

# Student Life in Kyoto University

See how our undergraduate international students enjoy their lives in Kyoto.



**Michael from Kenya**  
(2011 admission)

I was blessed, with the opportunity to come to Japan, and more so the great Kyoto University that takes pride in several Nobel Laureates among many other honorable academic achievers. So far so good, life has been amazingly great with the very many new experiences I have encountered including new cultures, people, and environment. All I can say is; it is worth being here.

I have been able to make new friends not only from Japan but also other foreign students. Amazing temples, countless festivals, traditional dressing, four beautiful seasons, delicious food, kind people, and unique way of writing.... The list is endless.



**Indra from Indonesia**  
(2013 admission)

There are many ways to get along with homesickness when living abroad. One of best ways is by keeping in touch with people from your country. We, Indonesian students in Kyoto, have lots of activities such as cycling, fishing and organizing big events. On September 24, 2013, a cultural event named Malam Indonesia 2013 was held in Kyoto International Community House. In this event, we were aiming to introduce the cultural richness of Indonesia to the Japanese people. From the stage, I saw that the seat was full, lots of audiences! Applause from the audiences enhances my spirit to show our best. All performances succeeded, in the end, we invite audiences to dance together on the stage.



**Ruoqi from China**  
(2012 admission)

I would describe my life here "colorful". The life here in Kyoto University is not only about study, instead, it always give me surprises. November is fun because it was filled with a bunch of events and activities. The best thing about November is the maple leaves and November Festival . During this time, the campus was filled with people coming to join the event. There are shops, activities indoors, and stage performance. The event is

a great chance for students to show what they can do and practice skills that cannot be learned from lectures, and for everyone else to have fun and develop new interests. There is a life beside the books.



**Jose from Argentina**  
(2013 admission)

I feel very lucky to be able to study in a city such as Kyoto, where there are many different universities and schools. This makes it much more interesting for me as a student to live in Kyoto, since there are numerous activities. At the room next to the student lounge "KI-ZU-NA" for instance, we have the International Afternoon Tea Party, which brings a mix of foreign and Japanese students. Also Kyoto University has hundreds of clubs and activities. I have found clubs ranging from the study of butterflies to Pokémon and mountaineering. I found people to be very friendly and eager to accept all kinds of new students. All in all I definitely recommend coming to Kyoto it may not have the nightlife or the sheer unending things to do and the wackiness that other Japanese big cities are known for, but it has its own charm.



**Aulia from Indonesia**  
(2013 admission)

I arrived in Japan on April 1st 2013, when Sakura had been blossom beautifully. It's really wonderful opportunity for me to study in International Program of Kyoto University. Most of the lecturers teach us nicely, so it makes us understand easily. The class is a small-size and my classmates come from many different countries. The administration staff members are very friendly and helpful. There are so many libraries in here and also there are club activities for the students to enjoy the campus-life, beside study.

Around three weeks after I arrived, there was an orientation trip. We went to Sanjusangendo-temple, making Japanese sweets (yatsushashi) and scented bag. This trip made me know more about Kyoto-city and I feel that my life become more fun.



**Kyle from South Korea**  
(2012 admission)

I attended the G20 Youth Forum in St. Petersburg, Russia in 2013. The G20 Youth Forum is a gathering of young academics to debate on the most pressing global issues and the exchange their academic findings. There were about 4 events held separately and I took part in the Youth Summit.

At the Summit, I had the privilege to represent Japan and its Minister of Energy. My fellow group members and I were given the task to expound upon the issue of "sustainable development of future energy markets". After many hours discussions, a final Communiqué was devised, in which all the ideas of 4 events were summarized into one document. This document will be forwarded towards the Heads of State as well as leading organizations such as the United Nations, World Bank, etc.

My experiences at the event were marvelous and grandiose. I will look forward to participate in more international conferences in the future to broaden my horizons and nurture my talents.



Kevin from Malaysia  
(2013 admission)

Remember the mundane days when your teacher told you to fill up your favorite country? Well, the next thing I remembered is that I'm right here in Japan! For being bestowed such golden opportunity to study in Japan, Kyoto University, is really like a dream come true.

Kyoto city is a historical site and a sightseeing city and I have visited a few temples and shrines, such as Kiyomizudera, Kinkakuji. Other than having various places to visit during

the leisure time, university life in Kyoto University is tense but lively. I got to get my feet wet on an array of subjects being taught by top-notch professors in Kyodai. However, all fun but no play makes Jack a dull boy, since I am part of the International Course Program (ICP), I got to hang out with my friends from all around the globe.



Mohamed from Egypt  
(2013 admission)

The reason why I chose this course is that I have always wanted to study in Japan and when I found this course where all the classes are in English, as I am not good at Japanese, I thought that it was an excellent opportunity and I was fortunate to get accepted. Kyoto is a very beautiful city, but when I saw the university, I thought: this is the most beautiful place I have seen here. Of course life in Kyoto is different from my home country, but I didn't have any

problems at all getting used to it. I really love Kyoto University and I get to befriend with a lot of people from many different countries. Also it's not all about studying, you study, do club activities, and go out with your friends. So you work hard and enjoy yourself!!

## What's on Campus?

### Cafeteria Renais



Kyoto University has four cafeterias in Yoshida Campus, and one of those cafeterias is called "Cafeteria Renais". They provide regular meals in variety of cuisines such as Japanese, Chinese and Western as well as halal meals for Islamic students with an official certificate to provide halal food. English translation of each dish is available along with the picture and pictogram for the ingredients for those who have food restrictions and allergies. Manager and staff are very enthusiastic to improve the food service so that students can fully enjoy their meals in a cozy atmosphere.



### Student Lounge KI-ZU-NA



The name "KI-ZU-NA" means "bonds" in Japanese. The lounge was named as such, since it is meant to be a space for students to create bonds of friendship beyond borders. At "KI-ZU-NA", international and Japanese students, university staff, professors, researchers etc., can get together to join or organize cross-cultural activities. "KI-ZU-NA" has a salon where students can chat and relax. There is also a reading room (lending library), which provides books for Japanese language learning, books in English and so on.



### Library of Global Engineering



Study materials written in English for civil engineering related subjects and other books for Japanese language learning and travel guide, etc. are available.

Students can borrow books or use audio booth to listen to CD or watch DVD movies. Students may request this library to purchase books which may be useful for their study.



## Come and join us!



京都大学  
KYOTO UNIVERSITY

Undergraduate International Course Program of Civil Engineering,  
Faculty of Engineering, Kyoto University

<https://www.s-ge.t.kyoto-u.ac.jp/int/en>