

Kyushu University
Homestay Option: Semester – No; Summer – Yes
Maximum Language Credit: 1

Strong Points:

- The program offers six levels of Japanese, and JL1 starts from elementary level Japanese (hiragana knowledge required), it is easy for someone to get into a level that fits him. The program also offers a tutor system where a Japanese student (undergraduate or grad at Kyushu Univ) is assigned to you as your mentor and friend. Sometimes you might get a tutor who doesn't show up at all, but there are other tutors excited to hang out with all of you, so it will work out fine either way. Homestay program is nice, too. You can either do homestay for the whole time and get used to the Japanese way of living or live in dorm for 5 weeks and then move into homestay – so you can enjoy more freedom at the beginning. Or, you can live in dorm for entirety of the program – but I don't recommend this. You can also bond with other students and their tutors! (Summer, 2011)
- It is cheap and offers scholarship. The program is in a very lovely city. Classes are easy. (Summer, 2012)
- The program provided many choices on the culture classes, so students could choose according to their interests. Tutor-tutee program was also great. (Summer, 2014)
- Students are from all around the world so it was a very diverse environment and the various cultural experience events were great (tea ceremony, fireworks, festivals). (Summer, 2015)

Weak Points:

- I cannot really think of any except for that homestay locations might be a bit far away from the school. But this changes every year. (Summer, 2011)
- Cultural courses did not cover deep issues, and language class was not as intensive as I expected. (Summer, 2012)
- There could have been more upper-level Japanese classes. I felt that I was not as challenged. (Summer, 2014)
- It is short so there is a limit to what you can learn. (Summer, 2015)