

## KOBE UNIVERSITY Exchange Program Result of Completion Qestionnaire - Spring 2019



| 1. Helpful reference prior to departure                                     |   |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |
|---|---|--|--|---|--|--|---|---------------------|--|--------|---|
| 1-1   | <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">Daily Life<br/>(Food, Clothes, Housing, Health, Public Transportation etc.)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Kobe University website</li> <li>•Previous exchange students</li> <li>•Internet research, Youtube</li> <li>•Japanese family and friends</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Procedures<br/>(VISA, Residing, National Insurance, Bank etc.)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Kobe University website</li> <li>•Home university's website</li> <li>•Previous exchange students</li> <li>•<a href="https://www.at.emb-japan.go.jp/">https://www.at.emb-japan.go.jp/</a></li> <li>•Japanese consulates website</li> <li>•TRUSS members' help *Available after Arrival</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Student Life<br/>(Academic Procedure, Course, Research, Scholarship etc.)</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Kobe University website</li> <li>•BEEF - Basic Environment for Educational Frontier (Online system for courses by Kobe University)</li> <li>*Available after Arrival</li> <li>•Home University</li> <li>•Past student's exchange year evaluation form</li> <li>•Blog, youtube videos</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Tourist Information</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Youtube, Google</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Others</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•日本来る前になるべく現金を持ってたほうがいい</li> <li>•最初は国民保険とか郵貯口座を作らなければならないが、もし分からないことがあればチューターに尋ねると良い</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table> | Daily Life<br>(Food, Clothes, Housing, Health, Public Transportation etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Kobe University website</li> <li>•Previous exchange students</li> <li>•Internet research, Youtube</li> <li>•Japanese family and friends</li> </ul> | Procedures<br>(VISA, Residing, National Insurance, Bank etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Kobe University website</li> <li>•Home university's website</li> <li>•Previous exchange students</li> <li>•<a href="https://www.at.emb-japan.go.jp/">https://www.at.emb-japan.go.jp/</a></li> <li>•Japanese consulates website</li> <li>•TRUSS members' help *Available after Arrival</li> </ul> | Student Life<br>(Academic Procedure, Course, Research, Scholarship etc.) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Kobe University website</li> <li>•BEEF - Basic Environment for Educational Frontier (Online system for courses by Kobe University)</li> <li>*Available after Arrival</li> <li>•Home University</li> <li>•Past student's exchange year evaluation form</li> <li>•Blog, youtube videos</li> </ul> | Tourist Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Youtube, Google</li> </ul> | Others | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•日本来る前になるべく現金を持ってたほうがいい</li> <li>•最初は国民保険とか郵貯口座を作らなければならないが、もし分からないことがあればチューターに尋ねると良い</li> </ul> |
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| 2. Academics/Courses  |   |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |
| 【Regular Subject Courses】   |   |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |
| 2-1   | <p>What do you think of regular courses?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•I found reading kanji and comprehending the teachers' handwriting were very challenging.</li> <li>•Unless being quite good in Japanese, it is pretty hard to follow course that you have no knowledge about.</li> <li>•It is difficult to understand specialists talking about their field.</li> <li>•I only took the courses taught in English so I didn't experience any special difficulty.</li> <li>•授業の初めには難しいと思いました。先生の講義を聞きながら、PPTをメモしたほうがいいと思います。</li> <li>•授業中理解しがたい内容が時々出てきた。そして、試験を準備するときはつらかった。</li> <li>•博士課程後期課程の専門の授業は難しいかもしれないので、その前に指導先生にぜひ相談してください。</li> <li>•授業の難易度はいいと思う。理解しにくい時、先生はやさしい日本語によって説明する。</li> </ul>  |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |
| 【Japanese Language Courses at the Center for International Education (CIE)】 |   |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |
| 2-2   | <p>What do you think of Japanese Language Courses?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Great teaching quality, good frequency of assessment, homework helps students to prepare for class, amount of homework is not too much or too little.</li> <li>•The Japanese courses quality was very good, I was very satisfied with the courses and they helped me improve my Japanese a lot.</li> <li>•In high level classes, a lot of chinese people good with kanji are present. It can be hard to follow their speed.</li> <li>•先生は非常にやさしいです。</li> <li>•先生の教え方はとても面白いです。</li> <li>•宿題をちゃんとやったほうがいいと思います。</li> <li>•最初から易しいと思いましたが、だんだん難しくなっていました。でも、なんとかできました。</li> </ul>  |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |
