



The Global Business Course (GBC) Report (Third Issue)

November 2021

Overview

GBC international students are living far away from their families now, and most of them have been separated from their loved ones for a long time due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. They are taking all precautions to live and study safely “with Corona”. University of Hyogo ensured that all GBC international students have a possibility to get vaccinated against COVID-19. In addition, the University has been encouraging activities aimed at intercultural exchange and deepening of relations of friendship among students, while they are taking necessary actions to avoid the 3 Cs.

In April 2021, when the GBC entered its third year, 49 students were admitted through general examination, and in September, 43 students enrolled in the GBC as the third-generation of international students. International students admitted this year come from 13 countries and one region, expanding the GBC’s diversity by 5 new countries (Belarus, Cambodia, Mexico, Mongolia and Zimbabwe).

Among the students enrolled in September, several students who had already lived in Japan were able to move into the international student dormitory, the Global House, in the Kobe Campus for Commerce. However, a great majority of newly enrolled students – including those sponsored by the Japanese Government – have problems to enter Japan due to strengthening of border measures relating to COVID-19 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. On October 22, the University received 6 students from Thailand, who are sponsored by Thai Government. After spending their self-quarantine period required by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare in Japan, they moved into their own rooms where their new roommates had been waiting.

Until all third-generation international students arrive to Japan, the GBC lectures for new students will be provided in the form of online and hybrid lessons. However, students are already meeting independently online and forming friendships among themselves. They are finding various ways to make a new start despite limitations imposed by COVID-19.



International students getting vaccinated at a local clinic (October 2021)



Students from Thailand immediately upon their arrival to the Global House (October 2021)

1. GBC International Students (Enrolled in September) by Country/Region of Origin

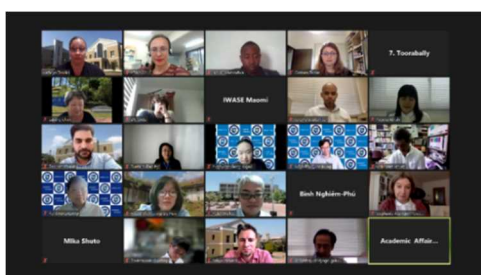
Data as of November 19, 2021

Country/Region	September 2019 Enrollment			September 2020 Enrollment			September 2021 Enrollment		
	Number of students	Gender composition		Number of students	Gender composition		Number of students	Gender composition	
		Male	Female		Male	Female		Male	Female
Bangladesh	2	2					1	1	
Belarus							1	1	
Bhutan	1	1							
Cambodia							1	1	
China	1		1	2	1	1			
India	1		1	1	1		4	2	2
Indonesia	7	2	5	6	3	3	5	1	4
Malaysia				3		3	1		1
Mexico							1	1	
Mongolia							2	1	1
Pakistan				2	2		3	2	1
Philippines				1	1				
Romania	2	1	1	1	1※		3	1	2
Thailand	14	7	7	4	1	3	10	4	6
Turkey	1	1							
Vietnam	6	4	2	6	3	3	7	3	4
Zambia				1	1				
Zimbabwe							1	1	
Taiwan	5	1	4	4	1	3	3	1	2
Total	40	19	21	31	15	16	43	20	23

※ Temporary leave of absence

2. Current Trends of the GBC Students

On September 17, instead of holding the initially planned Entrance Ceremony for first-year students, an online event and orientation were held. During the orientation, first-year students received information about registration of classes, the use of the university library and other relevant information. After that, during a two-week Basic Seminar, they learned fundamental academic skills required at university level, such as report writing, in-class presentation and basic data analysis skills. Moreover, they also attended an intensive Japanese language course in September.



Online orientation for first-year students (September 2021)



University staff and RAs welcoming new students at the Global House (September 2021)

3. Classes for the GBC International Students

University of Hyogo has formulated the “University of Hyogo Business Continuity Planning (BCP)” as a measure to cope with COVID-19, and is implementing it as a basic policy regulating activities relating to classes, research, extra-curricular and other activities. When Hyogo Prefecture lifted the Declaration of State of Emergency on September 30, the University revised its BCP to allow face-to-face classes during the Fall Semester of 2021.

