## General Education

As part of our dedication to holistic education, as described in our mission statement, Fukuoka University maintains a liberal arts-centered general education system that helps ensure that our students graduate with enlightened and broad-minded thinking capabilities, the ability to view problems comprehensively and thereby make sound judgments, and genuine humanity. It is designed to stimulate natural curiosity and the zeal to learn in students, nurturing the abilities needed for analyzing and integrating information. These are all crucial skills that will be essential throughout their study at the university. The general education program is composed of courses from the three fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences, as well as interdisciplinary courses, fundamental courses, courses in foreign languages, health and physical education courses, and credited courses taken at other universities. The core characteristic of our general education program is that the curriculum is designed so that most students can complete the program within their first two years while still being able to take specialty courses at the same time.

Foreign language education at the University is one example of how this works. Languages offered in the program include English, German, French, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Russian and Japanese (international students only). The purpose of language education is to help our students develop broad cross-cultural perspectives, and to equip them with communication skills that enable them to understand what others have to say while being able to express their own thoughts and ideas.

