



**METRO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

May 2023

Study Abroad in Japan

Sumiko Otsubo, Ph.D.





Program Overview

Diamond Fuji from Tateyama; viewable during our program weather permitting

Program (subject to change)

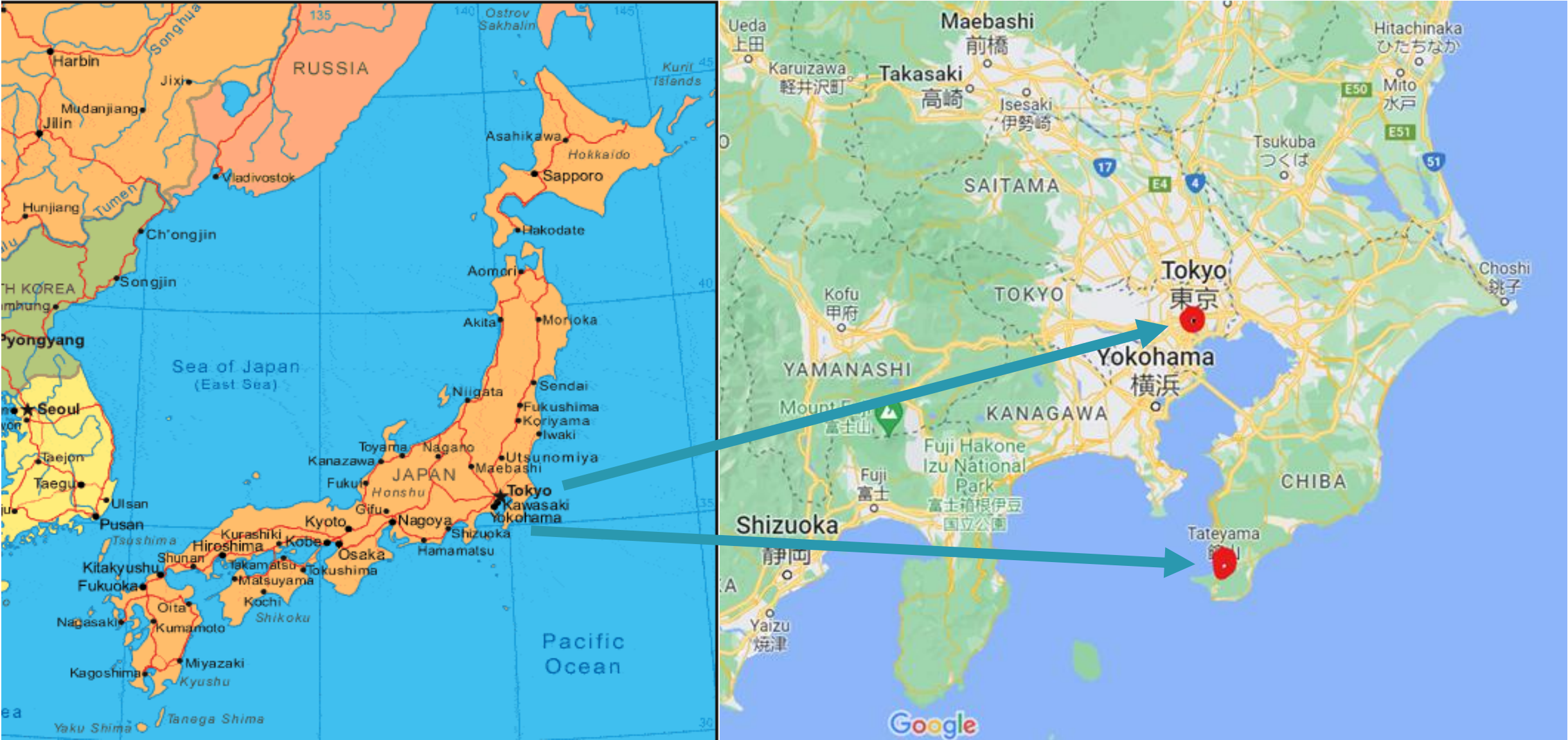
- **2024: 2nd Year**
 - Adjustments from the 1st-year Pilot Program: work in progress
 - Subject to change
- **Action-Packed**
 - Lots of walking and climbing
 - Community engagement (Local Historical Organization, Rice Planting, Beach Cleaning, Movie Nights, Flower Picking....)
- **Reasonably-Priced** (Basic [shared rooms, shared bathrooms])
 - Local Support in Tateyama
 - Historically Weak JPY (Purchasing Power of USD-very good now)
- **Cultural Experience, Natural Beauty**
 - Seas (the Pacific and the Tokyo Bay), mountains, forests, etc.



