

# 4. WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR OUSSEP?

## Academic Exchange Agreement

The **OUSSEP** programs are purposefully designed exchange programs for students from abroad who have completed at least two years of undergraduate programs at their home institution and who are interested in studying at OU. Students majoring in any field of study are welcome to participate in the **OUSSEP** programs. As courses are taught in English, Full-year OUSSEP and Half-year OUSSEP students need not to be fluent in Japanese. For the OUSSEP-Maple study program, however, a basic knowledge of Japanese is desirable.

**OUSSEP** is open to students from institutions that have concluded an *Inter-University (or Inter-Faculty) Student Exchange Agreement with Osaka University*.<sup>\*</sup> Students are expected to register as full-time students, to pay the appropriate tuition fees at their home institutions and to return there, after finishing the **OUSSEP** programs, in order to complete their own academic programs.

*\* OUSSEP is strictly an exchange program and does not accept students from other institutions*

Osaka University has concluded Inter-University or Inter-Faculty Academic Exchange Agreements that include provisions for a mutual tuition waiver and credit transfer with more than one hundred universities around the world.

## Academic Calendar

The academic year for regular educational programs in most Japanese universities, including Osaka University, begins in April and ends in March. The **OUSSEP** year which is divided into two 15-week semesters, on the other hand, runs from late September (early October for OUSSEP-Maple for 2008) until early August of the following year. Half-year OUSSEP participants will join either of these 15-week semesters; September-February or April-August.



Opening Ceremony

## Academic Year: OUSSEP 2008-2009

<b>September 25-30, 2008</b>	<b>Orientation</b>
<b>Fall Semester:</b>	
October 1, 2008.....	Classes start.
December 23, 2008-January 2, 2009.....	Year end / New Year break
February 16, 2009.....	Classes end.
February 17-April 1, 2009.....	Spring Break
April 3, 2009.....	Orientation
<b>Spring Semester:</b>	
April 6, 2009.....	Classes start.
August 3, 2009.....	Classes end.

*\*Spring semester schedules can be revised, in accordance with the Osaka University's 2009 academic year calendar, which will be finally approved in mid-2008.*



*Farewell Trip to Koya-san*



*Enjoy Camp Fire with Friends*



*Exchange with School Pupils*

### **English Requirements;**

As **OUSSEP** programs are international programs in which courses are taught in English, all applicants applying from non-English speaking countries have to demonstrate TOEFL 550 (PBT) level English proficiency in their applications. With respect to OUSSEP-Maple applicants, a certain group of Japanese language and culture learners may be exempt from this English requirement in their applications (see P.10).

### **Recommendations by Home Institutions**

All applicants have to be shortlisted by their home institution and their applications must be sealed and signed by the appropriate personal within their institution. Official transcripts and recommendation letters from academic staff are also essential for the eligibility of **OUSSEP** applications. One of these recommendations should be filled out on the Confidential Reference Form, enclosed in the application package.

All applications should be made through the student's home institution.



*Smile with own Masterpieces (MAPLE)*

*Craftwork Experience  
(Making Fans; MAPLE)*

