

Orientation Schedule and Course Outline

1. New Student Orientation Sessions

There will be two types of orientations: "Orientation for CRPS Students," which is for new students in CRPS major and "International Students Orientation," which is for all the newly admitted international students in the university.

Unless otherwise specified, attendance will be mandatory. During the orientations, we will provide students with information and guidance relevant to its curriculum and academic requirements, academic advising and other student resources, the course registration protocol, and several opportunities to socialize with other new students, current students, and staff & faculty at the College.

(1) Orientation Schedule and Other Related Events

① Student ID Distribution & Orientation for CRPS Students

Date & Time: September 16, 2026 (Wed) 13:30 ~ 14:30 (JST)

Place: Osaka Ibaraki Campus (OIC), Classroom AC130 (Building A, 1st floor)

② Orientation for CRPS Students

Date & Time: September 17, 2026 (Thu) 10:30 ~ 15:40 (JST)

Place: Osaka Ibaraki Campus (OIC), Classroom AC130 (Building A, 1st floor)

*For the most updated orientation schedule, please refer to the following website;

Start-Up Site for New Students **Available from September 1st AM 10:00 (JST).**

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/startup/eng/oic/>

*Contact the CRPS Office at ps-inter@st.ritsumei.ac.jp for questions regarding the New Student Orientation.

③ International Students Orientation

The "International Student Orientation" covers residence status and life in Japan. This is an important session for living a university life as an international student. All international students MUST attend this session.

Date & Time: September 16, 2026 (Wed) 10:00-12:00

Place: TBA, the International Center

*For the most updated orientation schedule, please refer to the following website;

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/startup/eng/oic/>

Contact the International Center for questions regarding the International Students Orientation.

[Frequently Asked Questions from International Students](#)

④ Japanese Placement Test (ROJPT): July 25 to July 30, 2026

Students who have learned Japanese (either as their native language or a foreign language) must take the Japanese placement test, which will be open from July 25 to July 30, 2026. Please check the email titled "IMPORTANT: Japanese Language Proficiency Questionnaire (CRPS)" that was sent on July 10 for the login information.

ROJPT Ritsumeikan Online Japanese Placement Test: <http://rojpt.ritsumei.ac.jp>

1) Students with NO Experience of Studying Japanese

Students who have never studied Japanese do not need to take the Japanese placement test.

2) Students who have learned Japanese (either as their native language or a foreign language)

These students need to take the Japanese placement test to be placed to the Japanese courses of an appropriate level.

Also, a short interview with Japanese language instructor(s) is planned on **September 2 or 3.**

⑤ English Writing Placement Test

All students, including native English speakers, are required to take an English placement test in person on **September 18** to determine the appropriate level of *Academic Writing Skills I* offered for the fall semester. Please bring a pencil or a mechanical pencil and an eraser, as the placement test is a written examination.

2. Fall 2026 Matriculation Ceremony

Date: September 25 (Fri), 2026

We welcome new students who begin their studies at Ritsumeikan University from Fall 2026 and hold matriculation ceremonies on each campus.

For more details, please refer to Start-Up Site for **available from September 1st 10:00 (JST).**

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/startup/eng/oic/>

3. Fall 2026 Classes

Fall 2026 class will begin on September 28(Mon), 2026.

4. Course Outline

(1) Number of Credits Required for Graduation

[Community and Regional Policy Studies Major, Department of Policy Science]

Course Classification		Minimum No. of Credits Required		TOTAL
Vision Building Subjects		20 credits or more		Graduation Requirements: 124 credits or more
English for Academic Purposes		12 credits or more (*1)		
Foreign Languages	Japanese and Other languages	12 credits or more (*2)		
Computing and Research Methods		10 credits or more		
Policy Science Subjects	Introductory Lectures	8 credits or more	50 credits or more	
	Advanced Lectures			
	Policy Science Common Courses			
	Seminars			
	Exchange Study Courses			
Courses offered by other colleges		Elective(*3)		

(*1) *Students who are approved to be native English speakers or have an equivalent proficiency according to their application documents are required to take a minimum of 6 credits from English for Academic Purposes courses.

