

5. WHAT WILL I STUDY IN OUSSEP?

Full-year OUSSEP / Half-year OUSSEP

i) International Exchange Subjects

In the English speaking program, the University tries to equalize the number of students majoring in the fields of the physical sciences including engineering and health sciences, and humanities and the social sciences. Students may select their courses according to their major and interests. At the same time, students are encouraged to take courses outside their own major as this will help them to broaden their perspective and at the same time gain a deeper understanding of Japanese society and culture. All participants are expected to earn at least 15 credits from International Exchange Subjects per semester.

ii) Independent Study Course

One of the unique features of the Full-year and Half-year OUSSEP programs is Independent Study (2 credits per semester). Students can propose a study topic and be assigned to a supervising professor in an appropriate faculty. A student may wish to study a particular subject that is not found in the International Exchange Subjects (Individual Study) or to conduct a research project on a particular theme (Independent Research). The student and their supervising professor will agree upon the scope and depth of the study at the beginning of the program.* With respect to Full-year OUSSEP students, the study usually continues for two semesters. At the end of each semester the student will submit a report on his/her topic to the supervising professor. Refer to the "**Guide to Independent Study**" found at the **OUSSEP HP** for further details. **Those who wish to take the Independent Study Course must fill out the Independent Study Proposal (Form:Ind.Study-1 and Form:Ind.Study-2) along with the other application documents.**

**When the amount of work required for the study is particularly large, the supervising professor and the International Affairs Committee may decide to grant up to 4 credits instead of 2 credits per semester for Independent Study. Refer to the "Guide to Independent Study" for details.*

***Arrangements for Independent Study (Full-year and Half-year OUSSEP)**

OUSSEP coordinators of the ISC are in charge of the arrangements with supervising professors for Independent Study for Full-year and Half-year OUSSEP students. Appointing the most appropriate professor for each student according to their Independent Study Proposal is a very time consuming process. **It is therefore imperative that students wishing to do Independent Study apply to do so in their original applications, as it is usually too late for the ISC to make any additional arrangements once the student has arrived.**

iii) ISC Japanese Language Course

In addition to these courses, OUSSEP students may take any of the four Japanese courses (3 credits each semester), according to their proficiency level. Students must take a placement test and Japanese language classes will take place three times a week.

OUSSEP-Maple

i) CJLC Japanese Language Course

An OUSSEP-Maple student should take at least 7 Japanese language classes per week (7 credits per semester) in order to improve his/her Japanese language skills. This is an essential core part of the OUSSEP-Maple program.

ii) International Exchange Subjects

In addition to the core Japanese language classes, participants are able to extend their academic perspective by taking **4 courses (8 credits) per semester** from the International Exchange Subjects, CJLC Japanese studies courses and some courses offered in English by other schools within the University. Accordingly, all OUSSEP-Maple participants are expected to earn in total 15 or more credits (7 credits in the Japanese language and 8 credits from International Exchange Subjects) per semester.

OUSSEP-Maple students who do not have TOEFL 550 level English skills are required to take a series of International Exchange Subjects lectures offered in their first language in order to meet the completion requirement of 15 credits per semester (Comparative Studies; see Page 10).

iii) Independent Study Course

One of the unique features of the OUSSEP-Maple program is Independent Study (2 credits per semester). Students can propose a study topic and be assigned to a supervising professor in an appropriate faculty, including CJLC. A student may wish to study a particular subject that is not found in the International Exchange Subjects (Individual Study) or to conduct a research project on a particular theme (Independent Research). The student and their supervising professor will agree upon the scope and depth of the study at the beginning of the program.* With respect to OUSSEP-Maple students, the study usually continues for two semesters. At the end of each semester the student will submit a report on his/her topic to the supervising professor. **Those who wish to take the Independent Study Course must fill out the Independent Study Proposal (Form:Ind.Study-1 and Form:Ind.Study-2) along with the other application documents.**

***Arrangements for Independent Study (OUSSEP-Maple)**

Unlike Full- (Half-year) OUSSEP, coordinators of the CJLC make supervision arrangements for Independent Study with an appropriate professor for each OUSSEP-Maple student. **CJLC coordinators have interviews with Independent Study applicants upon their arrival**, then the CJLC makes appointments with the supervisors. In order for the best preparations to be made for Independent Study, all OUSSEP-Maple candidates who wish to pursue particular projects should produce an appropriate Independent Study proposal at the time of application.

