



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

Summer 2021

More than three years have passed since the establishment of the Global Business Course(GBC) in April 2019. While celebrating our third anniversary, 49 Japanese students have enrolled in the University of Hyogo and joined the GBC in April 2021 (international students enrollment is in September annually). All the GBC students successfully started their new life in the International Student Dormitory or "Global House."

To curb the spread of COVID-19, the Japanese Government declared the State of Emergency three times in many prefectures, including Hyogo, between 2020 and 2021. Consequently, the University implemented strict countermeasures against the spread of COVID-19 and switched classes from face-to-face to online. Furthermore, the University put forth every possible effort to provide students with a high-quality education while utilizing the know-how of online lessons that we acquired last year.

In addition, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT) designated the GBC as a "special program that prioritizes the placement of MEXT-sponsored international students" last year. As a result, eight MEXT international students will enroll in the GBC in September 2021. The GBC will welcome eight MEXT students annually until the academic year of 2023.

Number of GBC International Students by Countries/Regions of Origin

Country	2019 September Enrollment			2020 September Enrollment		
	Number of Enrolled Students	Gender		Number of Enrolled Students	Gender	
		Male	Female		Male	Female
Bangladesh	2	2				
Bhutan	1	1				
China	1		1	2	1	1
India	1		1	1	1	
Indonesia	7	2	5	6	3	3
Malaysia				3		3
Pakistan				2	2	
Philippines				1	1	
Romania	2	1	1	1	1	
Thailand	14	7	7	4	1	3
Turkey	1	1				
Vietnam	6	4	2	5	3	2
Zambia				1	1	
Taiwan	5	1	4	4	1	3
Total	40	19	21	30	15	15

※ There is no change since March 2021.

Overview of GBC International Students

1. Program to Experience Japan (Intensive Course), designed for International Students

The second-year GBC international students had the opportunity to learn about fisheries, agriculture, tourism, and other policies of Kobe City and Hyogo Prefecture. In interactive lectures, the Officer of Economic and Tourism Bureau, Kobe City explained the Bureau's policies that aim at regional development, especially revitalizing rural areas. In this Program, international students will formulate various proposals to boost tourism in Kobe City from their own experiences, and the Bureau could consider their proposals.

Furthermore, students are able to actively interact and exchange opinions with many companies' representatives such as Kobe Winery. At the end of the program, students will propose global marketing strategies for Kobe Winery.

Program to Experience Japan focuses on both participatory and experience-based learning while taking appropriate measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Through various field trips and activities, international students hold discussions and deepen their understanding of subject matters.

The University aims to educate young people who will be able to utilize the knowledge they have gained through this program so that they could assist their respective countries in tackling a wide range of issues in the future. Also, the University hopes that the GBC students could passionately contribute to the international community after graduation.



“I won’t lose to the rain, I won’t lose to the wind !”.

International students are engaged in gardening activities in one of Kobe Winery's vineyards.
June 4, 2021.



A staff is explaining and exchanging opinions with international students about the vineyard work.
June 4, 2021.

2. About the Life of GBC International Students

The Prevention of COVID-19 Spread and GBC International Students

Two asymptomatic COVID-19 infection cases were confirmed in Global House in mid-April, 2021. The University intensively exchanged information with local health authorities to prevent the occurrence of COVID-19 clusters. Consequently, the University took prompt actions so the infected student could spend time at medical treatment facilities until recovery.

In addition to disinfecting Global House, the University took countermeasures to prevent infections among students such as requesting those identified as "close contact" to be voluntarily quarantined in private rooms for a certain period of time.

All dormitory students, including international students, cooperated with the University countermeasures under the guidance of the live-in assistant professors. Thanks to their collaborative efforts and cooperation, the COVID-19 crisis in Global House was successfully resolved.

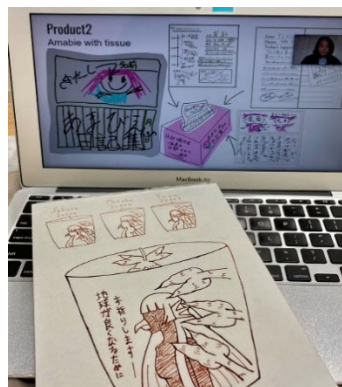
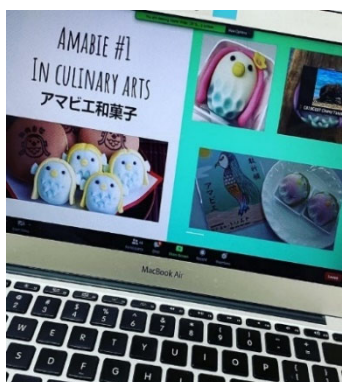
Classes

Following the declaration of the State of Emergency in April 2021, many classes were conducted online to ensure the safety of students.

While online classes differ from face-to-face ones, online classes have major advantages. For example, many prominent researchers and guest speakers in Japan and abroad could deliver valuable lectures for GBC students online regardless of their time zone or geographical distance. GBC students had precious learning opportunities despite the limited mobility that followed the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Daily Life

By living in Global House, GBC students are experiencing unique educational opportunities and building deep cross-cultural friendships. However, socialization among students has changed due to necessity of taking COVID-19 countermeasures, and communicating online has become commonplace. Dormitory students use various apps to study together and do other activities like dancing or watching movies together during their leisure time.



Students' online teamwork during "Consumer Culture" course (Amabie Project).
"Amabie" is a legendary Japanese mermaid believed to bring glad tidings and fortune.
May 27, 2021.

Community Contribution by International Students

First-year international students from Indonesia collaborated with a citizens group near the University to help the elderly in the maintenance of flowerbeds, which usually puts a strain on the body of the elderly. Through collaboration with citizen groups, international students contributed to their local community while deepening their knowledge of the Japanese language and culture. The citizens group highly appreciated the cooperation of GBC students.



Indonesian students who like gardening are supporting the activities of a local citizens group.
June 11, 2021.

3. Activities of Resident Assistants (RAs)

RAs are second-year GBC students who live in Global House and provide daily support to their junior first-year students. Earlier this year, RAs remarkably cooperated with the University Officers during the COVID-19 crisis that occurred in Global House. RAs assisted the University in disseminating the official COVID-19 updates and alleviated the anxiety of dormitory students. In addition, RAs took the initiative by delivering fresh food and other daily needs for students in self-quarantine, those who were identified as close-contact individuals.



RAs are known for their cheerful smiles !
(A photo with one of the Caretakers of Global House, April 2021)

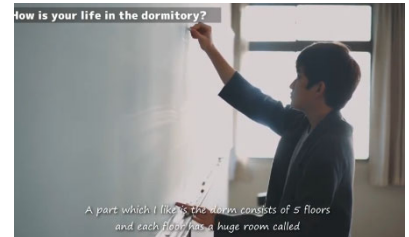


RAs interviewed GBC professors.
RAs are actively engaged in GBC public relations activities.
May 2021.



4. GBC Public Relations Activities

The GBC's promotional video was uploaded on the official Youtube Channel of the University. The video mainly focuses on the first-year international students, who became "GBC Ambassadors" to introduce the GBC to potential students living all around the world. Students actively participated in the planning and shooting of the video. Please watch and enjoy their enthusiastic and passionate participation.



The latest GBC promotional video



The previous promotional video (Introduction of the Global House)



GBC Official Instagram



Contributors to the Global Business Course Report

This report was compiled and edited by GBC assistant professor Yahya Almasri from Syria, and assistant professor Slavica Ninic from Serbia. Both professors supervise students in Global House and teach at the University. We also thank RAs for their valuable contributions to the report.



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