



As of July 1, 2022

Center for International Education and Exchange (CIEE)

Osaka University

Internship Course

Course 2: Social Welfare and Inclusive community environment creation Course **@ Ishibashi Shopping Street and Ikeda Daigaku** **<Tuesday>**

Main instructor: TACHIKAKE Toshiyuki (Health and Counseling Center, HaCC, Professor)

Sub-instructors: KONDO Sachihiko (CIEE, Professor), ISHIKURA Yukiko (CIEE, Associate Professor), HAYASHI Takaya (CIEE, Assistant Professor)

Main person of host organization: HISHIDA Ikoma (Ikeda Daigaku)

Invited instructor: NAKANO Ryoko

Area: Social welfare, Inclusive community environment creation

1) **Overviews of Internship Course Course 2**

This internship consists mainly of activities at Ishibashi Shopping Street and Ikeda Daigaku, which is engaged in community development work in Ikeda City. In addition to this, we will visit local communities that play an important role in Japanese society.

Ishibashi Shopping Street, an area developed in 1910 that has cultivated close ties to Osaka University, is located next to Ishibashi Handai-mae Station (Hankyu Takarazuka Line) and a 10-15 minute walk from Toyonaka Campus. At Ikeda Daigaku, people work with diverse people, mainly people with disabilities (especially people with mental illness). Through this internship, students will interact with locals, consider what they can do for inclusive town development and regional revitalization as international students.

Towards the end, students will plan and give a final presentation to the local communities based on what they learned from the internships at the shopping street and Ikeda Daigaku.

Participants will be expected to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Japanese social welfare and regional activities through their experiences with local volunteer work and work training, as well as event planning.

Please refer to the website of Ishibashi Shopping Street and Ikeda Daigaku below:

Ishibashi Shopping Street: <http://www.ss-ishibashi.jp/> (only in Japanese)

Ikeda Daigaku: <https://www.ikedadaigaku.net/> (only in Japanese)

Previous Internship Course Photos: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/itjJEEczpmVnshZu9>

2) Background of the "Ikeda Daigaku"

1 Purpose of the project

Is our society a society where we can live in peace?

Japan is a stressful society where the number of mentally disorder patients is increasing every year (over 3.3 million) and the rate of withdrawal and suicide among young people is rising every year. Aspects of our society that promote individualism have created a society of detachment and have exacerbated the problem of isolation, which is a cause of illness.

The decline in our population and the super-aging of our society in the near future may inevitably lead to a shrinking economy and shrinking social security funds. It is imperative that we create new values and practices that will enable us to survive and imagine a sustainable society for future generations.

In order to do this, we need to think differently, imagine and create, and by discussing and connecting our knowledge across the fields of welfare, healthcare, transport, townscape, lifestyle, business and entrepreneurship, we can create a city where people can live with peace of mind for the future. We believe that this will help to create a safe and secure city for the future.

We believe that our work contributes to stimulating thinking and changing behaviour through exposure to diverse learning, experiences and people, to transforming values and creating a new culture.

This is because at the heart of our business is a rethinking of the way we live and work. Our aim is to create a society in which future generations can live in peace and security without exclusion.

2 The process leading up to the application

The "City of Smiles Project", the forerunner of Ikeda Daigaku, is a citizens' group that started in 2013 to help people with mental disabilities find a way to live as citizens, and its members are volunteers from the general public and people with mental disabilities.

It all started when one of the members of the group, who himself had been to a mental institution, muttered to himself that "this place is just like a mental hospital, only there are no locks..." and then, after watching the Italian film "Life is Here", he realized that "if there is a social cooperative system and understanding of the illness, we can work too! We can live an independent life! This is the reason why we started the project to establish a social cooperative.

We also want to make a contribution to the city, so we have been working to prevent isolation and to rebuild links in the city. For example, we have been repairing the flowerbeds of the communal facilities, harvesting vegetables and organizing events such as bamboo noodles.

However, we have not been able to achieve our other goal, which is to create a place where no one is excluded from work. Therefore, in September 2018, we opened "Ikeda Daigaku", where citizens become teachers and students, and where they can experience diverse ways of life and values, using the city as a campus.