Program at Glance

- **What: HIST 372A History of Japanese Popular Culture (4 credits) Meets MnTC Goals 5 & 8**
 - Tuition \$1,142.8 (= \$285.7 x 4 credits)
- **When: May 14-31, 2024 (18 days; summer 2024)**
 - **written and other assignments to be completed later**
- **Where: Tokyo and Tateyama (Chiba), Japan**
 - Tateyama, Chiba [15 nights] and Tokyo [2 nights]
- **Who: Degree-seeking Undergraduate Students at Metro and any Minnesota State Colleges and Universities institution (fall 2023 – summer 2024)**
 - In good academic and behavioral standing, GPA 2.5+, age 18+, no PSEO students
 - **Selection Competitive: about 20 seats**
- **Program Fee (\$2,000)**
 - Covered: meals, lodging, ground transportation, activities, admission and medical insurance fees
 - **Not covered: tuition, airfare, and personal spending money**

Japan: Tokyo and Tateyama



Airfare: tips to save

- Book early
- Flexible dates
 - Going there early, coming back late
- Indirect flights
 - Delta's direct flight: expensive currently \$2,800
 - Flights from LA/Chicago, less expensive
 - Staying overnight at LA or Chicago?
 - Traveling with friends

Deadlines:

- 12/10/23 Submit application
- 12/15/23 Decision made
- 1/31/24 Book Flight by this date
- 3/15/24 Get Passport by this date,
- 3/31/24 Upload All Documents, Get Visa by this date
- 5/3/24 Complete the entire program fee payment



Program Fee and Tuition Payment

- March 1, 2024: Summer Courses will be published
- March 18, 2024: Summer Courses open to registration
 - By this time, selected students will be added to Summer HIST 372A manually.
 - You may start paying parts of your Program Fee
- **May 3, 2024: the entire Program Fee due**

Prospective Students

- **This is a history rather than language program.**
 - No prior Japanese language knowledge is required. (Of course, it is helpful if you have it!)
- **Those who are interested in the following topics are particularly encouraged to apply:**
 - Japanese/Asian History
 - Japanese Pop Culture: Literature, Arts, Films, Anime, Manga, and Games
 - Everyday Life of Ordinary People (People's History)
 - Military History
 - Environmental Issues
 - Eastern/World Religions (Buddhism and Shintoism)
 - City/Community Planning and Revitalization
 - Global studies

Field Trips in Tateyama (15 DAYS)

- **Tateyama City Museum & Castle**
 - **Awa Cultural Heritage Forum Guided Tours**
 - 1. Akayama, Entaigō, and Kanita (abandoned WWII military facilities; women's history); 2. lighthouse, Awa Shrine, Mera Shrine, WWII suicide attacks facilities; 3. Taibusa (a fort/defense site during the late Tokugawa and late WWII eras)
 - **Nago Trip** (Nago Temple, Cliff Kan'on)
 - **Movie Nights** (interaction with local students)
 - **Rice Planting, Japanese Cooking, Satoyama Walk** (interaction with local people)
 - **Fan Craft**
 - **Calligraphy, Incense Making, Buddhist Rituals**
 - **Nokogiri Mt. Tour**
 - **Farewell BBQ** (interaction with local people)
-