| 2-4   | <p>How Japanese Language Courses have improved your ability?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•I managed to become more confident about speaking in Japanese and my understanding of conversations, etc has vastly improved.</li> <li>•I became able to understand more grammatical usage used in formal writings. Also, I learnt many useful phrases that can be used in various aspects of everyday life, units also covered a variety of themes.</li> <li>•I became able to read more kanji than before.</li> <li>•I was able to improve my speaking a lot thanks to the different oral presentations I had to do (Kaiwa/ speaking class) and also my writing skills thanks to the sakubun class which was harder than the other courses in my opinion.</li> <li>•I became able to write essays in Japanese, do presentations, and write or talk in business Japanese.</li> <li>•漢字を含む文章をスラスラ読めるようになった。</li> <li>•会話能力が向上しました。</li> <li>•アカデミックな日本語を身につけた。</li> </ul>  |  |  |   |  |  |   |                     |  |        |   |

| 3. Social and Cultural Experience |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| 3-1                               | Did you make any cultural or social adjustments when you started to live in Japan? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-I am a vegetarian by conviction and had to start eating fish again to be able to go out for dinner as fish is almost everywhere in Japanese cooking.</li> <li>-I had to wear different clothes, I used to wear shorts a lot, but in Japan people do not wear them so often so I felt inappropriate.</li> <li>-When first meeting someone in Japan, there are several social codes one has to respect, so I had to be careful with what I said to someone when I first met them. (don't use tameguchi, etc.)</li> <li>・日本食に馴染んだ。</li> <li>・方言はちょっと分かりにくいです。</li> </ul>  |
| 3-2                               | Did you have any good experiences with Japanese friends?                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>・Japanese students asked a lot of questions and showed curiosity about the country that I came from, always good-mannered and greet one another, great student network in my department.</li> <li>-I had a lot of contact with my tutor who also attended some classes together with me and he became a good friend of mine.</li> <li>-I had a very good experience with Japanese friends. I expected first to have a very hard time making Japanese friends but in the end I made really good friends and I was able to learn a lot from them. They corrected my mistakes in Japanese for example and showed me different places in Kansai.</li> <li>・TRUSS members helped me a lot with many official things, like bank, ward office etc.</li> <li>・特に困ったことがないです。みんなは優しい方ですので、問題があれば、心配なく直接お尋ねてください。</li> </ul>   |
| 3-3                               | Were you involved in extracurricular activities?                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-I joined the hiking club and we went on some hikes together. In the hiking club I had some problems because I am not fluent in Japanese and everyone was talking only in Japanese, but it was a lot of fun overall.</li> <li>-I joined an a'capella club and a guitar club and I managed to perform a few times with them.</li> <li>-In an a' capella club, we basically made groups of 5-6 people and sang the same song every week and eventually sang it in front of everyone at a stage. It was a very interesting experience because I could observe how Japanese students work in a group activity.</li> <li>-I worked part time at a Japanese law firm and at a hotel.</li> <li>-For my research, I learned boxing. I even joined an amateur boxing competition.</li> <li>・2 days 1 night English Camp organised by Miyagi Recovery Assistance Center. Exchange students interact with Japanese primary school children and teach them English through playing games together etc.</li> <li>・バドミントン部の部活に一度参加しました。みんなで努力することが楽しかったです。</li> </ul>   |
| 3-4                               | What did you do during your free time, at night and on the weekends?               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>・Became a tourist and explored the city and surrounding areas (Osaka, Kyoto, Nara) and went on trips with other exchange students.</li> <li>・Meeting up with friends, visiting museums.</li> <li>・Learning for courses, visiting Japanese sights and festivals, relaxing at home, doing some sports.</li> <li>・Enjoyed reading Japanese books.</li> <li>-I was attending to circles, working in part-time job, and studying for classes and JLPT.</li> <li>・普通は家で論文を書きます。たまに友達と買い物に行きます。</li> <li>・復習、ドラマを見ること</li> <li>・バイトか飲み会</li> <li>・夜は大体家で本を読んだり、映画を見たりして。週末は旅行する。</li> </ul>  |
