



# Major in Cultural Exploration

Learning objectives

**From the standpoints of culture and science, fostering a broad knowledge about society, an awareness of social problems, and an inquiring mind**

Each and every human being is brought up in society. In the Cultural Exploration major, students study human development from the perspective of society and culture, and link this to the training of the next generation. In this major, students deepen their understanding of language culture, regional culture, the life sciences and mathematical science subjects and learn about their mutual influence and applicability. Students look at the various ways that *knowledge* exists and functions in society. Students become familiar with specialized knowledge of society and culture and learn how this can be applied. They analyze contemporary problems facing schools and the local community, and learn how to tackle these issues head on.

## Points

- Our educator training system boasts a high employment rate for graduates all over Japan. Our curriculum is highly flexible.
- Ideal for gaining teaching certification for Japanese, social studies, mathematics, home economics, English and other subjects at junior high and high schools.
- Student increase their expertise while gaining the general knowledge that is required for a broad education.

## Ideal student

- People who want to become teachers of Japanese or English, social studies, home economics or mathematics
- People who want to scientifically study food, clothing, shelter and life management in today's lifestyles
- People who are interested in studying the languages and cultures of Japan, Asia, Europe and the US
- People who want to study the mathematical sciences
- People who want to be involved with studies of the life and culture of local communities, and the creation of local communities

## Pathways after graduation

Elementary / junior high / high school teachers, Japanese language school teachers, English conversation instructors, cram-school instructors, national government officials, local government officials, NGO staff, bank employees, SE, mass media and publishing, travel, service sector, real estate, medical and welfare-related occupations, managers of international relations and overseas operations at trading companies and other corporations, adult education service providers, postgraduate study, etc.



## Student's Voice

The small steps in a child's development are a great joy to me. I'm working hard to improve my practical skills.



I met a really wonderful teacher when I was in junior high school, and this inspired me to follow the path to teaching. Right now, I am working hard towards my objective of becoming a junior high school mathematics teacher (like the teacher who inspired me). I have taken part in the university's *natural training experience* as one of the steps towards my goal. It was really hard because it was the first time that I had really thought about what activities I should initiate to enable the children to achieve the teaching objectives set for them, but in the end it was a really positive experience in which I made some good friends.

I am currently visiting the schools that participate in our program and am taking part in clinical education practice, providing learning support. I am really happy to be able to watch children grow. You have to be able to respond as the situation requires, so I am learning a lot. When I did my teaching practice, my class didn't go well, and I asked myself if I was really cut out to be a teacher. However, through my experience with the clinical education practice, I have been able to reaffirm my commitment to this profession. In the future, I want to be the kind of teacher that children can trust and who can guide the children to make better choices.



Fourth Year Cultural Exploration Student  
**Misato Ozawa**  
(from Fukushima Prefecture, Koriyama Higashi High School)

### Third Year Second Semester Timetable

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	Clinical education practice		Probability theory statistics		Information expert literacy D
2	Clinical education practice		Complex function theory	Children's life and play	Arts & crafts teaching theory
3	Clinical education practice			Life sciences teaching theory	
4	Clinical education practice	Seminar			Mathematics and science education
5		Seminar			

Learning about culture more deeply through language and literature studies

## Language and Culture Classes

In the language and culture classes, students focus on the words that are said to be at the heart of each culture, examine their structure, the way they are taught, their literature and other aspects, to study culture in depth. These classes are designed for people who want to teach Japanese or English, for those who want to become teachers of Japanese to speakers of other languages, and for people who wish to broadly study culture as it relates to language both in Japan and overseas.