**Daifukuji Temple on the Cliff
(Cliff Kan'on) overlooking the
Tateyama/Tokyo Bay**





Calligraphy and Chanting Prayer by burning small pieces of wood (*goma*) on the altar to invoke divine help at the Myōōin Temple



Nokogiri Mountain (329.5 m/1,081 ft)



Field Trips in Tokyo(3 days)

- Asakusa
 - Sensōji-temple, Skytree
- Ueno
- Imperial Palace/Edo Castle Park
- Yasukuni Shrine
- Shinjuku: Kusama Yayoi Museum
- Harajuku
- Shibuya
- Tokyo Station
- Tsukiji
- Ginza





ロケット特攻機「桜花」(上)

艦上爆撃機「彗星」(下)

「桜花」はおよそ1,2トンの火薬を搭載し、母機の一式艦上攻撃機に懸吊され、上空より敵艦目掛けて体当たり攻撃を行う特攻機です。艦上爆撃機「彗星」も終戦間際には特攻機として飛び立ちました。



零式艦上

戦闘機

支那事変から大東亜戦争を通じて使用された海軍の主力戦闘機です。制式採用された年が皇紀2600年(昭和15年)のため、「零式」と名付けられました。俊敏さや航続距離の長さなど、性能の高い戦闘機でした。

花嫁人形

祖国に命を捧げられた英霊の大半は若者で、妻も娶ることなく戦死しました。そのため、多くの遺族が独身で戦死した我が子のために、我が兄弟のためにと、慰霊の祈りをこめて靖国神社のご神前に花嫁人形を奉納されています。



C56型31号

機関車

我が国で製造され、大東亜戦争中はタイとビルマを結ぶ「泰緬鉄道」で活躍した機関車です。戦後はタイ国有鉄道で使われ、地域開発に活躍しました。

人間魚雷「回天」

乗員が操縦して敵艦に体当たり攻撃する特攻兵器です。若い海軍士官らが夢想、血書による懇願により、制式兵器として採用され、100余名の若者が身を挺して祖国を守るために散っていきました。



Yūshūkan at the Yasukuni Shrine, Tokyo

Photos from its pamphlet



YAYOI KUSAMA MUSEUM

草間彌生美術館

https://yayoikusamamuseum.jp/en/exhibition/#content_current



Tokyo Anime Station, just opened on Oct. 31



**Harajuku
Youth
Fashion**

Assignments



During the trip

Light reading

Blog articles (3-4 times?)

**A Community
Engagement Project**



After (& before) the trip

Heavy reading

Research

**Presentations (1 Zoom class)
Two medium-length research
papers (due late June)**





田植え体験をする学生ら＝館山

博物館が9日から行われ、学生らは「大塚美生子博士の学生時代の思い出」を学んだ。また、日本のポピュラー文化を体験しているの

や文化体験地元英語教室の生徒らとの交流などを繰り返している。今回の留学は、同市の地域おこし協力隊の荒垣由以さんがアメリカの大学在学時の恩師(同大人文学部長)とのつながりで実現。期間中の体験プログラムの企画、開発を荒垣が担当した。この日の田植え体験は、生産者の顔な

Community Engagement

Rice Transplanting





Grading Options

Pass/Fail (Default)

Letter Grade
(highly encouraged
for history
majors/minors and
others)

Application Selection Process

- **How many students will participate in the program in May 2024?**
 - About 20
- **Application Selection (Deadline 12/10; Outcome 12/15)**
 - Able to pay for the study abroad (TRIO scholarships/Financial Aid/Self Financing)
 - Students who are likely to make the most out of the study abroad
 - Students who represent Metro State/MnSCU institution well
 - Students who have completed their applications: optional interview opportunities
 - Selection results: SCSU Application Website



