

Exchange to Akita International University

Faculty of International Studies

2025 Fall Semester

Exchange starts on 1st September, 2025

Exchange ends on 25th December, 2025



Table of Contents

1. Overall Reflection
2. Course Registration
3. Study Methods
4. Housing & Dormitory
5. Part-Time Jobs
6. Food & Nearby Facilities
7. Getting Around

Overall Reflection

01

Academic Experience

Interesting teaching techniques and detailed feedback for each assignment

Teachers are super supportive

Very inspiring, motivating, and disciplined environment

No language barrier inside the campus

02

Cultural & Campus Life

Joined a Japanese dance club, learned traditional dance (e.g., Sakura dance)

Performed on stage with white makeup and wore a kimono

Enjoy the fullest in the authentic Tohoku culture

Made many international friends

03

Personal

Became more disciplined, motivated and positive

Developed a habit of reading

Found new ways to learn Japanese beyond textbooks, for example, through card games, culture and context



Most Challenging Part during my exchange

GIVING PUBLIC LECTURE IN JAPANESE

Class: Advanced Japanese I

Topic: Algorithm Bias in Google Search

- Conducted research
 - Used Japanese references
 - Followed formal presentation structure
 - Memorized script (15-minute presentation)
-
- Took the course to challenge myself
 - Heavy workload and preparation
 - Experienced sleepless nights
 - Challenging but rewarding experience

留学生 が 日本語 で 教える 特別講義



「誰もが超人になれる8時間」
睡眠があなたの毎日をどれだ
け改善できるのだろうか。

漢文を読むための「訓読」
は、現代日本語にどんな
影響を与えたのだろうか。

検索エンジンの背後には
どんな社会差別や偏見が
潜んでいるのだろうか。

会場：D102
日程：11月28日（金）
時間：16時～17時40分
途中入退室自由！

JPL460のファイナル・プロジェクトとして、私たちの得
意分野について、日本語で特別講義を行います。
気になるテーマがあればぜひご参加ください！

Entrance Ceremony
Performance at AIU Campus
DO NOT MISS THE KANTO
FESTIVAL IN AUGUST



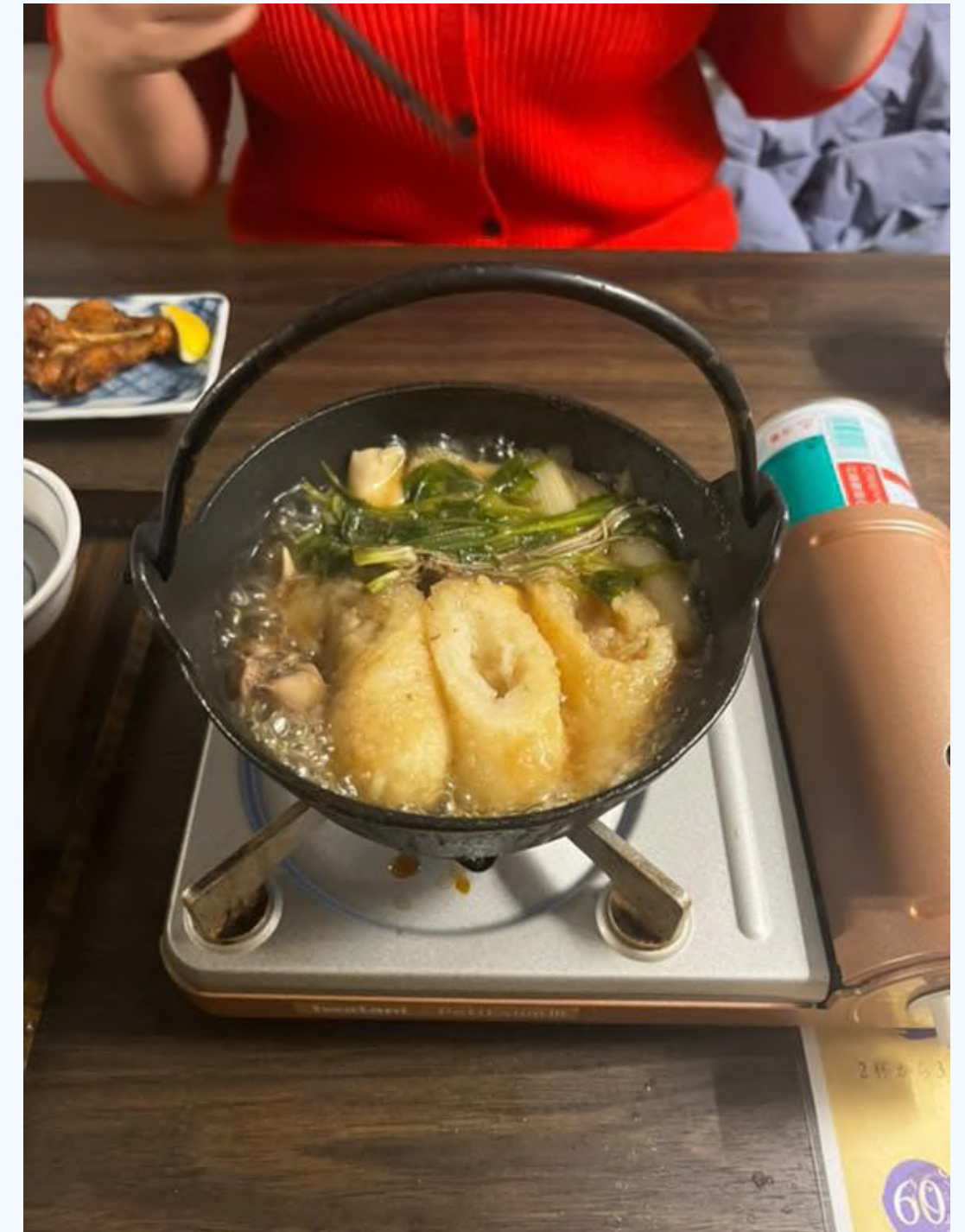
[Akita Kanto](#)
[Festival](#)

