

# Faculty of Humanities

The Faculty of Humanities exposes students to a wide range of knowledge and culture, instilling the core knowledge essential in the field, including philosophy, sociology, psychology, history, education, literature, language and education. The objective is to nurture professionals with a sense of ethics solidly based on consideration for others, freedom and responsibility. Under this approach, the Faculty promotes a broad understanding of the role of individuals within society, and the role of society itself, as viewed through diverse senses of value, training students to act responsibly and effectively, and to understand foreign cultures from a global perspective.

## Department of Culture

The Department of Culture aims at providing its students with a comprehensive, multi-faceted understanding of human beings and cultures. Students study the methods of cultural analysis from multiple perspectives, including those of philosophy, religion, sociology, psychology, cultural anthropology, geography and art history. The goal of the Department is to produce graduates who have broad cultural perspectives and highly developed problem-solving skills and are thus able to contribute to society. To achieve this goal, members of the Department's teaching and research staff come from a wide range of disciplines, including philosophy, religion, sociology, psychology, cultural anthropology, geography and art history.

Students learn the basic skills of cultural analysis in their first year. Then, from the second year on, they decide the course of

study they will pursue by choosing from a range of seminars covering an array of fields. This curriculum is offered in accordance with the Department's belief that in this age of specialization and the increasing subdivision of knowledge, society needs people who have the ability to make accurate judgments based on an integrated and holistic interdisciplinary approach.



## Department of History

Since ancient times, northern Kyushu has served as the gateway for cultural influences flowing into Japan from China and the Korean Peninsula, and today it offers a rich heritage of historical artifacts reflecting the deep relationship it has enjoyed with Europe since the medieval era. Drawing on this rich historical heritage, the Department of History was established in 1987 as a department dedicated to the study of history. The aim of the Department is to offer historical education and research from both regional and international perspectives.

In the first year, students study a wide range of historical themes and approaches, and in their second year choose from among the four majors offered: Japanese History, Asian History, Western History or Archaeology. In their last two years students engage in field-specific research and write their graduation theses.

After graduation, students may begin careers in the general business community, proceed to postgraduate programs, or find employment in their specialty through junior high and high school teaching, excavation engineering and museum curatorship.



## Department of Japanese Language and Literature

This Department features a unique curriculum that preserves the crucial content of traditional approaches, but rather than viewing Japanese language and literature from a narrow, isolated standpoint also incorporates comparison with those of foreign countries. To further deepen student understanding of language and literature, the Department also offers classes focusing on regional cultures.

For the graduation thesis, the culmination of the four-year course, each student selects his or her own theme, and engages in original research. Students in education courses

hoping to become educators enjoy opportunities to find employment in their chosen field.



## Department of Education and Clinical Psychology

In the Department of Education and Clinical Psychology, students utilize knowledge and techniques of education and clinical psychology to learn how to approach a variety of problems and challenges being faced by modern society. Offering a unique feature not found at other universities, the Department allows students to freely choose and take courses related to the fields of both education and clinical psychology simultaneously and in accordance with their needs. The educational goal of this Department is to produce, through the combination of the two disciplines, graduates with general and practical abilities that can be used to support and assist others.



## Department of English

Acquisition of the English language is indispensable in today's international community. The Department of English responds to this crucial need of Japanese society by providing students with both high-level language skills and broad international perspectives, through intensive study of the language, cultures and literatures of English-speaking countries.

There are two courses, the Linguistics and Speech Communication Course and the Culture and Literature Course. In their first year, students learn the basic goals and outlines of each major, and take fundamental courses in the English language. At the end of the year they choose to major in either language or culture and literature. However, students of one major can take classes in the other, and about 60 percent of classes are common to both majors. Students may

participate in an elective intensive English language and culture course at the University of Bath in England or the University of Calgary in Canada every summer. In their third and fourth years, students' academic research is focused primarily on seminars in which they deepen their knowledge of their chosen field.



## Department of German

Among all the private comprehensive universities in Kyushu, only Fukuoka University offers a Department of German, dedicated to the study of German language and culture. Students must choose either the Course in European Studies or the Course in German Studies upon admission, and in their first year study grammar, reading and conversation taught by native German speakers. Foundations of European Studies and Foundations of German Studies provide students with the basic knowledge essential in the field.

From the second year, students choose from one of three fields according to their interest, namely Area Studies, Language and Culture, or Representations of Cultures. Students deepen their understanding of their selected field through a seminar in the third year, and are encouraged to write graduation theses in their final year.

One of the Department's goals is to provide students with an international perspective through a broader understanding of German culture as a whole. To this end, German Studies in German Speaking Areas is offered as an elective. Foreign exchange programs with two sister schools, Friedrich Schiller University Jena and Duisburg-Essen University, are also available.



## Department of French

Students must choose either the Course in European Studies or the Course in French Studies upon admission. In the first year, students learn grammar, reading and writing, and basic conversation taught by native French speakers, thus acquiring the four key skills.

The Department offers a range of specialty fields: Foundations of European Studies, Foundations of French Studies, Area Studies, Language and Culture, and Representations of Cultures. Students select seminars for the third and fourth years, defining their own themes and engaging in their own research, guided by their seminar teachers.

In the second year, the curriculum includes the month-long French Studies in French Speaking Countries course, and there is also an exchange program with the University of Paris 7 Denis Diderot, the University of Cergy-Pontoise and the Catholic University of Louvain, all of which are our sister universities.



## Department of East Asian Studies

Situated in the city of Fukuoka, which has been a hub of exchange with neighboring China and the Korean Peninsula since ancient times, the Department of East Asian Studies provides regional studies and education on East Asia. In their first year, students study the languages of China and Korea, along with regional affairs, and the methodology of research in area studies. From their second year students specialize in either Chinese or Korean, intensively studying the language, culture and other characteristics of their chosen country. In their third and fourth years, students work on their graduation theses, while taking a variety of seminars in their field of interest, improving their ability to understand the region and thoroughly

analyze and digest literature in the field. Many students take advantage of foreign exchange opportunities offered by the University to study overseas.

