



As of March 5, 2025

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 Ishibashi Commons (NPO)

<Tuesday>

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

Sub-instructors: KONDO Sachihiko (CIEE, Professor), ISHIKURA Yukiko (CIEE, Associate Professor), IOKU Tomohiro (CIEE, Assistant Professor)

Main person of host organization: HISHIDA Ikoma (Ishibashi Commons)

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 “Ishibashi Commons”, a non-profit organization that conducts social and academic collaboration projects (activities that connect society and universities) in various areas of the Kansai region, with a focus on Ishibashi Shopping Street in Ikeda City, Osaka Prefecture. There will also be opportunities to visit various local communities that can provide useful insights into Japanese society.

Ishibashi Shopping Street is a historic commercial area that developed around Ishibashi Handai-mae Station on the Hankyu Line and is closely associated with Osaka University. In Ishibashi Shopping Street, local people and Osaka University cooperate in various community revitalization activities. In the Ishibashi area, local stores that are not part of large chains play a central role in organizing events of all sizes, from small daily events to large seasonal events. Specific activities can be found on the shopping street’s website.

For Ishibashi Commons, the concept of social integration is very important. In their activities, they work with people who are excluded from society or who face challenges that are difficult to highlight. In particular, participants of this course have the opportunity to work with people with disabilities and other minorities in Japanese society. Occasionally, they may visit sensitive sites, thus participants are expected to conduct their internship activities with mutual respect.

Possible local communities to visit include schools and other educational institutions, volunteer centers, welfare facilities, temples, and so on. The sites to be visited will be determined flexibly through discussions between participants, representatives, and faculty members during the internship.

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 Ishibashi Commons. 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 Ishibashi Commons below:

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

Ishibashi Commons Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/en_ishibashi_commons/ (En)

2) Internship Schedule

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

3) Capacity

3 persons

4) 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.

5) 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].

6) Course Schedule

This program may be adjusted depending on student interest and the 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:

2024SS		In the Morning	In the Afternoon
Apr 16	Week 1	Farm experience @Nose (the mid-mountain area)	
Apr 23	Week 2	Ishibashi-Minami Elem. School (1)	Yokota Sensei's private library (women's empowerment)
Apr 30	Week 3	Otein Temple	Nishinari Coco room
May 7	Week 4	Sake Brewery, Job support center@ Nose	Lecture about social psychology by Ioku-sensei@ Toyonaka Campus
May 14	Week 5	Prof. Tachikake's lecture "Students Support" @T Campus	Joint Course with Tohoku University: Great East Japa Earthquake Experience@T Campus
May 21	Week 6	Farm Experience @I Shop. Str	Hibarigaoka-Gakuen High School
May 28	Week 7	Meeting with Ishida-san@Taro	Human Renovation Institution@Kobe
June 4	Week 8	Ishibashi-Minami Elem. School (2)	Toyonaka Performing Arts Center
June 11	Week 9	Ishibashi-Minami Elem. School (3) P	Meeting with Ueda-san (Feminism)
June 25	Week 10	Presentation Prepration@Taro	Takarazuka Town Development Council
July 2	Week 11	Farm Experience, BEVI test Lecture@ Old House	Housen Cultural Foundation @Osaka-city
July 9	Week 12	Takarazuka	
July 16	Week 13	Heian Joakuin High School	
July 23	Week 14	Preparation for Final Presentation	

7) 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.

8) 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.

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- **Ishibashi Commons office:**
1 min on foot from East gate of Ishibashi handai-mae station, Hankyu Takarazuka Line
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/wVZfAt6rMgMFhyRZ7>
- **Ishibashi Shopping Street:**
Next to the West gate of Ishibashi handai-mae, Hankyu Takarazuka Line

