

Gustavus Exchange - KANSAI GAIDAI, JAPAN



The University and the City

The unique quality of this study abroad experience is a combined result of the exceptional Kansai area, the immersion in Japanese family life and solid classroom instruction. The Gustavus-Kansai Gaidai exchange program offers liberal arts students the opportunity to explore Japan in depth.

Kansai Gaidai is located between three cities representing Japan's rich past and present. 1) Nara, the ancient capital and home of giant and once powerful temples, is a little over an hour's train ride away. 2) Kyoto is also just an hour away. Japan's capital for over a millennium, where political intrigue was thick and wars were fought, Kyoto is today a cultural center where Japan's arts thrive and excel. And, 3) Osaka, a bustling merchant city where the foundation for the world's third greatest economic power was laid is also a short train ride away.

The extraordinary location of Kansai Gaidai allows for endless side trips. The Kansai Gaidai staff are available to help the international students with anything they require, including travel arrangements. A number of clubs and organizations are active on the Kansai Gaidai campus including tennis, volleyball, basketball, soccer, football, body building, calligraphy and Iota and tea ceremonies.

Academics

Kansai Gaidai is a university which offers a diverse course selection. Gustavus exchange students will study as part of the Asian Studies Program at Kansai Gaidai. The Curriculum of the Asian Studies Program is twofold; the rigorous Japanese language studies and courses in the Social Sciences, Humanities, and Business/Economics pertinent to Japan and Asia. Some courses available for **study in English** are listed below. Note that not all courses are offered both fall and spring terms.

Issues in Contemporary Japanese Society & Culture	Japanese Art in the Kansai Area
Onno to Otoko: Gender and Sexuality in Japan	Zen Buddhism
Culture, Law and Business	The Relation of Life and Fiction in Modern Japanese Literature
The Political Economies of Asia	Japanese Cinema 1949-1987
Introduction to Japanese History	The Culture of Food and Eating in Japan
Religion in Japan	Peace, Conflict and Human Rights: The Asian Dilemma
Japan and Its World to 1860	
Death in East Asian Thought	

All credits transfer to Gustavus*. Pre-approval is required to meet major/minor requirements or specific area requirements. Students studying at Kansai Gaidai receive between 3.75 and 4.25 Gustavus credits. Four Kansai Gaidai semester credits are equal to 1 Gustavus course credit.

**Students must complete one semester of Japanese language or its equivalent before arrival in Japan. Credit transfer policies will apply.*

Accommodation

The Kansai Gaidai International Education office strongly advocates their Homestay Program. It offers a great opportunity to develop Japanese language skills and to understand Japanese culture in more depth by experiencing daily life. The families are experienced in the Homestay Program, and Kansai will assist the student in solving any difficulties should they arise.

Kansai Gaidai does have four dormitories (Seminar Houses), all of which are designed to accommodate two students per room. All four Seminar Houses are located within a 20-minute walk of Kansai Gaidai Nakamiya Campus, 10-minute walk from a supermarket, and a 20-minute walk from the nearest train station. While living in a Seminar Houses will provide a multi-cultural experience due to the increasing number of international students from all over the world, a truly Japanese experience is unbeatable in the Homestay Program.

Cost

Students pay their Gustavus tuition plus a Program Fee equal to Gustavus' room & board. Air transportation is not included. Generally, all financial aid applies, except student workstudy and certain scholarships which require participation on campus. A \$200 deposit is due upon acceptance.

Dates

Kansai Gaidai Asian Studies Program fall semester is in session from late August to mid-December; spring semester is in session from late January to late May.

Note that since the Japanese academic calendar differs from that of the Asian Studies Program, few Japanese students will be on the Kansai Gaidai main campus during the first three weeks of September, as well as during the months of February and March.

Application deadline: March 1st for the following academic year; fall or spring semester or year options
Applications are available in the Office of International Education and online.



Student Services Center



An exchange student with his home stay family

"I had a wonderful experience at homestay. ... Don't worry about the food! I was so scared, but I loved it!"

-Kate Kreuser, 2002-2003 participant

For more information please contact:



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