

## Sophia University

art / art history / business / economics / history / japanese language / literature / political science / religion / sociology / theater



### program snapshot

- Liberal Arts and Japanese language curriculum integrated with daily excursions; outstanding introduction to Japanese society, culture, and language
- Dedicated CIEE student service and resource center at the CIEE Study Center, located on the Sophia University campus in the heart of downtown Tokyo
- Cultural activities such as visits to the Meiji Shrine, Edo-Tokyo Museum, and traditional Japanese arts events, including a tea ceremony and flower arranging; cultural excursions outside of Tokyo; cultural reimbursement

### what you'll learn

The Japanese Studies summer program is designed to help students develop an understanding of Tokyo and of Japanese society and culture. The program offers coursework in Asian studies taught in English, optional Japanese language courses (beginning and intermediate levels), an overnight field trip, and the support and leadership of CIEE staff.

## thoughts from abroad

Japan is a country full of amazing contrasts between old and new, and Tokyo is truly one of the world's most energetic and fascinating cities. In addition to being the economic and political heart of Japan, Tokyo carefully balances its present-day modernity with its traditional past. This provides a landscape in which, in a single day, one can see a kimono-clad woman talking on a cell phone, an old man selling baked yams from his homemade cart, thousands of "salarymen" rushing through the crowded web of Tokyo's train network, and a 300-year-old shrine in the middle of a shopping district.

— Michelene Guertler, Resident Director

### About the Resident Director

Michelene Guertler received her B.A. in Communications from DePaul University and her M.A. in International and Intercultural Management at the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont. Since 1995, she has lived in Japan, where she has held various professional positions, including serving as an assistant language teacher in the JET program, as an English language curriculum coordinator, and as a study abroad coordinator for Japanese university students studying in America. These positions have provided her many glimpses of Japanese culture, from the rural and traditional customs of Fukui prefecture, to the eco-tourism culture of Kiyosato and Yamanashi prefecture, to the high pace lifestyle of Tokyo.

### About Other CIEE Staff

Dr. David Slater, Faculty Advisor to the CIEE Study Center in Tokyo, is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at Sophia University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and has been teaching at Sophia University since 1996. Dr. Slater's professional interests include issues surrounding the semiotics of city space, class, and urban culture. Dr. Slater serves as the Faculty Advisor to CIEE students and participates both in the CIEE orientation and as a guest lecturer.

Hiroko Watanabe, Program Coordinator, has worked for both a Japanese company in the U.S. and a French company in Japan as a bilingual office assistant. She has a B.A. in International Studies with a minor in Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Hiroko provides administrative support and serves as the liaison to Sophia University.

Rie Suzuki, Office Coordinator, graduated with a B.A. in Bible Study from International Christian University. Rie studied in Pennsylvania as an exchange student for a year. She has five years experience working for an outbound exchange program at a university in Tokyo.

Ayako Matsuno, Housing Coordinator, graduated with a B.S. in English Literature and Language from Tokyo Kasei University. She also studied English in the United Kingdom. She has many years of experience working with overseas students, including homestay programs in New York. Ayako coordinates homestay placements for the semester program students and is the liaison with staff at the private dormitories.

Rie Ayuzawa, Housing Assistant, graduated from Hosei University with a B.A. in Business Administration and studied English in the United Kingdom. She has also studied abroad at Duke University. Rie has worked as a coordinator for international students in the United Kingdom and has organized study abroad programs for Japanese and foreign students for many years.

## about tokyo

Contemporary Japan is a land of intrigue. This is a country that has mastered the ability to balance both ancient traditions and ultra-modern conveniences. Where else is it possible to participate in a traditional tea ceremony against a backdrop of suburban sprawl that contains some of the largest corporations in the world? Tokyo, Japan's capital and economic hub, is a shining example of how old traditions and new high-tech culture meld to create one of the most fascinating cities in the world.

## academics

### Academic Program

Based at Sophia University, this program provides students a supportive environment in which to study at one of Japan's top-ranked universities while experiencing life in Tokyo. CIEE participants enroll in Sophia University's Summer Session of Asian Studies alongside Japanese and international students. The CIEE resident staff also organize a special orientation and various cultural activities designed to introduce students to the many different facets of Japanese society.