- Introduction to Japanese Language
- Japanese Language History
- Exercises in Modern Japanese Literature
- Japanese and Chinese Comparative Literature
- Theory of Chinese Culture
- Introduction to English
- English Grammar
- Exercises in English Linguistics
- English Lexicology
- History of American Literature
- Modern British and American Literature
- Communication in English
- History of Japanese and European Cultural Exchange
- Theory of Comparative Literature, Japan and Europe
- Introduction to Chinese Classical Studies
- Exercises in Classical Japanese Literature

Tackling local community issues linking social sciences and life sciences

## Local Community Life and Culture Classes

The objective of the local community life and culture classes is to train people who can contribute to local communities and help make people's lives better, both at home and in the wider community. In the classes, students study local history, culture and society that are closely connected with people's lives, and give thought to those issues. Through an extensive study of the fundamentals of the social sciences, and through research and exercises, students explore the ideals of local communities and local community life.

- Geography of Cities and Town Planning
- Natural Disasters and People
- Social History of Modern Japan
- Overview of Japanese History
- Overview of Non-Japanese History
- Modern Society and Communities
- Contemporary Japanese Politics
- Modern Japanese Economics
- Overview of Descriptive Geography
- Philosophy of Scientific Understanding
- Ethics of War and Peace
- Design and Functionality of Clothing
- Food Science
- Life Science
- Cooking Science and Basic Training
- Life Management

Ideal for people who want to study mathematics in depth and people who want to become mathematics teachers

## Mathematical Science Class

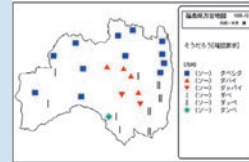
In the mathematical science class, students learn not only about advanced mathematics, teaching mathematics and materials chemistry, but also how they can utilize the results of such studies. Small class sizes mean that students can learn in depth. These courses are ideal for people who wish to become mathematics teachers at junior high and high schools, but students can also pursue other paths utilizing their learning, or go on to post-graduate studies.

- Algebra
- Geometry
- Analysis
- Integer Studies
- Topology
- Graph Theory
- Theory of Complex Functions
- Bodies and Galois Theory
- Manifold Geometry
- Theory of Differential Equations
- Materials Chemistry

### Example of the Courses

#### Japanese Language Exercises

Students conduct research training exercises into the Tohoku dialect of the Japanese language, centering on Fukushima Prefecture. All the students work together to prepare a research plan. During their summer vacation, they carry out fieldwork in which they interview local people then collate the results. To date, surveys have been conducted in Fukushima City, Shirakawa City and in communities along the Ban-etsu Tosen railway line, the Abukuma Kyuko railway line and the Uetsusen railway line.



#### Early Modern British and American Literature

This class directly touches on a great variety of British and American literary works from the 15th through to the 18th centuries: theater, metaphysical poetry, novels and prose. Students also gain a basic understanding of the historical, economic, political and cultural climates of those times as they study literature from a cultural perspective.



### Example of the Courses

#### General Research of Local Community Culture

In this course, you will work with the other students to come up with a general explanation of local culture, using the culture of a particular region as an example. As it is difficult to understand local culture if you are not familiar with the local community, this course includes fieldwork in which you will study and experience local culture firsthand, in addition to classroom lectures.



Field survey at Tatsugoyama on the production of frozen Tofu

#### Life Management

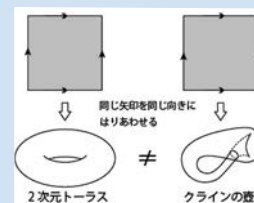
This course looks at contemporary life management by individuals and their households, and considers the associated issues, from the various perspectives of *life resources* (human resources and economic resources). Through a variety of case studies and activities, students learn through direct involvement about the issues of how to pursue quality of life over the entire life of the individual in a highly aged society, and how to respond to these issues.



### Example of the Courses

#### Topology

Although the study of length, surface area, angles and other parameters is at the heart of traditional geometry, the study of the way that lines and surfaces are *connected* is a new kind of geometry known as topology. In this course, students learn about concepts of topology that are used today not only in mathematics, but in various natural sciences.



#### Theory of Differential Equations

Students learn about how to find solutions to differential equations and derive functions that represent important phenomena. Differential equations that are derived from the complex phenomena cannot generally be analyzed using integration. Therefore, a different approach is needed. In this course, students learn the fundamental principles of the stability theory of differential equations through the analysis of models.

