University of the Ryukyus
(Okinawa Prefecture)

Practical learning experiences, making use of Okinawa’s geographic and cultural characteristics

◇ University overview

Characteristics and history
The University of the Ryukyus was established under the U.S administration governing Okinawa in 1950 and became a national university of Japan in 1972. At the time of our university’s founding we received valuable guidance from Michigan State University. Today, we still try to uphold the very best traditions of the American university system with both local and global features. The University currently consists of seven faculties (Law & Letters, Tourism Sciences and Industrial Management, Education, Science, Medicine, Engineering, and Agriculture), eight graduate schools (four Master Programs in Tourism Sciences, Education, Medicine and Agriculture; four Master and Doctoral Programs in Humanities and Social Sciences, Medicine, Health Science, Engineering and Science; and one Doctoral Program at the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Kagoshima University). Special Support Education Programs, and a Juris Doctoral Program. There are approximately 8,400 students and 1,700 teaching and administrative staff.

International Exchange (As of Sep. 2014)

- Affiliated Universities and Institutions: 75 (from 31 countries and regions)
- Enrollment of International students by year
  2012: 295 (from 50 countries and regions)
  2013: 283 (from 47 countries and regions)
  2014: 268 (from 42 countries and regions)
- Enrollment of Teacher Training by year
  2012: 1 (Mexico)
  2013: 1 (Spain)
  2014: 0

◇ Outline of the course for Teacher Training students

Characteristics of the program
To meet individual needs for professional development, academic supervisors will give tutoring and guidance to the trainee teacher in his or her laboratory. There will be frequent opportunities for information exchange with Japanese students, including actual schoolteachers studying at the University as graduate students.

Number of students to be accepted: 3 people

Outline of the course

- Japanese language education
  b) Japanese Language Classes for Research and Graduate Students: Trainee teachers who so wish can take these classes, from beginners’ to the advanced level.

- Specialized training
  a) Supervisors will give appropriate guidance for each trainee to master the fundamentals of training in specialized fields of study. While classroom instruction is delivered predominantly in Japanese, individual instruction may be given in English.
  b) If interested, trainee teachers may participate in lectures/seminars at undergraduate or graduate level as auditors.
  c) At the end of the period of study, each trainee teacher writes a paper, and receives a certificate of attendance.

- Others
  a) The Elementary and Junior High Schools attached to the Faculty of Education are very useful for actual education training.
  b) A Japanese tutor is assigned to help each trainee teacher not only in their studies, but to adjust to their new environment for the first year.
  c) Trainee teachers may participate in various events such as the International Student Festival, parties, etc.

◇ Accommodations

Accommodation on campus is offered for trainee teachers in this program. Introductions for private apartments near the campus will be made if there are no vacancies for on-campus housing.

- Number of rooms
  - Single room 46 (International House)
  - Couple room 14 (International House)
  - Family room 12 (International House)

- Monthly rent
  - Single rooms cost 5,000–15,000 yen per month, excluding maintenance fees and utilities.

- Facilities
  - International House: desk, chair, bed, shelf, kitchen, bathroom in each room.
  - Dorms: desk, chair, bed and shelf in each room but kitchen, toilets and showers are shared. (Rooms in new dorm building are fully equipped with kitchen, toilet and shower)

- Information for Daily Life
  - Both International House and dorms are located on campus and are convenient. Also, hospitals, community services and supermarkets are close to the campus.

◇ Contact

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