| 3-5                               | What do you think of Kobe city?  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>・Kobe is a very convenient location to base in, can easily reach other palces in the Kansai and Hyogo region. A very livable city.</li> <li>・Kobe is in the very good location being very near to the Osaka and Kyoto, it has a few cultural events.</li> <li>・From all cities I have see in Japan, it is the most comfortable. Beautiful scenery, good entertainment and transportation network.</li> <li>-I felt very safe, it is not as busy as larger cities like osaka and is easy to get around. The locals were very friendly.</li> <li>・Kobe was a very comfortable place to live. The people here are very friendly and living here is easy.</li> <li>・Not many people can speak English, but because of this reason, I was able to force myself to learn Japanese.</li> <li>・I think Kobe has a very nice communication service, for example they use their SNS pages a lot and recommend activities so I knew what was going on, and in regards to the safety it was also handled very nicely, I knew soon if a typhoon was coming or not and what to do in that case.</li> <li>・きれいなまちと思います。</li> </ul> |

| 4. Housing/Food |  |  |   |   |   |                      |                    |
|-----------------|--|--|---|---|---|----------------------|--------------------|
| 4-1             | Where did you live?  | 1. International Residence<br>39%  | 2. Kokui Residence<br>43%                 | 3. Sumiyoshi International Student House<br>13% | 4. Hakuo Dormitory(Fukae Area)<br>0%          | 5. Host family<br>0% | 6. Apartment<br>4% |
| 4-2             | Would you recommend the university residences to future students? Why? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Close by the sea and also close to some festivals, the way to the university is far although if you use a bike it is a good training. (International Residence)</li> <li>•It was sufficient for a good price. (International Residence)</li> <li>•家賃も安いし、友達もできるし、生活も便利です。(International Residence)</li> <li>•Close to uni. Shops for everyday needs are also all fairly close by, easy to get to the city centre. Bus stop very close by too. (Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•The room is not very big but I think it is more than enough, the rent is very cheap and living in a dormitory allows you to have people around you and meeting with them is easier. (Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•I find dormitory a very nice place to stay as you have your own space when you need it and great people around when you need socializing. (Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•It is close to the train station and university. (Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•Up the hill so there is a beautiful view. Also walking is good for your health. (Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•You can make a lot of friends. It's the best experience as an exchange student. (Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•便利で安いです。安全保障もあります。(Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•家賃安く、一人暮らしができる。(Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•環境が美しいし、雰囲気も静かで、学習にとってふさわしい環境だと思います。(Kokui Residence)</li> <li>•家賃が安い。(Sumiyoshi International Residence)</li> </ul> |   |   |   |                      |                    |
| 4-3             | How did you get your meals?  | 1. Cooking by yourself<br>70%  | 2. Buying prepared food by yourself<br>9% | 3. Eating out<br>13%                            | 4. Prepared by your housing/host family<br>0% |                      |                    |
|                 |  | 5. Others<br>9% (Sometimes cooking, sometimes eating at the cafeteria. / 自炊、外食、食堂の程度だいたい同じ)  |   |   |   |                      |                    |
| 4-4             | Did you have any good experiences with your neighborhood and commute?  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Nice lollipop aunty and uncle who always greet us in the morning on the walk to university.</li> <li>•I only had contact with my neighbors inside the building, they are my friends. I can only recall great experiences with them. We had parties, ate together, had a lot of fun.</li> <li>•If international students are included in my neighborhood, then yes I had a very good experience with them. A lot of times I commuted with them to school and was able to learn about other cultures thanks to that as well as making new friends.</li> <li>•よく挨拶してくれて、嬉しいです。</li> </ul>   |   |   |   |                      |                    |

| 5. Cost |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5-1     | Did you receive any scholarships?  | 1. Yes<br>96%  | 2. No<br>4%  |  |  |  |
|         | Sponsor:   | JASSO/ Kobe University Fund  |  |  |  |  |
|         | Amount/month:  | Max: 80,000JPY / Min: 50,000JPY  |  |  |  |  |
| 5-2     | How much did you spend for the following items?  | Airfare (round trip):<br><br>Average: 120,000JPY<br>Max: 400,000JPY<br>Min: 60,000JPY  | Accommodation (per semester, including water, electricity, gas charges):<br><br>Average: 150,000JPY<br>Max: 200,000JPY<br>Min: 50,000JPY | Food (per semester):<br><br>Average: 150,000JPY<br>Max: 300,000JPY<br>Min: 60,000JPY | Insurance Fee (per semester):<br><br>Average: 12,000JPY<br>Max: 24,000JPY<br>Min: 7,000JPY | Mobile bill (per semester):<br><br>Average: 15,000JPY<br>Max: 23,000JPY<br>Min: 8,000JPY |
