

1. What Is OUSSEP?

The Osaka University Short-term Student Exchange Program (OUSSEP) was launched in the 1996-97 academic year at Osaka University (hereafter referred to as OU) as an English speaking exchange program for those who have difficulties earning credits in Japanese. In this OUSSEP scheme, the participants have been offered special academic lectures taught in English.

Meanwhile, at Osaka University of Foreign Studies (hereafter referred to as OUFS), a specially designed international exchange program for Japanese learners, known as the MAPLE program, was launched in the 1999-2000 academic year, and has been popular amongst non-Japanese students who wished to study Japanese language and culture.

This program has now been re-organized and is known as OUSSEP-Maple and is administrated by the new Osaka University's Center for Japanese Language and Culture (hereafter referred to as CJLC). For more details of the OUSSEP-Maple program, see the column below.

From OUSSEP-AJLs to OUSSEP-Maple;

Osaka University used to run an exchange scheme, **OUSSEP for Advanced Japanese Learners (OUSSEP-AJLs)**, in which the participants joined intensive Japanese classes (advanced level 9~11 lectures a week; non-credit) in the Fall semester, and pursued their own subjects with Japanese class-mates or laboratory colleagues in the Spring semester (credited). The OUSSEP-AJLs program was designed for those who opted to dedicate their exchange opportunities for improving their Japanese language skills and some other academic disciplines. As a result of the university merger in 2007 between OU and OUFS, the new university no longer runs OUSSEP-AJLs, but offers OUSSEP-Maple instead for those who want to deepen their understanding of the Japanese language and/or culture within the exchange scheme system. Unlike OUSSEP-AJLs, the new OUSSEP-Maple program is able to cater for a wide range of Japanese learners, not only those learners at an advanced level. OUSSEP-Maple is, like the English speaking OUSSEP program, a JASSO recognized program, in which participants may receive financial aid from JASSO (Japan Student Service Organization).

With respect to new opportunities for Japanese language and culture learners, OUSSEP-Maple, CJLC is responsible for its academic content and day to day operations with participants, such as the offering of individual academic advice.

Visit the URL below for more details of OUSSEP-Maple;

<http://www.cjlc.osaka-u.ac.jp/index.html>

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The University grants credits to the students who attend OUSSEP, for the courses they take at Osaka University, and presents a certificate of completion to the students who successfully meet the program requirements. The credits can be transferred to the student's home university according to the provisions included in the pertinent inter-institutional exchange agreement.

The new Osaka University English speaking program (which includes the Full-year OUSSEP and Half-year OUSSEP) will admit thirty students who opt to study a variety of subjects such as medical sciences, natural sciences, engineering sciences, social sciences, arts and foreign studies. Students who participate in these programs will likely attend the same classes, join several extracurricular activities together and develop very close friendships amongst themselves. Needless to say, they will also make friends with Japanese students. Students are expected to earn at least 15 credits in each semester (30 credits annually), from lectures in English, Independent Study and Japanese language classes, then transfer the credits to their home institutions.

OUSSEP; Full-year and Half-year programs

OUSSEP was designed to give students from overseas who do not speak Japanese well or who have not studied Japanese at all, an opportunity to earn transferable credits at Osaka University under the close coordination of the International Student Center (hereafter referred to as the ISC). Participants are offered special academic lectures taught in English called International Exchange Subjects, which are administrated by the International Affairs Committee. The University grants credits to students who attend Full-(Half-) year OUSSEP for the courses they take as International Exchange Subjects, and presents a certificate of completion to students who successfully complete the requirements of OUSSEP. The credits can be transferred to the student's home university according to the provisions included in the relevant inter-institutional exchange agreement.

Students who come to OUSSEP are from a variety of countries around the world and study in a unique international environment. They come with different cultural backgrounds and various academic majors. In the thirteenth academic year of the program (Fall semester of OUSSEP 2008-2009) thirty students were admitted from twenty five universities in nineteen countries. Asia, Oceania, North America, Latin America and Europe are almost equally represented among the students. Students have a choice of participating in the program for two semesters (Full-year OUSSEP) or one semester only (Half-year OUSSEP).

FrontierLab@OsakaU and Regular Short-term Exchange Programs

In addition to the Full-year OUSSEP, Half-year OUSSEP and OUSSEP-Maple courses, there are other types of regular short-term (i.e. less than one academic year) exchange opportunities at Osaka University.

