Travel & Learn

JAPAN

Spring 2024
Travel May 14-31, 2024

This study abroad course, offered through Metro State University, provides an opportunity to study the History of Japanese Popular Culture while spending 18 days in beautiful Japan. During your stay in Tokyo and Tateyama (Chiba), you will participate in many learning activities, field trips, and experiences related to Japanese culture, Japanese history, military/WWII history, Eastern/world religions, global issues, and of course, Japanese pop culture: literature, arts, film, anime, manga, music, fashion, and games. You’ll participate in community service projects as well. Pre-departure sessions occur in Spring 2024 with travel May 14-31, 2024. Japanese language skill not required.

Course Information: HIST 372A History of Japanese Popular Culture (4 credits)
In this course, we will examine various aspects of Japanese popular culture. Critical analysis of different forms of cultural production, from the theoretical and thematic perspectives of class, gender, globalization, modernity, national/racial/ethnic identity, sexuality, invented traditions, and war memory, will provide insight into Japanese history, culture, and society. Meets MnTC Goals 5 & 8 Prerequisite: ENGC 1101

All selected participants must attend four pre-departure sessions:
Pre-Departure Information Session #1: Friday, Jan. 26, 2024, 12-2 pm
Pre-Departure Information Session #2: Friday, Feb. 23, 2024, 12-2 pm
Pre-Departure Information Session #3: Friday, Mar. 22, 2024, 12-2 pm
Pre-Departure Information Session #4: Friday, Apr. 19, 2024, 12-2 pm

Eligibility: at least 18 years old, 2.5 GPA in good academic standing, degree-seeking student. PSEO students not eligible.

Scholarship Assistance: Normandale scholarships for study abroad are available for this program in fall and spring. Check www.normandale.edu/travel for application process. Fall scholarship applications due Dec 1, 2023. Additional national scholarships also available at this link.

Financial Aid may be used to assist with tuition and travel fees.

Contact the Normandale Community College Global Studies Coordinator for more information @ globalstudies@normandale.edu
# Program Details

**Trip Dates:** May 14-31, 2024  
**Locations:** Tokyo; Tateyama, Chiba

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<th>Program Cost: $2,000 (includes lodging, meals, ground transportation, activities, admission and medical insurance fees)</th>
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**Additional Costs:**  
- **Tuition:** $1,142  
- **Estimated airfare:** $1,500  
- **Personal Spending Money**

**Application Process:** Click “Apply Now” at link/QR Code, fill out the Metro Survey (you will need an instructor recommendation letter and a current college transcript - high school transcript if this is your first semester), make appointment for an interview with the Metro State Faculty Leader.

**Metro State University Faculty Leader:**  
Sumiko Otsubo sumiko.otsubo@metrostate.edu

For detailed itinerary activity list and guided instructions for program enrollment, go to  

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## Application Steps

### Step 1  
**Read Full Information**  

![QR Code](https://stcloud.state.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=59809)

### Step 2  
**Apply**  
Click “Apply Now”  
Application due by **Dec 10, 2023**

### Step 3  
**Metro Survey and Interview**  
Fill out the Metro Survey. Make appointment for interview with faculty leader.

### Step 4  
**Decision Announced Dec 15**  
Watch for email from the Metro State. If selected, follow instructions for course registration and deposit payment.  
Reach out with questions.

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## Travel Requirements  
U.S. Passport is required. If you don’t have a passport valid through the end of 2024, do not wait. Processing times can take months once your application is sent. If you need help, contact the Global Studies Coordinator. Instructions at [https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply.html](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/how-apply.html)

## Payments & Cancellations  
See application link for tuition payment schedule.  
- Plan for flight purchase in January 2024 if accepted  
- Program fee payment due May 2024  
- Full cancellation policy for can be viewed at the QR code link.

## Financial Aid  
If you plan to use financial aid, you must make an appointment with the financial aid office to discuss your aid qualifications. Take this document with you so the Financial Aid officer will increase your summer term educational expenses due to registering for this study abroad class at Metro State University.
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