

**(For International Students from Our Partner Institutions in the Pacific Island Region)**

**University of the Ryukyus Inter-University Exchange Project  
in partnership with  
Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST)**

**“Engaging with a Sustainable Island Future: Nurturing Global Leadership  
for Sustainability of the Pacific Island Region”  
Intensive Study Program in Okinawa, Japan for AY2022-23**

**Program Description**

The Intensive Study Program (“Program”) provides students with the opportunity to participate in an in-person cultural and study abroad experience centered on the theme of sustainability, with the aim of fostering global leadership to build a regional network for preservation and sustainability of island communities, cultures and environments in the Pacific Island Region. The program invites all student participants to explore the significance of the 17 SDGs within the Pacific Island Region. It encourages development of skills necessary to identify common issues concerning sustainability, while leveraging knowledge and nurturing leadership to design and undertake unique and effective solutions to resolve pressing problems facing the region. The program features guest lectures, joint programming with OIST, field trips as well as opportunities for interaction and collaboration with Japanese and international students studying at the University of the Ryukyus.

All program contents will be conducted in English. Students are encouraged to take initiative by preparing for class interaction in advance and actively participating in all components of the program. Students must also take part in pre- and post-program components utilizing COIL that will familiarize participants on the main themes of interest in this program.

In consideration of the program’s focus on fostering multicultural understanding and communication, the Intensive Study Program is also open to students from the University of the Ryukyus.

**Program Period (Main Program in Okinawa)**

March 11 to March 19, 2023 (9 days, 8 nights)

\*Pre- and post-programs not included

### **Eligibility (for official registrants)**

University and college undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled in the University's partner institutions in the Pacific Island Region.

Partner institutions in the Pacific Island Region: University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, University of Hawai'i at Hilo, Maui College, Kaua'i Community College, Kapi'olani Community College, Hawai'i Community College, Honolulu Community College, Leeward Community College, Windward Community College, University of Guam, Palau Community College, College of Micronesia-FSM, College of Marshall Islands

### **Number of Participants**

Up to 7 undergraduate students from our partner colleges/universities in the Pacific Islands will be selected to participate in the program.

Financial support covering expenses for return airfare and accommodation is available.

(Applications from privately funded students who intend to participate in this program without receiving financial support from the University will be considered separately.)

### **Application Conditions**

Participants must fulfill the following conditions.

(1) Students must be currently enrolled in undergraduate/associate or graduate programs at the University's partner universities/colleges.

(2) Students must participate in all program components including pre- and post-programs.

\*Students unable to complete program components due to unavoidable circumstances such as health issues must receive instructions from program coordinators on alternative learning.

(3) Students must display keen interest in learning about Okinawa and the Pacific Island Region as well as in active communication and interaction with Japanese students. (Japanese language skills are not required for participation in this program).

(4) All students must possess valid travel documents (passport of at least 6 months validity).

\* Students from the Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of the Marshall Islands must obtain a Temporary Visitor visa (90-day stay). For more on visa information, consult the Japan Consulate or visit <https://www.mofa.go.jp/files/000121327.pdf>

(5) Participants must be students who expect to continue their studies and graduate from their home institutions after program participation. Students who plan to terminate their studies before or after program participation, or are currently on temporary leave of absence from their home institutions will not be eligible to apply.

(6) Upon completion of the program, participants will be requested to render assistance to the University's Inter-University Exchange Project by promoting it at their home institutions, such as through requests for cooperation in advising and assisting future study abroad applicants from one's home institution.

\* Students may be asked to allow the University to use their photographed images for future promotional efforts.

### **Course Credits**

Those who successfully complete the program in full (including pre-and post-program components) will receive TWO credits ("Special Lectures on Inter-Disciplinary Sciences"). These credits may be transferred upon review and approval by participants' home institutions.

### **Curriculum Structure**

The program is comprised of in-person lecturers, field trips and collaborative group work. There are 30 study hours in the main program (pre- and post-program components and group/individual assignment work not included).

### **Languages Used**

The main language of instruction is English. Japanese language proficiency is not required for participation in this program. (English interpretation will be provided for lectures conducted in Japanese. All program materials in Japanese will be supplemented with English translations.)

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### **Program Outline**

This program has three components: pre-program synchronous COIL, and the main program to be held in Okinawa, as well as in-person post-program reflection and review.

#### **<Pre-Program>**

Participants are required to participate in two pre-program sessions prior to the main program. The pre-program COIL will prepare students for the main program, allowing them to become well acquainted with their program buddies and learning expectations regarding the program.

Pre-Program Synchronous COIL session (1)

(1) Students must take the BEVI<sup>1</sup>assessment

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<sup>1</sup> **The Beliefs, Events, and Values Inventory (BEVI)** is an online survey tool widely used for assessment

- (2) Upload a 2-minute self-introduction video on the video-sharing platform, Flip
- (3) Icebreakers
- (4) “What are the 17 SDGs?” – Learning about SDGs and group discussion

#### Pre-Program Synchronous COIL session (2)

##### (1) Individual Presentation

Students are expected to conduct research on one to three SDGs and explain how these goals relate to their home country/territory, paying particular attention to problem areas/issues of concern, as well as the impact caused to natural and social environments. Existing or potential action to address such problems and issues should also be included. Findings must be presented in a visual presentation containing 3-5 presentation slides. All student presentations will be peer evaluated.