The aim of the project is to create a place where citizens can meet and reconnect with each other, to build a culture of openness and tolerance, to avoid exclusion, and to promote citizenship and the active participation of citizens.

These activities are aimed at the restructuring of the region and have a strong public interest and a very serious social significance and responsibility. In view of the importance of our work and the need

to expand our activities, we have decided to establish a general incorporated association so that we can expand our activities and contribute to the work of vulnerable groups in the future.

After acquiring the status of a general incorporated association, we will work together with citizens on a variety of projects to create a new community where people can live safely and comfortably.

3) Internship Schedule

Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., 15 weeks

4) Capacity

2 persons

5) Course content

- ① Induction courses regarding community volunteer activities in Japan (e.g. the structure of minority support systems in Japan, creating inclusive working environments, intercultural communication, basic Japanese language training for daily conversation, etc.) will be provided.
- ② Planning events for regional revitalization (e.g. planning events as an international student, English learning support for children, other events for intercultural understanding, etc.) will be required.

6) Learning Outcomes

In this class students will:

1. be able to build human relationships through communication with local people (personalization) [Skills/Attitude];
2. know and be able to explain practical examples of inclusive environment development through interactions with people working for the community [Knowledge];
3. be able to recognize the actual situation and problems of social exclusion in Japan through interactions with people involved in this issue [Knowledge]; and
4. be able to express one's own opinion on social issues in Japan from an individual standpoint [Skills and Attitude].

7) Course Schedule

This program may be adjusted depending on student interest and the corona situation.

Mornings: volunteer activities in Ishibashi shopping district.

Afternoons: fieldwork and activities in the local areas.

One-day activities are also planned.

Please refer to the course schedule for the previous semester below:

2022SS		In the Morning		In the Afternoon
12-Apr	Week 1	Ikeda D.	Online	Self-introduction Workshop @Ikeda D.
19-Apr	Week 2	Ikeda D.	Online	Farm experience@Nose
26-Apr	Week 3	Ikeda D.	Online	Gender Issues Discussion @Toyonaka HaCC
10-May	Week 4	Local Community Visit @Diversity Center/Osaka College of Music		
17-May	Week 5	Reflection @Toyonaka Campus		Lecture on Student Support by Prof. Tachikake @Toyonaka HaCC
24-May	Week 6	ZOOM with professor of Osaka Kyoiku University		Local Community Visit @Osaka College of Music
31-May	Week 7	Local Community Visit @Suita City (home visit)		
7-Jun	Week 8	Visiting a Local Community @a high school in Takarazuka (1)		
14-Jun	Week 9	Lecture about BEVI test		Visiting a Local Community @Shonai Toyonaka ESD Network (Children Support)
21-Jun	Week 10	Skip		one-by-one Reflection@ZOOM
28-Jun	Week 11	Ishibashi Visit		Visiting a Local Community @Umeda (AIDS Support)
5-Jul	Week 12	Lecture about Fieldwork		Visiting a Local Community @Otein Temple
8-Jul	Week 12	Visiting a Local Community @a high school in Takarazuka (2)		
12-Jul	Week 13	Ishibashi Visit		Reflection on Presentation at a high school
19-Jul	Week 14	Preparing for the final presentation @Ishibashi Shopping Street		
26-Jul	Week 15	Final Presentation @Ikeda D.		

8) Grading Policy / Assessment

1. Participant attitude (attendance, punctuality, active participation) 20%
2. Weekly reports (students, including online discussions) 20%
3. Assessment from the host organization 20%
4. Final presentation 20%
5. Final essay 20%



The topic and the length of the final presentation/essay will be given during the course.

9) Other Remarks

Notes:

- Course 2 participants are not able to take either Tuesday's classes (including OUSSEP classes) or JA (Japanese) classes as they need to engage in this course all day. Those who apply to this course are expected to understand the rules and submit a pledge.
- Once students are accepted as interns, they are not permitted to decline the internship and take JA courses.
- You will need an apron and a bandana for the internships, so please prepare them in advance.

< Access >

- **Ikeda Daigaku office:**
15 mins on foot from East gate of Ishibashi handai-mae, Hankyu Takarazuka Line
- **Ishibashi Shopping Street:**
Next to the West gate of Ishibashi handai-mae, Hankyu Takarazuka Line

