University of Tokyo
Tokyo, Japan

About:

The University of Tokyo is composed of five different campuses including Hongo, Kamaba, Kashiwa, Shirokane and Nakano and brings in approximately 2,500 international students from 100 different countries each year. Students interested in studying at the University of Tokyo must have a very high language level, as all courses at the undergraduate level are taught in Japanese. Those who are accepted have the option of studying in any one of the university’s ten faculties and can study Japanese language courses through the Center for Japanese Language Education.

Quick Facts:

- The first national university in Japan established in 1877.
- 4,000 faculty
- 29,000 students
- The semester system is divided allowing the academic year to start in April and end in March.
- It ranks as the highest university in Asia and 20th in the world in 2010 according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities.

Faculties and Departments:

- Faculty of Agriculture
- Faculty of Arts and Sciences
- Faculty of Economics
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Engineering
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Letters
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences
- Faculty of Science

*The Center for Japanese Language Education also offers general, intensive and academic Japanese language courses.

Estimated Costs:

100 Japanese Yen= USD 1.00

- Accommodation (Single Occupancy): JPY 60,000
- Heating, Water and Electricity= JPY 15,000
- Food (cooking your own meals): JPY 20,000
- Transportation= JPY 7,000
- Cell Phone= JPY 7,000
- Other Expenses= JPY 20,000
Fun Facts about Tokyo

- The university was chartered by the Meiji government in 1877 under its current name by integrating older government schools for medicine and Western learning. It was renamed "the Imperial University" in 1886, and then Tokyo Imperial University before returning to its original name.

- In 2009, Global University Ranking ranked the University of Tokyo third in the world and first in Asia and in 2010, Times Higher Education World University Rankings ranked the University of Tokyo 26th in the world.

- Tokyo is the seat of the Japanese government, home of the Emperor of Japan and is the capital of the country.

- Adopted in June 1989, Tokyo's official symbol has three arcs forming the letter T for Tokyo in the shape of a vivid green ginkgo leaf. It symbolizes Tokyo's future growth and prosperity, charm, and tranquility.

- Tokyo hosted the 1964 Summer Olympics.

- Karaoke is serious business in Tokyo, there are numerous karaoke bars spread throughout the city but the most popular include Fiesta International Karaoke Bar and Smash Hits with over 10,000 songs offered in English.

- Tokyo is known for having one of the best roller coasters, called the “Thunder Dolphin.”

http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/index_e.html
Course Offerings

All undergraduate courses are taught in Japanese. Faculties and programs offered at the University of Tokyo include law, medicine, engineering, letters, science, agriculture, economics, arts and science, education and pharmaceutical sciences.

Admission to an undergraduate course

Students may enroll in an undergraduate course either as a regular student or a research student. Please note that most of the undergraduate lectures at The University of Tokyo, including those for international students, are conducted in Japanese. Therefore, it is important that all students master Japanese before enrollment.

(1) Enrollment in regular undergraduate courses

A regular course at The University of Tokyo consists of the Junior Course, during which students study interdepartmental subjects, followed by the Senior Course, consisting of subjects specific to each faculty. The Junior Course takes place at the Komaba Campus for two years, followed by the two-year Senior Course at the Hongo Campus. After completing the combined four-year course and earning the specified credits, candidate students will be awarded a bachelor's degree. For the School of Medicine of the Faculty of Medicine, the Veterinary Medical Science Course of the Faculty of Agriculture, and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, a degree of Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, and Bachelor of Pharmaceutical Sciences will be granted respectively, after completing a four-year Senior Course and earning the specified credits.

(a) Enrollment

There are two types of enrollments: the general entrance examination (the same as that taken by Japanese students) and a special screening for graduates from overseas schools. Those who wish to enroll in the University should choose one of the above methods. Regular courses start in April every year.

(b) Qualifications for applying, application procedures and selection methods

(2) Enrollment as undergraduate research students

Undergraduate research students belong to a special category for those who wish to engage in research activities in specialized fields. No degree or qualification is awarded to undergraduate research students after the completion of a research term.

(a) Qualifications for applying

Applicants must be university graduates, or have completed 16 years of school education. However, some faculties may accept applications from those who have completed 14 years of education (equivalent of junior college graduates in Japan).

(b) Application procedures
All applicants are required to submit their application documents to the faculty they wish to enroll in. Since the immigration process for Japan tends to take a long time, it is necessary to complete the application procedures at least six months prior to admission. Please contact each faculty office for more information.