### Academic Culture

Students enroll in 2 two-hour courses held daily from Monday through Friday (and two Saturday sessions). Students should limit personal travel to nearby destinations on weekends and reserve more extensive travel until after the program has ended.

### Nature of Classes

Participants take classes with CIEE, Japanese, and other international students.

### Grading System

Assessment is based on exams, quizzes, presentations, and papers. Letter grades of A, B, C, D, and F are given.



## where you'll study

Sophia University, a private Jesuit institution, is one of the preeminent universities in Japan with over 10,000 students from around the world enrolled. CIEE students take courses through the Faculty of Liberal Arts. Located in central Tokyo near Shinjuku, the Meiji Shrine, and the Imperial Palace, Sophia's Yotsuya campus includes a library, computer labs, faculty and administrative offices, classrooms, and sports grounds. The CIEE Study Center, located on campus, provides support to CIEE students studying at Sophia University.

## living

### Housing and Meals

Housing and breakfast are included in the program fee. All other meals are the responsibility of the student. Students live with other CIEE participants in double rooms in a hotel arranged by Sophia University.

### Orientation

A mandatory orientation in Tokyo takes place prior to the beginning of courses. The CIEE orientation introduces students to the country and the culture, as well as provides practical information about living in Tokyo. In addition, Sophia University provides an academic orientation for all summer program participants. Students receive ongoing support through several group meetings and individual appointments with CIEE staff. A final overnight session is held in Nikko, a historically rich and famous area outside of Tokyo, at the end of

the program. During this session, students share their learnings and prepare for their return home.

### Internet

Students have free access to email and the Internet at Sophia University and are encouraged to bring a wireless-enabled laptop. The housing facility also provides Internet access for a daily fee.

## culture

### Cultural Activities and Field Trips

To enhance cultural learning during the summer program, CIEE arranges visits to the Meiji Shrine, the Edo-Tokyo Museum, and other events that give students exposure to traditional Japanese arts. Past events have included Noh, Kabuki, a tea ceremony, and flower arranging. In addition, CIEE arranges several group meals and field trips to various areas in and around Tokyo.

### Cultural Reimbursement Program

As a means of encouraging students to enrich their study abroad experience in Tokyo, CIEE offers a Cultural Reimbursement Program, which reimburses students for participating in local cultural activities. This may include covering the costs of tickets to Japanese movies, traditional Japanese music concerts and theater, and visits to local museums and historic places of interest.

## costs

### CIEE Fees

Summer 2009: \$6,100

Summer 2010: available 12/15/09

The CIEE fees for 2010 include on-site airport meet and greet, tuition, housing, breakfasts, orientation, full-time program leadership and support, a local commuter pass, cultural activities and cultural reimbursement, local excursions, field trips, a comprehensive student handbook, pre-departure advising, and a CIEE iNext travel card, which provides insurance and other travel benefits.

### Estimated Additional Costs (Summer 2009)

Transportation (round-trip based on U.S. West Coast departure)	\$ 1,300
Personal Expenses	\$ 800
Meals	\$ 700
Books and Supplies	\$ 100
Local Transportation	\$ 100
<b>Total Estimated Additional Costs</b>	<b>\$ 3,000</b>

Check our website for current fees.

## eligibility

- Overall GPA 2.75

## duration

4 weeks: late July–late August



## coursework

### Program Requirements

Students are required to take two courses during the summer session, taught in English. Optional beginner and intermediate Japanese language courses are also offered.

### Credit

Total recommended credit for the summer is 6 semester/9 quarter hours.

Course contact hours are 45 hours and recommended credit is 3 semester/4.5 quarter hours per course.

### Language of Instruction

English

### Faculty

All courses are taught by Sophia University faculty.