Omagari Hanabi



[Omagari Hababi](#)

Akita Cuisine,
Kiritanpo



To know more about Akita
Instagram: Akita_gram

Course Registration

Overview of how course registration works at Akita International University (AIU) using the ATOMS system (similar to CampusWeb)

- **Create a plan** before registration
- **Submit to the academic advisor** for approval
- Must get approval before registering
- Cannot register without approval
- Advisors may reject unsuitable courses

The **minimum requirement is 12 credits**, and each course is worth 3 credits. To take more than 18 credits, approval from an academic advisor is required.

ATOMSへようこそ Welcome to ATOMS.

アカウントをお持ちの方はユーザ名とパスワードを入力してログイン
Please enter your ID and password to login.

User name Password

[If you forgot your password](#)



Course Registration at AIU

Log in to AIMS: Akita International University Moodle System

Log in

[Lost password?](#)

Week 1: Students are placed on drawing lists for registered courses

Week 2: Registration results are announced

- If a class is full, students are placed on a waiting list
- The add/drop period is available

First-come, first-served system due to small class sizes (approximately 25 students)

Course Level System

Course codes indicate difficulty

- 100–200 level → Introductory (1st–2nd year)
- 300–400 level → Advanced / major-level courses



Study Methods?

VERY SIMPLE

- **Just STUDY HARD and CONSISTENTLY**
- **Attendance is mandatory (3 absences may lead to failure)**
- **Strict prohibition on AI-generated assignments** 👍

**Make full use of
the 24-hour
library**

- The library is open all day, so you can study anytime that fits your schedule

**Be prepared for
a competitive
environment**

- Students are highly motivated and serious about their studies
- You may often see students studying late or even overnight
- Being surrounded by hardworking and talented peers will naturally motivate you
- Use this environment to push yourself

**Actively
participate in
discussions**

- Many classes require readings before class
- Students come prepared with their own ideas and reflections
- Not preparing may affect group discussions and your classmates

**Learn from
your peers**

- Students are friendly, but also very capable
- Observing and interacting with them will help you grow academically

Housing & Dormitory Life at AIU

On-campus living is required

01

- AIU is located in a remote, forested area
- Renting off-campus housing is very difficult

Dormitory assignment (Tsubaki Village)

02

- Common for domestic exchange students
- Similar to AP House (shared living style)
- Buildings: 3–4 floors, mixed or single-gender floors



My Dormitory Tsubaki Village



Housing & Dormitory Life at AIU

03

Room & shared facilities

- ~12 rooms per building
- Shared kitchen (some dorms provide cooking equipment, some don't)
- 2 refrigerators (shared among ~12 people)
- 2 toilets + 2 showers per side (total 4 each)

04

Laundry & common spaces

- Laundry room in a separate building
- Above the laundry room is the multi-purpose room
- Study, movies, socializing
- Some spaces include billiards or cooking areas



Part-Time Jobs at AIU as an exchange student?

Is it possible to work part-time?

- **Yes! But**
- Around the conversational to pre-advanced Japanese level is recommended
- Previous experience increases your chances

For example, I work at the convenience store before exchange, therefore, I find conbini baito



On the way to LAWSON

Food & Nearby Facilities



On-campus options

- AIU shop, cafeteria, and café
- Subway (every Thursday at the AIU shop)
- Food trucks (occasionally)

Nearby (walking distance)

- Local grocery store (Banafi Shop)
- Restaurants (Japanese curry and Ayera Indian Food)
- Camellia Bar (popular among international students)
- Hotel Plaza Crypton (~10 minutes walk) for alternative meals

No convenience stores near

Going Around?

Aeon Mall (nearest shopping center)

~15 minutes by bus

Cost ~250 yen

Includes shops like Daiso and more

To Akita City Bus: ~900 yen (expensive)

Alternative route: Bus to Wada Station →

Train to Akita Station



<https://aiu.showcase-exp.com/en>

Free shuttle minivan from the campus to
Akita City

- **Reservation required**
- **Cancel if not using**



The most important thing

ALWAYS CHECK
EMAIL FOR

BEAR ALERT!!!



Thank you!

Some parts of this presentation are based on personal experience and recollection
For precise and up-to-date information, please consult the official website