

UTokyo

Global Unit Courses

Summer Program



Experience Excellence at UTokyo

About UTokyo GUC

The University of Tokyo's "Global Unit Courses" (GUC) provides a great opportunity for students around the world to experience studying at one of the world's foremost universities in East Asia. UTokyo GUC offers a variety of in-person and online courses with cutting-edge contents, taught by leading faculty members of the University of Tokyo.



GUC Faculty

All GUC professors are current and former faculty members of UTokyo prominent in their research fields. These leading scholars will offer an exciting range of courses in English from the humanities to social science to STEM subjects. The students will be able to directly interact with their professor, as the courses are small (about 20 students) and include active discussion sessions.



Program Schedule

- 1 **Application Period**
Early February to Mid-March
- 2 **Results Announcement**
Mid-April
- 3 **Payment Deadline**
Mid-April to Late April
- 4 **Program Period**
Mid-June to July

Term 1: Mid-June to Late June

Term 2: Early July to Mid-July

Term 3: Late July

Students are welcome to apply for any course or number of courses regardless of the term, so long as they do not result in conflicts in their schedule.

In other words, applicants may flexibly choose courses across the three terms. Furthermore, they may apply solely for a total of just one course over the three terms.



UTokyo GUC 2026 Course Offerings

The courses marked with * will be offered online, while the others will be in-person.

	Course Title	Unit
Term 1	Group Theory and Its Applications	1
	International Security of the Asia-Pacific	1
	Introduction to School Education in Japan	1
	Introduction to Changemaking	2
	Our Universe	1
	Culture, Media and Society in Japan	1
Term 2	Early Language Acquisition: How Human Infants Learn Language Within Their Social Environment	1
	AI for Understanding Human Intelligence	2
	AI and Social Justice	1
	Sustainable Air Transport Systems	1
	Design for Social Impact	2
	A History and Culture of the Senses	1
	Resource Management, Efficiency and Social Justice: Both Perspectives from Economics and Sociology	0.5*
Term 3	Tissue Engineering and Stem Cell Technologies for Neuroscience	1
	Modern Japanese History	1
	Japanese Politics in a Changing World	1
	Museums in Contemporary Japan	1
	Making Robots Expressive	1
	Politics of Natural Resources and Environment: The "Resource Curse" and Beyond	1
	An Introduction to Quantum Biology	1
	Law in Transnational East Asia	1
Japanese Language	Survival Japanese (Beginner Level) [Term0]	0.5*
	Level 4 Further Steps (Upper Intermediate Level) [Term1]	0.5*
	Level 3 Further Steps (Lower Intermediate Level) [Term1]	0.5*
	Level 2 Further Steps (Upper Elementary Level) [Term1]	0.5*
	Level 1 Further Steps (Lower Elementary Level) [Term1]	0.5*
	Level 5 Further Steps (Advanced Level) [Term2]	0.5*
	Survival Japanese (Beginner Level) [Term3]	0.5*

Japanese Language Courses are open only to the students who register for at least one of the main courses above.

Global Unit/ Assessment	Students will be rigorously assessed and be given "Global Units" based on their performance and the number of class hours. Upon completion of a course, a Global Unit Certificate, which may be used to calculate credits for transfer to your home institution, will be issued by the University of Tokyo.
Contact Hours	0.5-Unit course: 7.5 hours (450 minutes / 90-minute session × 5) 1-Unit course: 15 hours (900 minutes / 90-minute session × 10) 2-Unit course: 30 hours (1800 minutes / 90-minute session × 20)
Eligibility	Applicants must be currently enrolled in a university as a full-time student outside of Japan or a full-time student of UTokyo (undergraduate and graduate).
Language Requirement	All UTokyo GUC courses are taught in English except for Japanese language courses, and knowledge of Japanese is not required. While a certificate of English proficiency is not required, students must possess sufficient language proficiency to complete university-level coursework, including active participation in class discussions, presentations, and other interactive academic activities. The minimum required proficiency is TOEFL iBT 90 or IELTS 6.5.
Fees	<p><u>Application Fee</u> JPY 5,000 The application fee must be paid during application period by credit card ONLY and is strictly non-refundable. There is no application fee for UTokyo students.</p> <p><u>Program Fees</u> • In-person format: JPY 190,000 per Global Unit • Online format: JPY 40,000 per 0.5 Global Unit</p> <p>The program fee must be paid by credit card ONLY during the payment period in April, after the announcement of the screening results.</p> <p>Discounts for Students from AUA / IARU / USTEP Universities Students currently enrolled at AUA / IARU / USTEP universities are eligible for a 20% discount on the program fees.</p>

Course Details and Application Guidelines



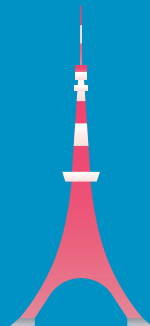
For further information, please visit
the UTokyo GUC website:
<https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/prospective-students/guc.html>





Tokyo

Home to more than 38 million people, the greater Tokyo area has the largest concentration of population in the world. It offers a stunning mix of the traditional and modern, including some of the best food scenes and one of the most efficient transportation systems in the world. It is also an amazingly safe, clean, and affordable city. Experience this truly exciting metropolis while studying at UTokyo!



UTokyo

Founded in 1877, UTokyo is regarded as the best university in Japan and consistently attracts talented minds from all over the world. About 28,000 students, representing more than 100 nations, are studying under the guidance of leading scholars in a variety of fields. The university has produced many distinguished graduates throughout its history, including Nobel prize laureates in physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace as well as political and business leaders of Japan and the world.



