

Nanzan University  
Homestay Option: Yes  
Maximum Language Credit: 1

Strong Points:

- The program was very accommodating, and understood that our Japanese language study came first over other classes. I liked the fact that we were not segregated from the other Japanese students, and the small campus also encouraged a lot of interaction with the Japanese students. The variety of courses, including ones with Japanese students and electives like calligraphy and tea ceremony, allowed me to learn new things about Japan. The homestay was also great. (Fall, 2009)
- Great language instruction, easy to meet Japanese students. I learned a lot of Japanese, and felt confident in speaking. Options for other courses are pretty good for helping you learn about Japan and its culture. Lots of great field trips to go with the study abroad students. Several clubs on campus are very welcoming to the exchange students, and Japanese students love speaking English with the foreigners. (Fall, 2009)
- The instruction in the language course was challenging and I really enjoyed the wide range of activities that we did, such as listening to the news once a week in the language lab and practicing for the JLPT. One of my favorite aspects of the course was the weekly kanji class, where we learned to recognize a large amount of kanji not taught in the textbook. Thanks to this course, I feel like I did pretty well on the JLPT level 2 exam. Living in the dorm also was a lot of fun. Not only was I literally a minute away from campus and thus didn't have to deal with the crowded trains associated with morning commutes, but I was able to meet a ton of great people from around the world and spend a lot of time hanging out with them. The food in the cafeteria was delicious for the cheap prices at which they were offered. (Fall, 2009)

Weak Points:

- I feel like there were not enough social excursions. Nanzan also used a very old fashioned way of communicating with us – through mail. I would sometimes miss opportunities and announcements because I had forgotten to check my mailbox for a day. (Fall, 2009)
- Language course moves relatively slow, I kept in sync with my peers at Duke while abroad. Options for other courses to take are limited to courses about Japan. I wish I had lived in the dorms instead of a homestay. Homestay experiences vary by family, and some are better than others. (Fall, 2009)
- Some of the classes taught in English weren't very interesting and were all FAR too long! Having a class go on for 2 hours 15 minutes just makes the class drag for the students. I loved all my classes that were taught in Japanese, but I didn't really like my 2 taught-in-English courses. And if a course is to be taught in English, please make sure that the professor, if he's Japanese, can speak proper English. I sat in on Japanese Economics, and the professor's English was hard to follow and understand! (Fall, 2009)