

KAKEHASHI Project (USA)
Inbound Program for University Students 1st Batch (Columbia University)
Program Report

1. Program Overview

Under “Japan’s Friendship Ties Program”, 52 students (including 2 chaperones) from Columbia University in USA visited Japan. During the 10 day program from May 18th to May 27th, the participants studied Japanese government, society, history and foreign policy, and much more. Participants found history and Japanese culture such as mannerisms particularly interesting, and were eager to proactively share this information through SNS.

2. Participating Countries and Number of Participants

USA (52 participants)

3. Prefectures Visited

Tokyo, Osaka Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture, Shiga Prefecture





4. Program Schedule

May 18 th (Mon)	Arrival at Narita International Airport
May 19 th (Tue)	Orientation 【Lecture on Japan】 “Contour of Government and Public Policy Making in Japan” 【Courtesy Call】 Tokyo Metropolitan Government 【Observation】 Tokyo National Museum
May 20 th (Wed)	【School Exchange】 Waseda University 【Observation】 City Tour
May 21 st (Thu) ~ May 25 th (Mon)	Group A and Group B visit Osaka Prefecture, Kyoto Prefecture and Shiga Prefecture, participating in the same program 【Local Industry】 Torishima Pump Manufacturing Co., Ltd. 【School Exchange】 Doshisha University 【Experience of Japanese Traditional Culture】 Yuzen Dyeing 【Observation】 Shinkyogoku, Nishiki Market, Kinkaku-ji, Fushimi Inari Taisha 【Observation of Nature / Experience of Local Culture】 Exchange Program with Local People in Takashima City, Shiga Prefecture

May 25 th (Mon)	Move to Tokyo by Shinkansen 【Cutting-Edge Technology】 National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation (Miraikan) Workshop
May 26 th (Tue)	【Observation】 National Diet Building 【Courtesy Call】 Prime Minister's Office 【Lecture】 Ministry of Foreign Affairs, "US-Japan Relations" Reporting Session
May 27 th (Wed)	Departure from Narita International Airport

5. Program Photos

Inbound Program for University Students 1st Batch Photos

	
<p>5/19 【Courtesy Call】Tokyo Metropolitan Government (Tokyo)</p>	<p>5/20 【School Exchange】Waseda University (Tokyo)</p>
	
<p>5/21 【Local Industry】Torishima Pump Manufacturing Co Ltd (Takatsuki City)</p>	<p>5/22 【School Exchange】Doshisha University (Kyoto City)</p>



5/23 【 Experience of Japanese Traditional Culture】 Yuzen Dyeing (Kyoto City)



5/23 【Observation of Historical Sites】Fushimi Inari Taisha (Kyoto City)



5/24 【Observation of Nature/Experience of Local Culture】Exchange program with local people (Kutsuki-no-Mori Forest Park, Takashima City)



5/25 Workshop (Tokyo)



5/26 【Courtesy Call】Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary, Mr Seko, Prime Minister's Office (Tokyo)



5/26 Reporting Session (Tokyo)

6. Voice from Participants

USA University Student

I was very grateful that we were able to see BOTH city and countryside, BOTH cultural traditions and modern technologies. Because there were so many things to see, we moved around a lot – it might be nice to move a little less, so we can spend a little more time in fewer places really getting to know and understand the people and culture. Again – THANK YOU for this incredible opportunity. I am excited to return to Japan SOON!

USA University Student

This was an absolutely outstanding experience! I appreciated the number of experiences such as those with government official, and the pump factory that would be impossible to experience as a tourist. It gave me a uniquely thorough experience of Japan that I as an individual could not replicate. Another highlight was staying at a traditional inn. It was refreshing and beautiful to be immersed in nature and traditional living after so much time in the cities.

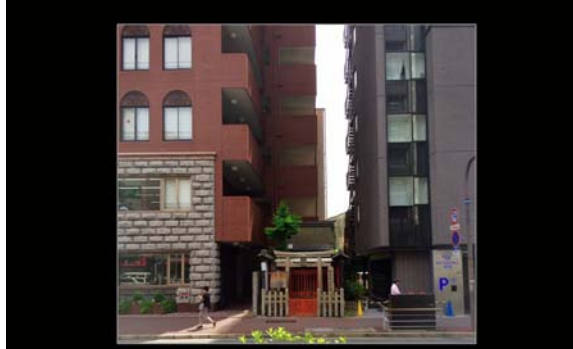


USA University Student

I am so grateful for this amazing opportunity. I hope that many other generations of students can benefit from this fantastic program. I am definitely planning to return to Japan and I will try my best to share my experience with all the students from Columbia, as well as friends and family members. Thank you! Thank you so much!

USA University Student

I learned so much about Japan in such a short moment of time. This program was so well-organized that I felt like I was exposed and introduced to the entirety of Japanese culture. I especially liked the variety of locations (from the big city to a small village community) and the ratio of scheduled itinerary to individual exploration for us to interact with Japan ourselves. For example, on one of our trip we encountered 2 people our age and became instant friends. Despite the language barrier, we learned a lot from each other and even became friends on Facebook by the end of the night. I plan on keeping in touch with them for a while to extend my stay in Japan from abroad.

7. Action Plan Presented at the Reporting Session by Participants

 <p>Tradition and Modernity</p> <p>Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rich Japanese history encompassing many facets of social life • Synergy between traditional and modern cultures • Manifests in a multitude of ways • Architecture and Urban Development • Personal Aesthetic and Fashion • Commercialization of Culture 	 <p>Traditional shrines remain intact amidst modern high-rises</p>
<p>Group A "Tradition and Modernity"</p>	<p>Synergy of tradition and modernization in city</p>
 <p>Usable space between suburban structures is utilized for rice paddies</p>	<p>Learning from Japan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Japan has government-funded social programs for women that the U.S. doesn't ❖ Prime Minister Abe has set quotas for women in government leadership positions ❖ Necessary to consider cultural pressures against feminism
<p>Traditional farming seen from the Shinkansen</p>	<p>Group B "Women in Japan"</p>
<p>Cultural Values</p> <p>Putting It All Together</p> 	<p>Diligence & Loyalty</p> <p>"Never lose the public trust, even if monetary loss proves unavoidable."</p>  
<p>Group B "Cultural Values"</p>	<p>Corporate Philosophy: Diligence & Loyalty</p>

<h2 style="text-align: center;">What is Sustainability?</h2> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <h3>Social Inclusion</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Womenomics policy • Immigration policy reform • Improving childcare services • Urbanization <h3>Economic Development</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declining workforce • Workplace efficiency • City diplomacy • Increased tourism • Developmental government </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;">   </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <h3>Environmental Development</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste disposal • Natural preservation • Clean energy • Transportation <h3>Reflection Projects</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual Art • Documentary Video • Present to Columbia Sustainable Development Club • Publish in... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Columbia Economics Review ◆ Columbia University Partnership for International Development ◆ Columbia Spectator </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;">  </div> </div>
<p>Group B “What is Sustainability?”</p>	<p>Observation in Japan, Action Plan after returning to USA</p>