students want to find a room by themselves, refer to the following URLs.

*Student House Dormy Kyoto Nishijin: <https://x.gd/KFgO7>

*Student House Dormy: <https://dormy-kyoto.com/en/>

*Kyoto City International Foundation: <https://housenavi-jpm.com/en/kansai/>

*Doshisha University: <https://ois.doshisha.ac.jp/en/housing/finding.html>

Scholarship

JASSO (Japan Student Services Organization) scholarship is the only scholarship available for exchange students. However, it depends on whether JASSO provides financial support to Doshisha’s exchange program in each year.

JASSO scholarship is very competitive and cannot be guaranteed to all applicants who submitted JASSO scholarship application form will be awarded. **Since students will be notified of the result on/after the arrival, therefore students cannot include the JASSO scholarship as the financial support in the e-CoE application.**

Others

- **According to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, a minimum number of hours of study per week is required for international students holding a student visa. Therefore, students need to register for courses to take at least 7 classes per week.**
- Students are permitted to use the same facilities as regular students.
- **The program at Doshisha University must be completed as the period indicated on students’ application documents and return to the home university.**

If students who are participating in the one-semester program wish to extend the period of the program to another semester, the students need to contact the home university and the Office of International Students, Doshisha University by the following deadline. The official request for the extension from the home university will be deliberated at the committee meeting, and if it is determined that the extension is necessary for academic reasons, their request will be accepted.

In case the students wish to extend to the Spring Semester 2027… by 5PM, Oct 23 (Fri), 2026



【IMPORTANT】

Students may choose either “*Global Education Module (GEM)*” or “*Japanese Language and Culture Module (Nichibun)*”, and take courses mainly offered by the Module to which they choose. Read the following information on each module carefully to determine which module (GEM and Nichibun) to apply since.

- Applicants are NOT allowed to change the module (GEM/Nichibun) after the application deadline
- Applicants are NOT allowed to apply to different modules (GEM/Nichibun) for each semester.
- Students who are participating in one-year program may apply, after arrival in Japan, to a different module for the second semester. For details about the procedure to change the module, please refer to the “Program Guide for the Center for Global Education and Japanese Studies” after your arrival.

Global Education Module (GEM):

- * *Studying Japanese Culture, Society and Nature in English*
- * *All levels (Bachelor, Master and Doctoral) can participate in this module if students understand that all courses offered by GEM are undergraduate level*

1. Requirements

Students whose first language is English or whose English is good enough to attend class are eligible for this course. GEM requires B2 level or higher in CEFR in English from students whose first language is not English.

2. Courses

List of courses and syllabi	(in Japanese): https://intad.doshisha.ac.jp/intad/exchange/cge_curriculum.html (in English): https://intad.doshisha.ac.jp/intad/en/exchange/cge_curriculum.html
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GEM offers inter-disciplinary courses all conducted in English, designed for exchange students as well as Doshisha students to foster a better understanding of Japan in a global context. GEM provides learning opportunities in different fields ranging from the humanities and social sciences to the natural and human sciences.

By studying together in a small and interactive class, exchange students and Doshisha students can have more opportunities to have meaningful contact with one another, and benefit from the diversity of perspectives that are represented and shared in the classroom. In this way, GEM offers a unique space for academic collaboration between exchange students and Doshisha students that is intended to foster a dynamic academic environment.

GEM students from English-speaking countries, or whose English proficiency proves equivalent to a native speaker may also enroll in courses offered by The Institute for the Liberal Arts (ILA) after consideration (**up to 3 courses**). ILA courses are also conducted in English at a native level and focus mainly on Japanese

culture and society. However, requests to register for ILA courses may not always be granted as many ILA courses have limited space for enrollment.

GEM students are also permitted to enroll in some courses offered by Japanese Language and Culture Module (Nichibun) in accordance with their Japanese proficiency (**up to 3 courses**). To take the Nichibun courses, students must take Japanese Language Placement Test.

Japanese language courses are divided into 10 levels (Basic, Elementary level I – High Advanced level IX) based on student's Japanese ability and designed to improve four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in a balanced manner.