|         |  | Others:<br>Domestic transportation: 30,000 – 80,000 JPY<br>Textbooks: 20,000 JPY<br>Internet: 10,000 – 20,000 JPY<br>Entertainment, Traveling: Vary from person to person  |  |  |  |  |
|         | Total (per semester):  | Average: 500,000JPY<br>Max: 700,000JPY<br>Min: 300,000JPY  |  |  |  |  |
| 5-3     | Do you have any comments/advice for prospective student about managing expenses while at KU? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Some supermarket are cheaper than others, and the price difference is quite big. If you want to save more money, shop when it's near closing time and you can get some food at discounted prices. To save on electricity, do homework in the common or study room. Walk to university whenever possible to save money on transport.</li> <li>•It is better to cook than going to konbini everyday. Travelling is expensive.</li> <li>•You will be able to manage with the scholarship unless you don't eat out very often, go to trips either buy a significant amount of clothings or other items. Otherwise you need some other resources like a part time job.</li> <li>•Managing our expenses is very hard especially if it's your first time leaving by yourself, but getting a scholarship (JASSO in my case) was very helpful for the daily expenses and I didn't have to worry that much about such expenses. I still recommend to keep track on your monthly expenses and calculate what you spend every month.</li> <li>•¥100,000 per month is more than enough to maintain a decent student life staying at a Kobe University Residence (discounting initial flight and moving expenses). The bare minimum to live would probably be around ¥85,000, and a comfortable relatively care free would be around ¥120,000.</li> <li>•自炊でかなり節約できます。</li> <li>•スーパーはコンビニより安いです。</li> <li>•外食はあんまり食べないほうがいい。</li> <li>•アルバイトしてた。</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |

| 6. Additional Comments |   |  |
|------------------------|---|--|
| 6-1                    | How has study abroad changed the direction of your life?          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•It made me want to pursue a study in language, inspired to travel to other countries and visit other exchange students in their home country, made me more appreciative of life and uni back home, inspired me to do exchange again.</li> <li>•I want to continue studying in Japan or maybe work in Japan. Also studying in Japan can give me new job opportunities in my home country.</li> <li>•I want to study master degree in Japan. Especially at Kobe University.</li> <li>•I would like to learn Japanese. That can help me to find a better job. I would like to work with Japanese people.</li> <li>•It helped me become more independent and realize things that I didn't know was happening in my life. I also feel more motivated to learn Japanese. Now I want to go back to Japan and live there for a short period of time, around 2 years.</li> <li>•Thanks to my stay here I became hugely interested in Linguistics and more particularly the study of Japanese dialects.</li> <li>•今後の進路が明確になりました。先生から教えて頂いた研究方法を活用し、日本近代文学の研究をしつづけます。</li> <li>•未来の方向がちょっと明らかになりました。大学から卒業してから、神戸大学に行って研究生になりたいです。</li> <li>•就活の役に立つ。</li> <li>•留学を通して、私は自主性を養いました。自分でいろいろな問題を解決できるようになりました。</li> <li>•学部でいろんな授業を履修した。その中、私の考え方や価値観に大きな影響を与えてくれる科目がある。感激の限りだ。そして、翻訳についての授業もとった。それらの授業で今後は翻訳をめぐって取り込んでいきたいと思う。</li> </ul> |
| 6-2                    | Would you recommend this program to a friend? Please explain why. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•It's a really great experience as a student and as a human being.</li> <li>•Even people who had never studied Japanese at all can enjoy learning about a different culture and speaking with different people; I think it is always a really good experience.</li> <li>•Usually the classes are not too stressful although it depends on the classes one takes and level of skill. Plus, the teachers are very kind and will always try their best to explain when students don't understand.</li> <li>•Kobe might not be the most English friendly city but it is relatively quiet and small compared to major cities such as Tokyo or Osaka, also the combination of the sea and the mountains makes it quite relaxing and the location of Kobe is also ideal, being very close to major Japanese travel locations.</li> <li>•I strongly recommend to go to an exchange program to Kobe University. Japan is beautiful and people are very kind. It is interesting to learn about this amazing culture.</li> <li>•留学機会を活用して、今後の進路を考えながら、神戸大学でまじめに勉強するようにしてください。</li> <li>•留学生生活を十分に楽しんでください。</li> <li>•CIEの日本語の授業をうけてみてください。</li> <li>•神戸大学の先生たちが優しいし、キャンパスが美しいから、ぜひ来てください。</li> <li>•全体的にみれば、かなりいい大学なので、自分の人生にいい思い出ができて、ぜひ他人にすすめます。</li> <li>•都会に遠くないし、景が安い。</li> </ul>   |