Deal Breakers

- Japan:
 - The most stringent COVID border control: opened in October 2022
 - a **mask-oriented** society: expected to wear mask in public
 - a **cash-oriented** society (not every merchant accepts credit cards)
- No weekends: We use Saturdays and Sundays for activities
- Meals: Basic, **No Alcohol during the program**
 - Breakfasts at the inn/hostel provided for everyone
 - Lunches provided at the seminar house for everyone (bento boxes, catering, events)
 - Dinners (some provided, others covered by the cash allowance from the program fees)
 - accommodation for students with dietary restrictions limited
 - students' responsibility to get alternative and extra food
 - flexibility: cash allowance option incorporated**



Next Steps

- **Before Application**

- **Financial Preparation**

- Apply for a Normandale travel scholarship by Dec 1 (there will be another chance to apply in spring) Go to the [Scholarship Application Portal](#), log in, sign the release if you need to, follow the prompts, then search for the Academic Travel Scholarships. Choose Academic Travel Course, Japan and submit by December 1 at midnight. If you are selected, you will be notified by me around the 15th of December
 - Financial Aid: make an appointment with Angela Prohel angela.prohel@normandale.edu

- **Application: by December 10**

- Start early! It takes time. Complete the Metro survey. Get a faculty reference letter & unofficial transcript. Make appointment for interview with faculty leader.

- **Selection Result: by December 15**

- By the SCSU Application Site (accepted, rejected, waitlisted, etc.)

- **See instructions next slides**



Metro State - Japan Short Term Program

<https://stcloudstate.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=59809>



Overview

Location

Academics

Program Costs

Application Process

Apply Now

Request Info



Note: This program is organized by Metro State University and governed by Metro State University's policies. This program is open to any **Minnesota State Colleges and Universities** undergraduate students. If you are not an SCSU student, please do not use your StarID to create an application.

Learn more about this program through the different tabs on how you can experience Japan!

Steps to Move Forward:

1. Find out about the program at Metro State University
 - Zoom - **Information Session #1: November 6, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm**

Meeting ID: 954 8165 2404



ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

User Login

SCSU Students: Use StarID and StarID password. **Everyone else will need to create an account.**

 Username *

sumiko.otsubo@metrostate.edu

 Password *

.....



Remember Username?

Login

[Forgot your password?](#)

New User? [Create Account](#)



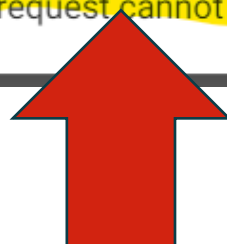
Program Options

Please select program options before continuing.

You already have an active application for this program in the following app cycle(s):

Non-SCSU Summer
2024 

The application request cannot be completed.



Ignore this!

Click "Non-SCSU Summer 2024 anyway!"

Information in Application Website

(note that it is hosted by SCSU based on Metro's Education Abroad Partnership with SCSU)

- **Forms to Fill Out and Documents to Upload (Any Questions? Contact Dr. Otsubo)**

- Pre-decision

- Info. Form (not connected to Metro's eServices)
- Emergency Contact Form
- Signature Verification Form (email/mail PDF to SCSU)
- Enrollment and Financial Agreement (to be updated)
- Photo consent and Release

- **Metro Survey: some overlap with the above; faculty/staff reference letter and your current unofficial univ/college transcript to be uploaded**

- **Estimate time for completion (11 min), Metro/MNSCU account needed to fill out**
(Metro's Security Officer, Rice Planting, the Imperial Palace Visit....)

Once your application is complete, I will start inviting you for a 30 min interview.

- **Course Registration/Payment (Info will be sent to selected students)**



Application Questionnaire(s)

Click the following to view and complete the following online questionnaire(s). You may begin a questionnaire and save it for later completion, but note that you must click Submit in order for the questionnaire to be logged as complete and ready for review.