Completion of the OUSSEP programs

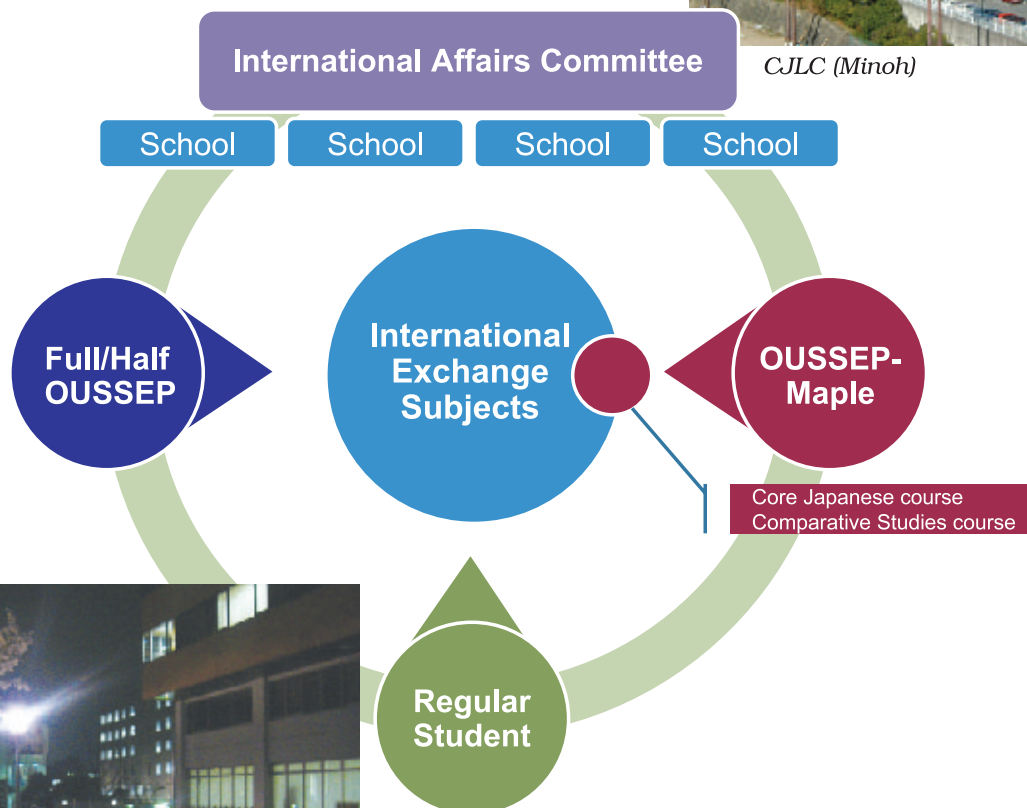
All the courses offered for Full-/Half-year OUSSEP and OUSSEP-Maple participants, including the Japanese language and Independent Study courses, are electives, except for the CJLC Japanese core course in the OUSSEP-Maple program and the special language courses for some OUSSEP-Maple participants*.

Students select and register for the courses of their choice at the beginning of each semester. **The minimum requirement in each semester for satisfactory completion of the OUSSEP program is 15 credits.** The International Affairs Committee of Osaka University will award Certificates of Completion to those students who have successfully completed the Full-year OUSSEP and OUSSEP-Maple programs. As for Half-year OUSSEP students, the participants will receive a (Half-year) Certificate of Completion issued by the International Affairs Committee if they take more than 15 credits during the semester.

**As noted in Page 10, an extra-ordinary consideration can be made for some of the OUSSEP-Maple applicants with respect to their English proficiency. Those who join OUSSEP-Maple without TOEFL 550 (PBT) level English must participate in a set of lectures offered in their first language in order to meet the completion requirement of 15 credits per semester.*



CJLC (Minoh)



ISC at Night (Suita)

International Exchange Activities

In addition to the academic programs, students are encouraged to participate in various international exchange activities throughout the year, which the ISC and CJLC organize. Other groups including those within the University (such as the student-organized international exchange group of Brothers and Sisters Program (BSP)), as well as those in neighboring communities, also participate in these programs. One example of a neighboring community group is the Osaka University Host Family Program (OHP), which is coordinated by the ISC and provides international students with an opportunity to closely interact with a local Japanese family living nearby the university.



Exchange with High-school Students



Exchange Event in Yukata



Meeting with Host Family

Field Trips

The **OUSSEP** programs offer field trips for students in order to give them opportunities to see as many things and to meet as many people as possible during their full-year or half-year stay in Japan. They visit industries and public institutions as a part of the academic courses and also go on trips, including overnight trips, to different parts of the country to meet local people and experience local cultures.



Seminar by an A-Bomb victim at Hiroshima



Field Trip to Biwa Lake Museum