Doshisha University
International Science and Technology Course

Q&A GUIDE
Addressing common concerns of international students
Before Coming to Japan

Required Japanese level

Q I cannot speak Japanese, should I be worried when I study at Doshisha?

A Not at all! The International Science and Technology Course (ISTC) caters to foreign students who may or may not have Japanese language background. However, being able to speak Japanese can help you fully immerse in the culture and lifestyle in Japan.

Q How should I continue to study Japanese in Japan?

A You can apply for Japanese classes at Doshisha University. To inquire about Japanese classes, you may inquire to the ISTC team by visiting the site found at the last page.

Virtual Campus Tour

Q Does Doshisha have a campus tour so we can see what the university is like?

A Yes! In the past year, students have made a virtual campus tour called Panoramic View Promotion (PVP) for international students to see. This promotion video consists of various laboratories in the campus. It's also shown in a 3D fashion, where viewers get a feel of the surroundings!

Q What documents do I need to prepare when entering Japan?

A The required documents vary for every enrollee. In the past, the following were some of the requirements for self-financed international students when entering Japan:

- Certificate of Eligibility
- Admission Certificate
- Passport and Visa
- Graduation certificate*
- Notification of Contact Person

However, these documents, as well as those for students who are not self-financed, the requirements may change especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. In knowing the full details of requirements for entering Japan, please follow instructions from university offices.

*For those who submitted a Certificate of Expected Graduation at the time of application.

Learning the Japanese language enables you to easily communicate with the locals and truly immerse in the culture.

You can also effectively learn Japanese through courses offered at Doshisha!

Here is a cover photo of the PVP student project at Doshisha
**After Coming to Japan**

**Who can help me after coming to Japan?**
You can contact your tutor once you come to Japan. Your tutor may help you in matters related mainly to your research. You can know more about your tutor when you enroll in Doshisha.

**Public Transport**

**Can I get a student discount for bus/train fare?**
Yes. First, you need a Certificate for Commuter Pass issued by the university. Then, you can purchase a student commuter pass at the train station counter.

**Are there certain etiquettes that need to be observed while riding public transport?**
Japan has several manners to keep in mind when it comes to public transport such as refraining from talking on the phone while inside the train. For more information, please refer to the link found at the last page.

*For more information, please contact the university offices (links found at the back page).*

**Daily Life**

**Are there places nearby where we can have fun?**
The campus consists of the Davis Memorial Gymnasium where students can work out. Other leisure activities that students might enjoy with their friends include bowling and karaoke. These facilities are situated near Shintanabe Station. Students can also visit Kyoto City, which is easily accessible via train for more fun activities to choose from. Kyotanabe City also has a shopping mall where you can buy various goods.

**Cellphone Contract**

**How do I apply for a phone number?**
You can apply for a cellphone number via credit card. There are also shops of network providers near Shintanabe station you can visit to purchase a plan.

**Doshisha Counseling Page**

*You can visit sightseeing spots such as Kyoto Tower (left) and Uji River (right). Many more await you!*

*Doshishamae literally means 'in front of Doshisha'!*

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*Doshisha Counseling Page*
Are there food considerations for those with specific food requirements?

Yes, some food in the cafeteria can be eaten by people with religious restrictions. You can ask the cafeteria staff for the ingredients. When you order lunch from the cafeteria, information such as calories are also written on the receipt!

How can I make friends? Are there any events or organizations in the university?

You can make friends from peers within your laboratory, or just find a group of people in the university whom you can share the same interests with. The university consists of 170 official extracurricular activity groups and 240 groups registered under the Student Support Services Center. Doshisha University also has peer support programs that aim to help international students adjust to both campus and daily life with the support of a peer. Please visit the OIS website for the latest news.

Important links:

- Clubs
- Japanese Etiquette website
- OIS
- SIED website
- JLPT
- Campus Map
- ISTC Facebook Page
- ISTC Site

Take a look at our short video introducing the daily life of a Doshisha international student.

School facilities such as cafeteria, laboratories, and more are shown here! This way, you get a feel of the campus even before enrolling.

We look forward to your fun and wholesome student experience at Doshisha.

Video link here!