If Japanese Language Placement Test proves your Japanese proficiency sufficient for the courses for undergraduate students*1, you may take courses from an undergraduate subject area. Courses that are available vary depending on each student's Japanese level. Also note that there are courses that cannot be taken by GEM students. Such include seminar courses, subjects offered by Faculty of Science and Engineering and Faculty of Life and Medical Sciences, and subjects not open to other faculty students. GEM students may take up to 3 courses in total, courses offered by each faculty and the Nichibun.

*1 Only those who enroll in graduate school at their home university may take some of the courses offered by graduate schools.

3. Credits

GEM considers a course that meets for two hours, once a week (x15 weeks) as two credits (except for Japanese language classes).

The maximum course load for GEM students is 30 credits for one year (15 credits per semester). Credits of taking Nichibun courses and ILA courses are also included in the maximum course credit load.

Students should take more than 7 classes (1 class=90 minutes) at least per week. It is prescribed by law*2.

*2 Ministerial Ordinance to Provide for Criteria Pursuant to Article 7. Paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act.

Japanese Language and Culture Module (Nichibun):

** Studying Japanese Language and Culture in Japanese*

** Students are placed in appropriate level/class based on Doshisha's Japanese Language Placement Test regardless of their current level (Bachelor, Master or Doctoral) at the home institution*

** Students whose native language is Japanese are not eligible to apply because this course is for non-native speaking of Japanese*

I. Requirements

- In principle, the applicants have at least one year's study of Japanese language at college level prior to start the program at Doshisha University.
- Japanese is not the native language.

2. Courses

List of courses and syllabi	(in Japanese): https://intad.doshisha.ac.jp/intad/exchange/curriculum.html (in English): https://intad.doshisha.ac.jp/intad/en/exchange/curriculum.html
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“Japanese language courses” are divided into 9 different levels:

elementary (I), upper elementary (II), pre-intermediate (III), intermediate (IV), upper intermediate (V), pre-advanced (VI), advanced (VII), upper advanced (VIII) and high advanced (IX).

Class allocations will be made on the basis of the Japanese Language Placement Test.

Nichibun offers “Japanese Language Courses”, “Japanese Language Seminars”, “Lecture Courses in Japanese Studies” and “Lecture Courses in International Studies”

There are two courses, “Intensive Course” and “Elective Course.”

“Intensive Course” …It is designed to develop four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. It also offers courses that are specifically designed to improve reading comprehension, written expressions, oral expressions and vocabulary. Taking intensive course at a designated level as a whole package allows students to have a repetition practice efficiently and to improve their learning retention and Japanese ability.

“Elective Course” … It consists of courses that are specifically designed to improve grammar, oral expressions, written expressions, reading comprehension and vocabulary and you can choose several courses whichever you like.

“Lecture courses in Japanese studies” offers opportunity to learn Japanese traditional cultures such as calligraphy, flower arrangement, Tea ceremony and Shrine festivals through classes and off campus learning by making excellent use of our location in Kyoto.

Students who are placed on a certain level or above because of the Japanese Language Placement Test, will be allowed to take courses for undergraduate*1 programs within the terms and conditions. However, seminar courses offered by Faculty of Science and Engineering and Faculty of Life and Medical Sciences and specialized courses are only open to regular students.

*1 Only students those who are in graduate courses at home Institutes are allowed to take some of the classes for graduate programs.

Nichibun students whose first language is English or whose English is good enough to attend a class instructed in English (B2 level or higher in CEFR in English from students whose first language is not English) are eligible to take courses offered by Global Education Module (GEM) only if there is an available space in the course.

3. Credits

Nichibun considers a course that meets for two hours, once a week (x15 weeks) as one or two credits. The maximum course load for Nichibun-students is 30 credits for one year (15 credits per semester).

Credits of taking undergraduate or graduate courses and GEM courses are also included in the maximum course credit load.

Students should take more than 7 classes (1 class=90 minutes) at least per week. It is prescribed by law*2.

*2 Ministerial Ordinance to Provide for Criteria Pursuant to Article 7. Paragraph (1), item (ii) of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act.