Title	Received
Emergency Contact Form	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metro State Information Form	<input type="checkbox"/>

Sumiko Otsubo

Program:	Metro State - Japan Short Term Program
Term/Year:	Non-SCSU Summer, 2024
Deadline:	12/10/2023
Dates:	05/14/2024 - 05/31/2024

Itinerary

The following is the current itinerary for your program. Please follow any instructions displayed to provide the information required to complete it.

no location

Start Date: 05/14/2024

End Date: 05/31/2024

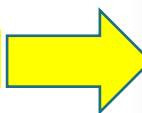
Mailing Address:

**St. Cloud State University
720 Fourth Avenue South
St. Cloud, MN 56301-4498**

Phone: 612-297-5353

Email: educationabroad@stcloudstate.edu

Clearly Indicate: "Metro Short-Term Program (Japan)" in the subject line



Signature Documents

Click the following to view and digitally sign important documents to indicate your agreement and understanding.

Title	Received
Metro State Enrollment and Financial Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metro State Photo Consent and Release	<input type="checkbox"/>

Since your date of birth has not been recorded, you must print and co-sign the above documents with your parent or guardian and send them to Center for International Studies.



Don't forget to fill this out! You will need a recommendation letter and a transcript.



Steps to Move Forward

1. Find out about the program at Metro

- Zoom - Information Session

Meeting ID: 954 8165 2404

Passcode: 088339

- Zoom - Information Session

Meeting ID: 934 8342 9246

Passcode: 216217

2. Click on the Apply Now button

3. Fill out the **Metro Survey**

4. Sign up for an interview with Dr. C

Information not in Application Website

- Course Information: Subject to change! (weather, strikes, natural disasters, illness....)
 - Field Trips
 - Readings
 - Assignments
 - Grade Options
- **Post-Decision Information Sessions in the Spring Semester**
 - **Trip Preparation/Going over Readings**

May in Japan

- **Pleasant:** perfect for studying and activities
 - average temperature in Tateyama: H 73°F and L 63°F
 - average temperature in Tokyo: H 74°F and L 59°F
- **Flowers:** Azaleas
- **Diamond Fuji** from Tateyama (mid-May)
- **No swimming**
 - Swimming allowed in beaches b/w mid-July and late August



Kayama & Kitahama Inn

Living Anywhere Commons(LAC) Tateyama

Seminar Room, Cafeteria



Imano Tokyo Hostel Shinjuku, Tokyo

<https://imano.jp/shinjuku/en/top/>



たてやま ROAD MAP

TATEYAMA

- いちご・みかん・いちじく狩り
- 花観み
- 公衆トイレ
- 神社
- 寺
- 道の駅
- コンビニエンスストア
- 海水浴場
- ダイビング
- キャンプ場



Convenient Location



Tateyama Bay



LAC

Chibakenawanishi HS.

Tateyama (Chiba)



Inn

Hotel New Business Ito



Koda Hotel

Tateyama Business Hotel

Hojo

Tateyama Sogo HS. Suisan-kosha

<https://pkg.navitime.co.jp/sevenbank/spot/list/map?address=12205&search=address&lang=en>

ort





TATEYAMA TRIA 2023





Students' Comments (pre-departure)

- “I'm really excited for an opportunity like this, and I feel like I can't pass it up!”
 - “I would like you to know that words cannot describe the excitement, sense of fulfillment, and feelings of overjoy I received knowing that I will be able to study abroad in Japan.”
 - “So excited for this amazing opportunity!”
 - “I want to say thank you and Metro State for providing this opportunity to us.”
-

Students' Comments (Post-Trip) 1

- “I loved LAC [hostel in Tateyama] since it was right next to the station, the sea, and many different restaurants and entertainment.”
 - “LAC Tateyama was an incredible facility in a wonderful location. A core part of what made this experience so special. From the accommodations to the friendliness of the staff it was so wonderful.”
-

Students' Comments (Post-Trip) 2

- "I am counting my days until I can go back to visit Japan.I am eternally grateful for this program for starting me down this path and hope others have this experience in the future."
 - "This program did so much in opening my eyes to the world. Not a day goes by where I don't wish I was back in Japan, learning and growing in a new place."
-

Questions about the program and Application?

- Contact Dr. Otsubo at Sumiko.otsubo@metrostate.edu.



Thank You



Sumiko Otsubo
Metropolitan State University
sumiko.otsubo@metrostate.edu