#### **<Main Program>**

All lectures will be conducted face-to-face and include time for group work and intercultural discussion. Collaborative work sessions are required for the final group presentation. Required assignments from lectures and field trips should be submitted within one week of the program’s conclusion. All participants will be required to take the second BEVI assessment and submit a program evaluation survey immediately after the completion of the program.

#### **<Post-Program>**

- (1) All participants must submit a reflection report within one week of completing the main program (A4 1-2 pages, 1,000 words, double-spaced).
- (2) All participants are required to take their third BEVI\* assessment within 2 months after the main program.

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of educational programs.

### Main Program Schedule (Subject to Change without Prior Notice)

Schedule (in JST)	Contents
Pre-program 1: 2/18 (Sat)  2: 2/25 (Sat)	First pre-program synchronous COIL and 1 <sup>st</sup> BEVI assessment (90 mins)  Second pre-program synchronous COIL – individual presentation (90 mins)
3/11 (Sat)	Arrival in Okinawa
3/12 (Sun)	Program Introduction and Orientation (30 mins) BEVI Assessment (60 mins) Team Building (30 mins)
3/13 (Mon)	<b>Lecture 1:</b> Toward Sustainable Food Production: Integrative Land-Ocean Cultivation Project, Fumihiro HAGA, Global Education Institute, Univ. of the Ryukyus (90 mins)  Field trip to the University’s aquaculture facility (NAICe) (120 mins)
3/14 (Tue)	Joint Programming with OIST (9:00-17:00, 8 hours) Coral Reef Conservation and Transplanting Experience with Onna Village Fishery Cooperative Visit to OIST, lunch with OIST faculty and researchers Lectures at OIST
3/15 (Wed)	<b>Lecture 2:</b> Nature’s Resilience – Soil Erosion in Hawaii, Guam and Okinawa (90 mins) (joint lecture with Kauai CC and University of Guam) <b>Lecture 3:</b> SDGs, the Hult Prize and Journeys in Discovering Paths to Student Leadership - Ryuji ISHIKAWA, Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, Univ. of the Ryukyus, with alumnus Ryoma MEKARU and Chinen ANJU (90 mins)  University of the Ryukyus Ecological Campus “Plogging” Tour (120 mins)
3/16 (Thu)	(Overnight stay in Yomitan Village) (AM) Collaborative group work (PM) Homestay and cultural immersion experience

3/17 (Fri)	(AM) Collaborative group work (PM) Half-day tour of Yomitan Village
3/18 (Sat)	<b>Final Group Presentation, Closing ceremony</b> (90 mins) Second BEVI Assessment and Program Evaluation Survey (Google Forms) (60 mins)
3/19 (Sun)	Post-Program Reflection, 2 <sup>nd</sup> BEVI Assessment Departure from Okinawa

\*Participants are also required to submit a reflection report (A4 1-2 pages, 1,000 words, double-spaces) to be submitted within one week after the completion of the main program and complete a third BEVI assessment (within 2 months after the end of the main program) (60 mins)

### Grading and Evaluation

Participants will be assessed according to the following criteria:

Pre-program assignments	30%
Participation and assignments from main program lectures, fieldtrips	20%
Final group presentation on SDGs	40%
Final Report and BEVI assessments (#1,2)	10%
Total	100%

### Program Costs

All selected participants are required pay 30,000 JPY (in cash only) upon arrival in Okinawa. This will be used to cover expenses for program activities, admission fees to places of interest and field trips.

Funding is available for the following:

- Round trip airfare (between the nearest domestic/ international airport and Naha International/Domestic Airport)
- Accommodation during the program

Please note that funding does NOT cover the following:

- Meals (about 2,000JPY per day=16,000JPY for 8 days)
- Passport, visa application fees, international travel insurance, and medical costs incurred during the program
- Additional costs incurred from flight delays and/or excess luggage
- Fees for official documents issued by one's home institution

- Ground transportation to and from Naha Airport and transportation fees incurred during free and personal time during the program.

### **Application Process**

Applicants must submit all documents listed below to [r-sekaten@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp](mailto:r-sekaten@acs.u-ryukyu.ac.jp)

- (1) Program application form
- (2) Certificate of enrollment from participant's home institution
- (3) A copy of participant's most recent academic transcript
- (4) Permission and indemnity form

All application documents can be downloaded from the following URL:

<https://ged.skr.u-ryukyu.ac.jp/sekaten/en/news/>

### **Application Deadline**

November 30, 2022 (Mon) at 5:00 PM (Japan Time)

### **Notice of Application Outcomes**

Applicants will be notified of selection outcomes by early December 2022.

For inquiries please contact: Satoko KUDEKEN (Ms.), Serinah TAN (Ms.)

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