



Utsunomiya University (Tochigi Prefecture)



The Graduate School of Education offers training courses for coping with practical problems in school education and lifelong education. Frequent opportunities will be available to trainees to observe and participate in classrooms and at the University facilities as well as School of Education's attached schools and kindergarten.

◇ University overview

○ Characteristics and history

Utsunomiya University has five Schools (Regional Design, Education, International Studies, Engineering and Agriculture). All the Schools except Regional Design have graduate schools with master's courses and three of them (International Studies, Engineering and Agriculture) have doctoral courses as well.

The university has 12 common centers and institutes for research and education, including the Center for International Exchange and the Health Service Center. The School and Graduate School of Education aim to train schoolteachers and leaders of practical studies in education. The Graduate School has been constantly developing its systems and programs of research and education for in-service teacher training and accepts about 70 local in-service teachers as graduate or research students each year. It started accepting teachers from overseas as trainees in 1995 and a total of 67 took in-service training at the School. Located about 100 km north of Tokyo in the city of Utsunomiya, capital of Tochigi with a population of 510,000.

The city is surrounded by natural beauty, with the River of Kinu in the east, the Nasu Mountain Range to the north, and Nikko, a world-famous sightseeing resort, to the west. It also has been rapidly developing as a "technopolis," a center of integrated high technology for industries and businesses.

○ International exchange

- Number of international students 249
- Number of Teacher Training Students
4 (2013), 1 (2014), 1 (2017)

◇ Outline and characteristics of the course for Teacher Training Students

○ Characteristics of the program

The Graduate School of Education offers courses for coping with practical problems in school education and lifelong education.

Frequent opportunities will be available to trainees to observe and participate in classrooms at the School of Education's attached schools and kindergarten.

University's affiliated institutions for research and education (Library, Center for Education and Research of Community Collaboration, Media Network Center) are open to teacher Training Students. Opportunities to mix well with a lot of in-service teachers will be offered.

○ Number of students to be accepted: 10

○ Outline of the course

• Japanese language education

The Center for International Exchange offers the following courses:

- Preliminary Training Courses: a one-semester (6-month) intensive training required of all trainees, given according to degree of proficiency.
- General Courses : conversation, reading, writing and Kanji classes.

• Specialized training

i) fifteen-lecture series common to all trainees will be given on such themes as Japanese education (educational systems and principles and particular school subject teaching), Japanese society and Japanese culture. ii) Japanese for Education, a specialized course in Japanese, will be given in the first semester. iii) Individual guidance by an academic adviser. iv) lectures and seminars in specialized fields on both undergraduate and graduate levels. v) Writing a paper to be read at the year-end presentation meeting and published in the annual issue of Utsunomiya University International In-Service Teacher Training Program Report.

• Practical training, participatory subjects such as field trips and regional exchanges

Observation tours and practical trainings at the attached schools may be included in 'Common lectures' and 'training in the fields of specialization' as options. To those who are interested, opportunities will be offered to visit such institutions as vocational aid centers for the handicapped, juvenile welfare institutions, etc., as well as schools and other education-related facilities.

• Others

Although classroom instructions are mostly given in Japanese, some common course classes and individual instructions will be given in English.

◇ Follow-up for graduates

To those who are interested, advice on further study at Japanese universities after completion of the MEXT program will be provided.

◇ Accommodations

○ Condition

There is an international student dormitory at Utsunomiya university.

However, unfortunately it is always fully occupied, so all the MEXT scholarship students are advised to rent a room at their own expense.

○ Room rent (on average)

1-bed room 30,000yen/month

○ Other cost

You may have to pay triple the amount of money for leaning deposit, reward and handling charge. Sign up for house insurance, which costs 4,500-9,000yen, etc. In total you need 100,000- 150,000yen to settle down here.

○ Room facilities

There are few facilities in a room, so you have to buy heaters, stoves, kitchenware, microwaves, washing machines etc. at your own expense.

◇ Contact

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