## courses

### Sophia University Summer Session Courses

*The following is a sample list of available courses. Actual courses will be available in CIEE enrollment materials.*

#### Comparative Asian Industrial Systems

This course on development issues compares experiences in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The issues examined include: economic policies, relations between public and private sector, governance, role of small and medium enterprises, information technology, environment and sustainable development, and the cultural impact of development. Students see how the World Bank and the largest regional development bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, analyze and address these issues in their operational activities. The course examines the financial and technical instruments that these institutions use in assisting developing countries.

#### Contemporary Japanese Economy

The aim of this course is to help students understand the Japanese economy by using standard economic theory. Several aspects of the development and characteristics of the modern Japanese economy are analyzed and discussed. Major themes include Japan's economic growth and development, integration with the world economy, and government policies.

#### Contemporary Japanese Politics

This course invites students to consider the impact of electoral, administrative, and economic reforms on contemporary patterns of communication between masses, political elites, and powerful interest groups.

#### Contemporary Japanese Society

In addition to providing a general overview of contemporary Japanese culture and society, this course presents a more in-depth examination of a number of specific issues and problems (e.g., the role of education, the status of women, the place of religion, the influence of popular culture, etc.). As much as possible, these special topics are linked to the study of Japanese culture and society. Special attention is also given to the basic issues involved in interpreting and teaching about Japan.

#### Foundations of East Asian Culture

This course presents an overview of cultural formation in East Asia, beginning with the emergence of civilization in continental East Asia. It gives students an opportunity to examine important achievements of classical East Asian traditional thought about society. Reviewing characteristic patterns of East Asian social life as studied through social sciences, the class prepares students to analyze features of social organization pertinent to understanding contemporary transformations of East Asian culture.

#### Japanese 1 (A and B)

This basic introductory course is designed for students with no or little background in Japanese. The goal is to give them daily survival skills in Japanese by integrating speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Emphasis is put on the thorough mastery of basic functional grammar of Japanese through oral practice. By the end of this course, students are able to handle various daily conversational situations and read and write simple texts with hiragana and katakana, as well as approximately 50 kanji (Chinese characters) for production and recognition.

#### Japanese 2 (A and B)

This course is designed for students who have already acquired basic communication skills in Japanese and are familiar with hiragana, katakana, and some kanji. It aims to help students further build their basic functional Japanese grammar and develop communicative abilities by integrating speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

#### Japanese Art

The course covers the history of Japanese art from the early Neolithic period to the end of the Edo period. Some aspects of the Meiji era are introduced. The emphasis is on sculpture and painting. Classes are designed to let students obtain an overall understanding of the major trends in Japanese art and be able to identify the important works. Lectures consist primarily of discussions of stylistic evolutions and technical developments, as well as foreign, social, and historical influences. Slides accompany the lectures to illustrate the topics.

#### Japanese Business and Management

After introducing students to the structure and organization of the Japanese industry, this course covers distinctive Japanese managerial practices and how they relate to strengths and weaknesses of Japanese businesses in recent years. A reoccurring theme is the debate whether Japanese business practices are converging to a more "Western" business model. Each class deals with a different subject matter through lectures, student presentations, and group discussions. During the course, each student is required to give one short presentation based on assigned reading materials.



*(courses continued from previous page)*

**Japanese History: Edo and Tokyo**

This course provides a general overview of Japanese history. Particular attention is given to the Edo and modern periods, especially in terms of how Japanese history can be studied by making use of resources, sites, and museums.

**Japanese Literature and the City**

This course provides an introduction to the study of Japanese literature, exploring the ways in which the city and its social life have been shaped by and portrayed in literature.

**Japanese Theater**

The Kabuki theater and Bunraku puppet theater, both developed during the Edo period, were famous around the world as sophisticated and entertaining forms of theater. This course examines the history of these two genres by focusing on a number of plays in detail and comparing them with the classical Noh theater. Students also watch videos of stage performances.

**Survey of Japanese Religions**

This course provides an historical overview of various religious traditions in Japan and assesses their significance in contemporary Japanese culture and society. Throughout the course, a simple, yet problematic question—"What is Japanese religion?"—is continually raised, with discussions centering around such important themes as religion and nature, religion and politics, belief and practice, syncretism, and religion and community.