Within Project Seminar, a lecture that requires students’ active participation, a group consisting of Japanese and international students gave a proposal for including SDGs in the business plan of a company in Akashi City.

As for Organizational Development, a new lecture in the Fall Semester, the students will receive their credits after doing internships in Japanese companies. For third-year students, the time has come to start preparing for job hunting. The students who are considering working in Japan are putting more efforts in improving their Japanese language skills. Some of them are worried about the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on labor market in Japan. However, the University is providing comprehensive support to international students in their job seeking efforts, such as finding companies that offer internship programs to international students.



Project Seminar
(July 2021)



Organizational Development lecture
(October 2021)

The Program to Experience Japan 2021 takes participatory and experience-based learning approach. Second-year international students learned about agriculture, tourism and local development of Kobe City. They also had the opportunity to propose policy improvements and marketing strategies to the City Tourism Authority and the Kobe Winery in the abovementioned areas.



International students enjoying hot footbath
(July 2021)



Fieldtrip to Awaji Island
(July 2021)

4. Daily Lives of the GBC Students

Summer is a busy season for first-year international students. In addition to studying for and taking final exams, all international students who are not approved to remain in the Global House as Resident Assistants (RAs) need to move out of the Global House during this period. Such students can rely on RAs who are their senior classmates and the university staff for assistance with necessary procedures accompanying change of residence in Japan.



The Campus Clean-Up Day
(July 2021)



GBC students conducting
administrative procedures at the ward
office (September 2021)



Studying with a help of
RA (October 2021)

5. Activities of Resident Assistants (RA)

Second-year GBC students who remain in the Global House are called RAs, and their role is to support first-year students in their studies and daily lives. While supporting the international students who have already moved into Global House, they are also helping the University to prepare for the expected arrival of new international students.

The international students newly appointed as RAs in September expressed their willingness to perform RA tasks actively and with responsibility. The new RAs are eager to help the university staff to prepare and sort items necessary for the quarantine of new international students who are expected to fly to Japan in stages. Likewise, RAs support the University in many other significant ways.



The new RA Group
(August 2021)



RAs supporting university staff
in Global House
(October 2021)

6. GBC Promotion Activities

The production of the GBC promotional video for this year has finally started. Second-year and third-year international students will introduce their daily lives on and off campus. We plan to release our new promotional video in December. We hope you will enjoy it!

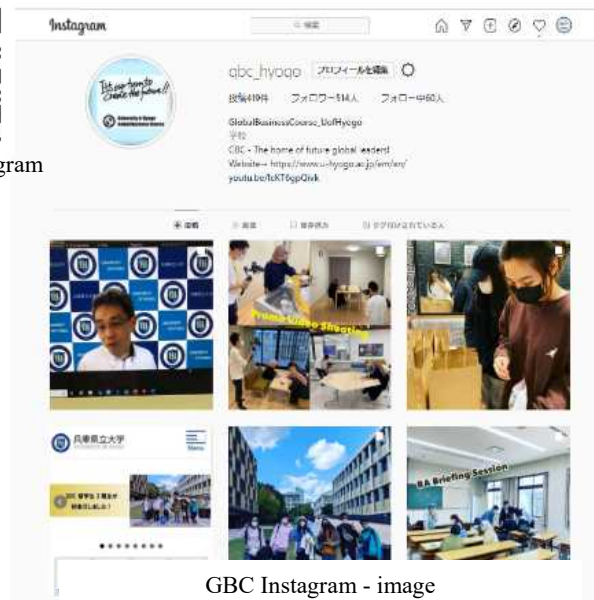


For GBC Promotional Video and Instagram, please check:



Global House Promotional Video

GBC official Instagram



GBC Instagram - image

Please check our other SNS activities → ↓ HERE !
(You can find Instagram articles)



GBC Twitter - image



GBC Official Facebook page



GBC Official Twitter account

Report compiled and edited by: Specially Appointed Assistant Professor Slavica Ninich and International Relations & Student Affairs Division