Student Voices



Trinity College Dublin

The lecture content was very interesting, and the classes were conducted in an engaging manner. There were plenty of opportunities to ask questions, and the overall class atmosphere was very enjoyable. The UTokyo campus was beautiful, with lots of greenery, and I also appreciated its convenient location near the center of Tokyo, which made commuting relatively easy.



Politecnico di Milano

The lectures were clear, insightful, and well-organized, with each speaker bringing a unique perspective that made the content both engaging and intellectually stimulating. The class atmosphere was open and supportive, encouraging everyone to share ideas, ask questions, and collaborate, which made learning active and enjoyable. Additionally, the University of Tokyo campus was beautiful and inspiring, providing a calm academic environment that made studying and exploring each day a pleasure.



National University of Singapore

The get-together sessions where students interacted before the classes began were instrumental in making the subsequent classes smoother and facilitating discussion. These sessions helped us build rapport and created a more relaxed atmosphere in the classroom. The lectures delivered by the instructors were also very engaging, and I felt that I learned a great deal despite the short instruction time.



University of Malaya

The lectures were well-structured and intellectually stimulating, and I appreciated how complex environmental and ethical issues were presented in a clear and engaging way. The class environment was inclusive and respectful, allowing everyone to express different perspectives even during debates. Interacting with UTokyo students was particularly rewarding; their thoughtful insights and our discussions helped me broaden my perspective.

University of Copenhagen

The registration session was a wonderful start to the program and provided a helpful introduction to both the university and its culture. It offered a comfortable platform where we could ask questions and have pleasant conversations with the university ambassadors. Overall, I really enjoyed this session. I also felt that the way the lectures were conducted was well suited to achieving the learning outcomes and encouraging meaningful class discussions. These points contributed to creating a great class atmosphere with a welcoming and open-minded setting.

National Taiwan University

I think the lecture was really engaging and covered topics that I am interested in. The class atmosphere was excellent, with everyone listening attentively and actively participating in discussions. I also had the opportunity to meet people from other countries and became friends with them. I believe this was an unforgettable experience.

The University of Sydney

The Get Together event was one of the most memorable parts of the program, creating a warm and welcoming environment where participants could connect more personally with both peers and UTokyo students. It helped break the ice and made it easier to form friendships that extended beyond the classroom. The class atmosphere was intellectually engaging and supportive, with stimulating discussions in which the instructors encouraged open dialogue and critical thinking. I appreciated the respectful and collaborative learning environment that allowed everyone to share ideas freely.

Interacting with UTokyo students provided a valuable cultural and academic exchange. Their insights and perspectives deepened my understanding of Japanese society and education. Having the opportunity to speak with them in both formal and informal settings made my experience even more meaningful and enriching.

University of Oxford

In our program, the tutors gave us enough freedom to collaborate with our classmates, and we completed projects together through substantial discussion. These interactions helped us build strong connections, and by the end of the program, we had become quite familiar with one another. The lecturers and professors also put great effort into preparing the lecture materials and assignments. I really enjoyed my time on the UTokyo campus, which made daily life much more convenient and helped us feel more integrated.

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Through the Get Together, I was able to make friends before attending the courses in person, which helped me feel comfortable and not alone at UTokyo. I enjoyed the class atmosphere because the instructors were friendly and encouraged participation in discussions, allowing us to understand different perspectives and opinions. I also enjoyed being on the UTokyo campus, as it gave me a sense of what it is like to be a university student in Japan and allowed me to fully immerse myself in the city.

University of Amsterdam

The class atmosphere was academic, and everyone actively participated, which motivated me to engage as well. All the students were eager to share their thoughts and ideas. The campus was wonderful—beautiful, with lovely plants everywhere.

The University of Hong Kong

The Get Together activity allowed me to interact with classmates beforehand, making it easier to create a positive class atmosphere. The class environment was excellent, with everyone being friendly and engaged. The campus offered many places for walking around and studying.

University of Toronto

The lectures were concise, well-structured, and highly engaging. The careful balance between theoretical explanations and practical examples helped deepen my understanding of challenging topics.

The lecture materials were exceptionally well-organized and comprehensive. Clear definitions, step-by-step proofs, and thoughtfully selected examples enhanced my grasp of the content. These resources served as reliable references, supporting effective self-study even after class.

The class atmosphere was welcoming, inclusive, and intellectually stimulating, motivating active participation and encouraging questions. Collaborative interactions among classmates and with the instructor significantly enriched the learning experience, making even complex concepts approachable and enjoyable.

Seoul National University

I found LMS/Student Portal easy to use and well organized. Communicating with UTokyo students was valuable because it allowed me to share ideas and learn from different perspectives. The UTokyo campus was also very inspiring, with excellent facilities and a motivating atmosphere.

Peking University

The lectures were very well organized and kept me engaged throughout. The instructor effectively connected theoretical concepts with real-life examples, making each class both interesting and meaningful. The readings were thoughtfully selected, encouraging deep reflection while remaining easy to follow. By balancing academic rigor with accessibility, the instructor helped me gain a better understanding of complex topics.

The overall environment was open, friendly, and collaborative. I greatly appreciated the diversity of perspectives from both the instructor and my classmates, and I felt comfortable asking questions and joining in discussions. Overall, it was a positive and enriching experience that made learning truly enjoyable.

The University of Tokyo

Even as a student at this university, it was a wonderful opportunity for me to learn new things, make new friends, and gain a deeper understanding of my university.