

We would like to thank all of our partner institutions and applicants to the 2020 Fall Semester for their interest in and support for the Center for Japanese Studies (CJS).

The 2020 Fall Semester will run as scheduled from September to December 2020; however, it will be in an online format and only open to applicants who have applied to stay for two semesters (2020 Fall Semester and 2021 Spring Semester).

The reason that the 2020 Fall Semester will be in an online format is that the Japanese Government has not announced when it will allow non-Japanese citizens to enter the country. If classes were held on-campus, successful applicants would not be able to receive their student visas and enter Japan in time to arrive before the mid-September start of the 2020 Fall Semester.

Students who applied to stay for only one semester will not be able to enrol in the 2020 Fall Semester. However, we anticipate being able to offer the 2021 Spring Semester on-campus in Japan from January to May 2021, so these applicants will be able to defer their 2020 Fall Semester enrolment to the 2021 Spring Semester. The process for doing so is simple.

Those students who have applied to stay for two semesters (2020 Fall Semester and 2021 Spring Semester) will be able to take their 2020 Fall Semester courses in an online format, to prepare for their 2021 Spring Semester on-campus courses. These one-year students will be able to complete one level of CJS Japanese in the 2020 Fall Semester, and then take a second level in the 2021 Spring Semester. Alternatively, one-year students can also defer their 2020 Fall Semester enrolment and join us from the 2021 Spring Semester. Again, the process for doing so is straightforward.

In the 2020 Fall Semester, all five levels of Japanese Language Courses (Japanese I~V) will be offered, along with up to 20 Japanese Seminar Courses and a small number of Japanese Area Studies Courses. Additional courses may also be offered depending upon student enrolment and interest. All CJS students will be able to enrol in a sufficient number of classes to be able to take at least 14 credits, the minimum number of credits necessary to maintain full-time student status in the CJS.

Japanese Language and Seminar Courses will have small class sizes of less than 10 students, so CJS students will receive a lot of individual instruction and attention from their instructors. Also, opportunities to interact online in Japanese with Nanzan University undergraduate students as language partners and teaching assistants will be provided to help CJS students improve their Japanese. One advantage of this is that one-year study abroad students can meet our students and start to make Japanese friends before they arrive in January for the 2021 Spring Semester.

No costs for housing, accident insurance, or National Health Insurance will be incurred for any CJS student enrolled who is outside Japan; however, textbook fees of ¥15,000 may be charged. Fee-paying students will be required to pay the regular ¥340,000 tuition fee.

Please note that students who enrol in the 2020 CJS Fall Semester will not be included when calculating the number of students that partner institutions send us this year. In other words, if a partner institution has agreed to send us one one-year student or two one-semester students, the students enrolling in the 2020 Fall Semester will not be included in this count. Rather, we are offering the 2020 Fall Semester as a way to prepare one-year study abroad students for their 2021 CJS Spring Semester, to maintain their interest in the Japanese language and Japan, and to continue to build our valued relationship with our partner institutions.

All of our CJS faculty have had experience teaching courses online, as CJS language and content courses were changed to an online format in the second half of the 2020 Spring Semester after CJS students returned home in mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We recognise that an online learning experience is not the same as an on-campus study abroad experience, but we will do our best to ensure that all 2020 Fall Semester students have a productive and fruitful online study experience.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the CJS Office at cjs-office@ic.nanzan-u.ac.jp.

Robert Croker
Academic Program Director
Center for Japanese Studies
Nanzan University
Nagoya, Japan