□ FrontierLab@OsakaU

FrontierLab@OsakaU is a specially designed exchange program, which offers laboratory experiences for science / engineering major students. Participants may join the laboratory activities, according to their research interests as one of the team members, then concentrate on their subjects under the supervision of OU professors. Detailed information can be found at the following URL;

<<http://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/jp/international/iab/e/FrontierLab.html>>

□ Regular Short-term Exchange Program;

In the **Regular Class Course**, overseas students enroll as a special auditor in regular courses taught in Japanese in one of the schools or the graduate schools of the University. In the **Regular Research Course**, students usually enroll as special research students in one of the graduate schools of the University. Students who are interested in the regular short-term exchange programs should follow the admission procedures explained below.

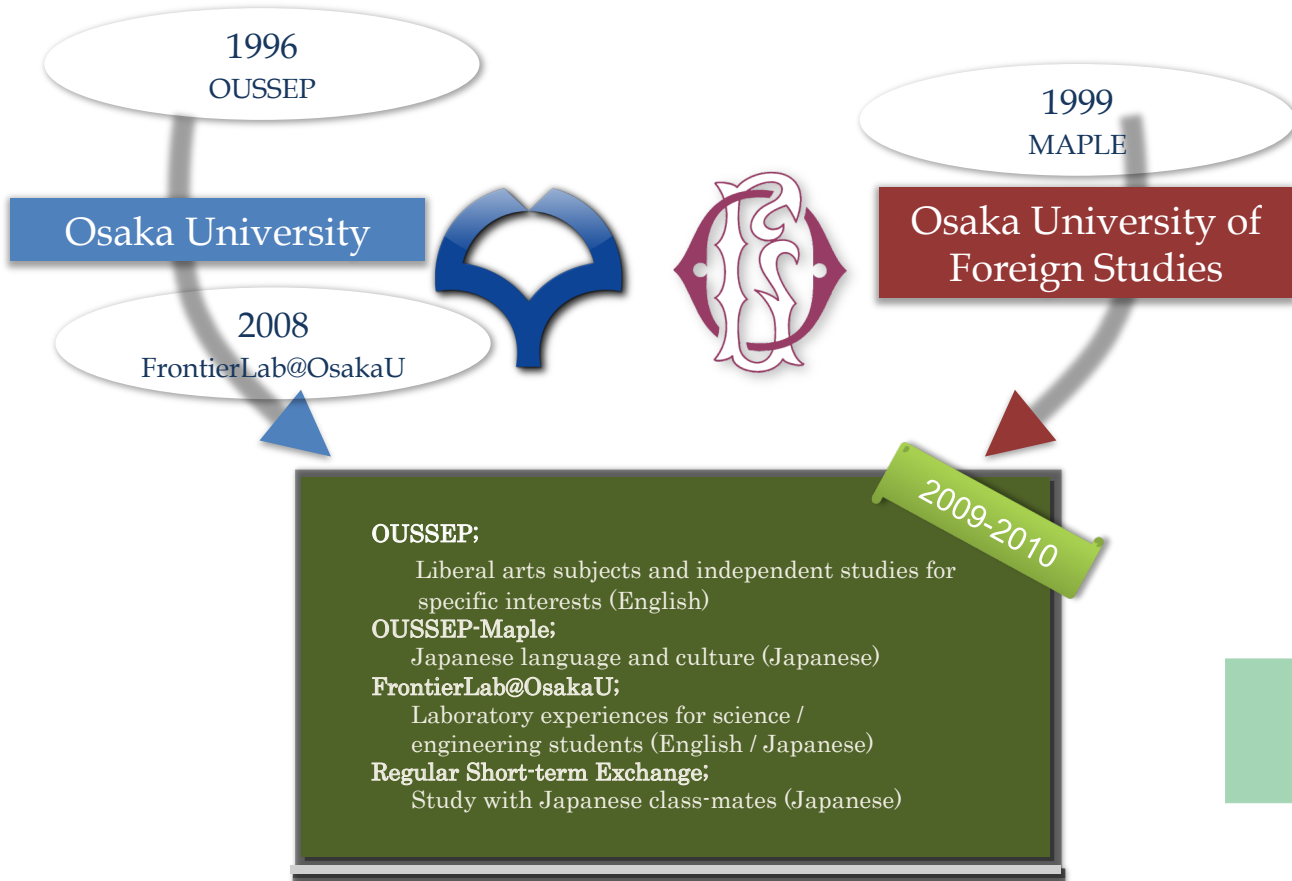
In the case of student exchange under **Inter-University Exchange Agreements**, an Osaka University Inter-University Exchange Application Package must be obtained by the student at the international exchange office of the student's home institution. The International Student Affairs Division of Osaka University deals with the admission of exchange students, in cooperation with its counterparts in partner institutions. In the case of exchange under **Inter-Faculty Exchange Agreements**, contact should be made through the relevant office of the faculty of the student's home institution and the individual school or graduate school of Osaka University. Useful information may be found at the following web site