**University of Tokyo Japanese Language Courses**  
(Offered through the Center for Japanese Language Education)

*Types of Courses*

1. **General Course**
   
   This course meets for one to three sessions per week, so as to accommodate international students' busy schedules. The course includes general classes taught at different levels ranging from elementary to advanced, and classes focused on specific skill areas, such as kanji and intermediate conversation. There is no placement test for these classes except for “Intermediate Japanese for Communication.”
   
   - 20 to 30 students per class

2. **Intensive Japanese Course**
   
   This course meets for two to twelve sessions per week and offers elementary to advanced classes therefore, this course is designed for students who are able to devote a large portion of their time to Japanese language learning. Since the purpose of the course is to significantly improve language skills in a short period, participants are expected to attend every lesson and a placement test is required.
   
   - 10 students per class

3. **Academic Japanese Course**
   
   This course meets for one session per week and is aimed at equipping advanced learners with the skills necessary for research activities and writing papers in Japanese. This course requires a placement test.
   
   - 5 students per class

4. **Short-term Japanese Course**
   
   This course meets four to eighteen times throughout the entire course and is aimed as students who are not able to attend classes regularly, or who arrived in the middle of a term.

   - 15 students per class

*Summer courses start in April, and winter courses in October (excluding short-term courses).*

- All these courses accept applications in early April and October. If you wish to enroll, sign up for the course during the specified period. A late application will not be accepted.
Types of Accommodations

Todai Accommodations

International Lodge, Komaba Lodge
Accommodations for international students and foreign researchers engaged in education or research at Todai, located in Komaba II campus

- Single Occupancy (males only)
- 126 rooms
- 5,900 yen per month
- One year residence

International Lodge, Shirokanedai Lodge
Accommodations for international students and foreign researchers engaged in education or research at Todai, located near Shirokane campus

- Single Occupancy= 5,900 yen (34 rooms)- per month
- Couple Occupancy= 9,500yen or 11,900yen (13 rooms)- per month
- Family Occupancy=14,200yen (9 rooms)- per month
- One year residence

International Lodge, Kashiwa Lodge
Accommodations for domestic and international students, and foreign researchers engaged in education and research at Todai.

International Lodge, Kashiwanoha Lodge
Accommodations for foreign researchers engaged in education and research at Kashiwa campus.

Mitaka International Hall of Residence
Accommodations for domestic and international students of the College of Arts and Sciences. All international students are eligible to apply even if not affiliated with the College of Arts and Sciences.

- Single Occupancy
- 182 rooms
- 4,700 yen per month
- Minimum number of years for completion(one year for Research students)

Toshima International Hall of Residence
Accommodations for domestic undergraduate and graduate and for international students

- Single Occupancy (males only)
- 60 rooms
• 4,700 yen per month

Other Accommodations

**Tokyo International Exchange Center**
Accommodations managed by JASSO. Please contact the relevant faculty or graduate school about vacancies.

**Ochanomizu University International House**
Accommodations managed by Ochanomizu University. Please contact the relevant faculty or graduate school about vacancies.

*Application for University of Tokyo international student accommodations (International Lodge, Mitaka International Hall of Residence, Toshima International Hall of Residence) and Tokyo International Exchange Center:

• Applications are accepted twice a year (mid-January for admission in April, and around July for admission in October). Please apply through your faculty or graduate school.

*Application for Ochanomizu University International House:

• Applications are accepted once a year, generally from December to mid-January for admission in April only. Please apply through your faculty or graduate school.

Public Accommodations

The Urban Renaissance Agency, responsible for redeveloping certain areas of the city, is accepting applications from prospective tenants. [http://www.ur-net.go.jp/kanto/gakusei/](http://www.ur-net.go.jp/kanto/gakusei/)

Housing situation of international students at The University of Tokyo in 2006:

International students ‘residences= 23%
Local government and charitable organizations ‘accommodations= 23%
Company staff accommodations= 1%
Municipal government accommodations= 1%
Privately rented accommodations= 49%
Other= 3%

Furniture is usually not provided in rented apartments and other accommodations. You will usually have to provide such items as gas cookers, lights, rugs, curtains and other necessities yourself. Further, when signing a contract, students typically have to pay a deposit, key money, introduction fee and so on, in addition to an up-front payment of five to six month’s rent. You will also need someone who will act as your guarantor.