(*2) *Students who are placed to “Proficient” level after the Japanese language placement tests (online test & interview) upon enrollment are required to take a minimum of 6 credits from Foreign Language courses.

(*3) *Students can register up to 20 credits.

(2) “Foreign Languages” courses

① Japanese Courses (“Elementary”, “Intermediate” and “Advanced” levels)

Basically, students will be placed in appropriate courses based on the submitted “Japanese Language Proficiency Questionnaire” and the Japanese placement test scheduled for from July 25 to July 30.

1) Students without any experience of studying Japanese

Students who have never studied Japanese do not need to take the placement test. They will be automatically placed in Elementary Japanese 1 class.

2) Students who have learned Japanese (either as their native language or a foreign language)

These students must take the Japanese placement test, which is open from July 25 to July 30. Japanese Language class will be determined by the result of Japanese placement test. Also, a short interview with Japanese language instructor(s) is planned on September 2 or 3.

Ref.) List of the Japanese courses offered by the CRPS Major

Level	Course	Credit	
Elementary 1	Elementary Japanese 1 (Comprehensive)	3	
	Elementary Japanese 1 (Reading & Writing)	2	
	Elementary Japanese 1 (Listening & Speaking)	1	
Elementary 2	Elementary Japanese 2 (Comprehensive)	3	
	Elementary Japanese 2 (Reading & Writing)	2	
	Elementary Japanese 2 (Listening & Speaking)	1	
Intermediate 1	Intermediate Japanese 1 (Comprehensive)	3	
	Intermediate Japanese 1 (Listening & Speaking)	1	
Intermediate 2	Intermediate Japanese 2 (Comprehensive)	3	
	Intermediate Japanese 2 (Listening & Speaking)	1	
	Special Japanese Lecture (Topics on Japan)	2	Elective
Advanced	Advanced Japanese (Listening & Speaking)	1	

	Advanced Japanese (Grammar & Writing)	1	
	Advanced Japanese (Career Japanese)	1	
	Special Japanese Lecture (Aspects of Japanese Society)	2	Elective
	Special Japanese Lecture (Japanese for Policy Science)	2	Elective

② Other Language courses (*for students with certain Japanese proficiency)

1) German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Vietnamese

If the College determines that you have some proficiency in Japanese, you are required to register for “**Introduction to Languages for Global Actions**” which is a Japanese-medium course offered in the fall semester. This is an introduction course that prepares you to choose and learn one of the following 10 languages: German, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, and Vietnamese, from the from the spring semester onward.

Please note that you cannot choose to study your native language.

2) Japanese (“Proficient” level)

Highly-Proficient level Japanese classes are open to students with a Japanese ability equivalent to or higher than JLPT N1 (approximately 900 study hours of Japanese) and wish to further improve their Japanese ability. In these classes, students will mainly develop their composition [文章表現], comprehension [読解], and listening and oral comprehension [聴解口頭].

Level	Course	Credit
Proficient	Japanese VII (Composition)	1
	Japanese VII (Reading Comprehension)	1
	Japanese VII (Listening & Oral Comprehension)	1
	Japanese VIII (Career Japanese)	1
	Japanese VIII (Academic Japanese)	1

Purpose of studying Japanese language

Although the Community and Regional Policy Studies Major is an English-based major, in order to ensure that students studying in Japan experience a well-rounded student life and education and have a variety of career options, we recommend that students take Japanese courses proactively with the following goals in mind.

1) Acquire basic skills that allow you to engage in everyday conversation.

2) Continue improving your language skills.

Although the minimum required number of credits for the foreign language courses is set, students who wish to improve their Japanese can continue taking Japanese classes beyond the minimum requirements until graduation. In the future, if students pursue a career in or related to Japan, a high level of Japanese proficiency will be highly valued. We encourage you to take full advantage of the Japanese curriculum at Ritsumeikan University.