<<http://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/eng/index.html>>

Studying Japanese;

OUSSEP is an English speaking program which caters to students with a variety of backgrounds. Although students may take elective Japanese classes, three classes per week, the program is not suitable for those who wish to study Japanese intensively in Japan, such as more than four classes per week. **If your main purpose for the exchange is to develop your Japanese language skills or to enhance your cultural knowledge of Japan, consider joining OUSSEP-Maple, instead of OUSSEP.**

Variety of Exchange opportunities at Osaka University



The Programs are outlined in the URL below:
<http://www.gcn-osaka.jp/exchange/index.html>

Profile of Osaka University

Osaka University's historical roots originated from a Liberal Arts College for Osaka merchants in the eighteenth century and School of Dutch Studies in the nineteenth century. Osaka University was officially founded in 1931 by the Japanese Government with strong support from local governments in the Osaka area. It was established with the aim of creating a center of higher education inheriting the liberal and progressive academic tradition of the Osaka area that had been the center of trade for the nation for many centuries.

In April of 2004, it became one of 84 National University Incorporations founded under the National University Law that resulted from the recent national university reform plan in Japan. OU was divided into two main campuses, Toyonaka and Suita. At Toyonaka, there are the School of Science, Engineering Science, Letters, Law, Economics and several Graduate Schools. The Institute of Higher Education and Practice and other research institutions are also located on the Toyonaka campus. At Suita, there are the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmaceutical Science, Engineering, Human Science and several Graduate Schools. The University's Main Administration Office and many research and educational institutions, including the International Student Center (ISC) are also located on the Suita campus.



Engineering Buildings (Suita)



Ginkgo Hall (Suita)



Classic University Building (Toyonaka)

1724	Establishment of the Kaitokudo (懷徳堂) (School of General Education)
1838	Establishment of the Tekijuku (適塾) (School of Dutch Studies in the Edo Period)
1869	Establishment of the hospital supervised by the Ministry of Education (Presently, MEXT)
1880	Establishment of the Osaka Prefecture Medical School and the Osaka Prefecture Hospital
1896	Establishment of the Osaka Industrial School
1915	Establishment of the Osaka Prefecture University Hospital
1931	Establishment of the Osaka Imperial University
1949	Establishment of the Osaka University (new system)
2004	Becoming “ National University Corporation ” (Semi-Privatization)
2007	Merger with Osaka University of Foreign Studies
2011	80th Anniversary (287 th since Kaitokudo)

OUFS was first established in December 1921 at downtown Osaka, Uehonmachi, and was committed to international peace and friendship. Financially it was helped by a large donation from Choko Hayashi, an Osaka business woman. Having survived the Second World War, it moved to the city of Takatsuki, a northern suburb of Osaka, and then back to Uehonmachi. In 1979, it moved again to a new location in Minoh City for more extensive academic activities. On October 1, 2007, OUFS became a part of Osaka University as the School of Foreign Studies and some other institutions, such as the Center for Japanese Language and Culture (CJLC). OUFS's Minoh campus became OU's third main campus, the Minoh campus, where the School of Foreign Studies and CJLC are located.

1. What Is OUSSEP?



School of Foreign Studies (Minoh)



Groningen Center



San Francisco Center

The University is now (as of January, 2009) comprised of eleven undergraduate schools, fifteen graduate schools, the Institute for Higher Education Research and Practice, five research institutes, twenty education and research centers (including ISC and CJLC), three nation-wide joint-use facilities, one main library with three branch libraries and two hospitals attached to the Faculty of Medicine and the School of Dentistry.

Furthermore, the University maintains a downtown extension, the Nakanoshima Center, and three overseas offices: in the US (San Francisco), in the Netherlands (Groningen) and in Thailand (Bangkok). More information about Osaka University may be found at the following web site: <http://www.osaka-u.ac.jp>

Where is Osaka University located? (World University Rankings)

	THES*			IHE, Shanghai Jiao Tong University**			Thomson Scientific***			News-week
	'05	'06	'07	'06	'07	'08	'06	'07	'08	'06
Osaka University	105	70	46	61	67	68	35	34	33	57
The University of Tokyo	16	19	17	19	20	19	14	13	12	14
Kyoto University	31	29	25	22	22	23	31	30	28	25
Tohoku University	136	168	102	76	76	79	76	70	65	69
Tokyo Institute of Technology	99	118	90	89	99	101-151	172	163	162	-

* The Times Higher Education Supplement

** Institute of Higher Education, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

*** The ranking is based on the analysis of Essential Science Indicators on 2006(1995-2005), 2007(1996-2006) and 2008(1997-2007)