



# JAPAN

**ALL MAJORS · MAY 2019**

**Trinity Western University Travel Studies**



**TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY**

Experience fresh insight into the different dimensions of Japanese culture.



IN THIS TRAVEL STUDY OPPORTUNITY, YOU'LL GAIN a deeper understanding of the language, culture, history, and religions of this unique island nation. Studying and experiencing Japanese culture first-hand will greatly improve students' ability to learn and understand the language, particularly from an oral perspective, and will introduce them to Japanese civilization in a living way, through numerous visits to heritage sites and interactions with Japanese nationals.

For the first few days, we'll visit Hiroshima, one of the cradles of Japanese history, an area with a great impact on World War II.

From there, we'll travel to Osaka, Kyoto, and Tokyo, where students will encounter the magnificence of Japanese art, culinary and pop culture including anime/manga, spirituality, philosophy, and religions while learning modern, spoken Japanese language. Program participants will reflect on the spiritual context of life in Japan today and over time.

## COURSES

### JAPA 101/102 · Introduction to Japanese

These courses are designed for the acquisition both language and culture outside of classrooms during 3 weeks' travel to Japan for introductory learners. Students are exposed to intercultural experiences during these weeks, and complete approximately the same amount of academic contents for the first- or second-level Japanese language study. *Prerequisites: None for JAPA 101.*

### JAPA 201/202/301/302 · Intermediate Japanese

These courses are designed for the acquisition both language and culture outside of classrooms during 3 weeks' travel to Japan for four different levels of intermediate learners. As in the introductory courses, students are exposed to intercultural experiences during these weeks, and complete approximately the same amount of academic contents for the third- to sixth-level Japanese language study. *Prerequisites: JAPA 101 or 102.*

### JAPA 399 · Japanese Religions & Spirituality

This course is designed for the religious and spiritual studies in Japan outside of classrooms during 3 weeks' travel to Japan. The course traces select themes and developments in the history of Japanese religion during visitations to various religious venues in Japan. Several forms of Japanese Buddhism including Zen and Pure Land as well as Shinto and Japanese Christianity will be examined. *Prerequisites: None*

*Directed Studies from other professors in the disciplines of Humanities and Social Sciences may be arranged.*

## INSTRUCTOR



Isao Ebihara, Ph.D.

ISAO EBIHARA HAS BEEN TEACHING Japanese language courses at Trinity Western University since 2002. Dr. Ebihara authored four books on Japanese language and culture including *Land of Rising Ghosts & Goblins* (2012) and *Postmodern Japanology Handbook* (2015) a couple of primary reading materials for this travel study. He also published an academic blog,

*Japan Insight*, and a peer-reviewed academic article, *Critical Study of Japanese Mythology & Folklore Behind the Anime/Manga Culture Worldwide* in the journal *Transactions: Journal of the Society of Scholars* (2014).

Dr. Ebihara was born in Tokyo and has lived in Canada since 1984. In addition to completing his bachelor and master's degrees in Japan, and master's level degrees in counselling and divinity in Canada, he earned a Doctor of Philosophy in the sociological integration of religion and society in the United States. Ebihara and his wife Beth currently live in Greater Vancouver.

## CONTACT

Isao Ebihara

e: [isao.ebihara@twu.ca](mailto:isao.ebihara@twu.ca)

t: 604.916.7096

[facebook.com/IsaoEbihara.75](https://facebook.com/IsaoEbihara.75)