



Global Business Course (GBC) Report (12th Issue)

September 2026

1. Overview of GBC International Students (September Enrollment)

As of August 1, 2026, GBC has 152 international students from 28 countries and one region. Students from Southeast Asia account for the largest regional group.

GBC International Students (By Country and Region of Origin)

Region	Country/Region	Number of Students		Region	Country/Region	Number of Students	
East Asia	China	2		North and South America	Canada	1	
	Mongolia	18			Colombia	1	
	Taiwan	7			Subtotal	2	
	Subtotal	27					
Southeast Asia	Cambodia	1		Europe	Belarus	2	
	Indonesia	33			Lithuania	1	
	Laos	4			Romania	4	
	Malaysia	2			Italy	1	
	Thailand	21			Hungary	1	
	Vietnam	31			Subtotal	9	
	Subtotal	92					
South Asia	Bangladesh	5		Africa	Gambia	1	
	India	3			Mozambique	1	
	Pakistan	2			Niger	1	
	Subtotal	10			Rwanda	1	
Central Asia and Middle East	Kazakhstan	1			South Africa	1	
	Turkey	3			Zambia	1	
	Subtotal	4			Uganda	1	
						Egypt	1
						Subtotal	8
				Grand Total		152	

*Counted based on the nationality recorded at the time of admission.

2. Course-Related Activities

(1) Program to Experience Japan

① Overnight Field Trip

From April 18 to 19, 2026, the international students went on a two-day, one-night field trip as part of their 'Program to Experience Japan' course.



On the first day, they visited the cutting-edge scientific research facilities at Harima Science Garden City, such as SPring-8 and SACLA. The researchers gave them detailed explanations about how the beamlines and storage rings work, and shared how their research connects with real-life applications in society. It was a valuable opportunity to learn

about the importance of linking the results of cutting-edge research to societal development and the resolution of challenges.

They also visited the Nishi-Harima Astronomical Observatory of the University of Hyogo where, after a lecture on astronomy, they experienced stargazing through the 'Nayuta Telescope', one of Japan's largest telescopes which is equipped with a 2-meter aperture.

On the second day, they went to visit the Museum of Nature and Human Activities, Hyogo where they witnessed various exhibits of the local ecosystem, including fossil exhibits such as that of the Tamba-ryu dinosaur. By being able to touch real fossils and by learning about the conservation efforts of the endangered Oriental stork, the students were able to deepen their understanding of biodiversity and the coexistence between humans and nature.

The two-day field trip proved to be a wonderful opportunity to not only learn about a wide range of topics such as cutting-edge science, astronomy, and the natural environment, but also to reflect on the relationship between science and technology and society, as well as the role that each of us should play in achieving a sustainable society.

② Learning for Survival: Disaster Drill in Hyogo

On June 5, 2026, the international students visited the Hyogo Prefectural Emergency Management and Training Center in Miki City, where they participated in three disaster preparedness activities: an earthquake simulation, a smoke evacuation drill, and a tour of an emergency supply warehouse.

The earthquake simulation allowed the students to experience various levels of seismic

intensity, as well as simulations of some major earthquakes that have occurred in the past. In the smoke evacuation drill, students entered a maze-like room filled with simulated smoke (steam) and successfully made their way to the exit within one minute. Finally, in the tour of the warehouse, which is located behind the athletic field in the Disaster Management Park, they learned how the emergency supplies and equipment are stored.



The hands-on learning experience allowed the international students to deepen their understanding of earthquakes and other natural disasters as well as raise their awareness regarding disaster preparedness.

③ Learning About Wagashi

As part of the 'Program to Experience Japan' course, the international students had the chance to learn about wagashi culture. They visited different traditional wagashi sweet shops and even experienced making wagashi sweets themselves.

《Wagashi Experience in Himeji》



On May 8, 2026, they went on a field trip to Himeji and visited a local souvenir shop near Himeji Castle. From colorful nerikiri to classic dorayaki, students observed the product lineup and also had the chance to investigate the methods used to encourage purchases.

Moreover, by actually tasting the products and comparing them to their own countries' food cultures, they examined the unique flavors and textures of wagashi sweets and also considered their potential for acceptance in overseas markets.

Afterwards, they visited Himeji Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and deepened their understanding of traditional Japanese culture by learning about its historical background. The castle's magnificent white appearance was breathtakingly beautiful, and some of the international students also commented that it was one of the most impressive castles that they had ever visited.

This field trip proved to be a fruitful day in which the students gained practical insights into product development and marketing of wagashi sweets, increased their understanding of Japanese history and culture, and also fostered closer interactions among the participants.

《A Visit to Mangetsudo》

On May 22, 2026, the international students visited 'Mangetsudo', a long-established wagashi shop founded in 1882, where they observed the traditional wagashi making process that has been preserved in Kita Ward, Kobe and conducted research on the management of this long-established business.

Students also had the opportunity to taste 'Toyosuke Manju' which is a soft steamed bun filled with Kyoto-style smooth red bean paste as well as 'Mizu Manju', a summer confection characterized by a refreshing, sweet, jelly-like outer layer, allowing them to learn about the technical and cultural value of the region's traditional industries.

During this visit, the students also had the chance to explore 'Ogo Honjin Ruin', a historical inn said to have been used by the feudal lords travelling under the Sankin-kotai system.



《Wagashi Making Experience》



On June 19, 2026, six skilled confectioners from the 'Hyogo Confectionery Industry Association' were invited to the university to provide a hands-on experience in making wagashi. Under their careful guidance, the international students tried making 'nerikiri' shaped like sakura (cherry blossom) and kiku (chrysanthemum).

After practicing well with the prepared sweet red bean paste and anko, the students were able to beautifully shape both the pink-colored cherry blossoms and light-orange-colored chrysanthemums.

This hands-on cultural experience provided the international students with a valuable opportunity to directly experience the charm and beauty of traditional Japanese wagashi.

(2) Seminar Field Trip to CUPNOODLES MUSEUM

On June 15, 2026, the students in Professor Assmann-Terada's 'Research Seminar II' and 'Thesis Seminar I' along with graduate students of the Department of Global Business in the Graduate School of Social Sciences visited the CUPNOODLES MUSEUM in Ikeda City of Osaka Prefecture. This field trip was part of a research study to learn about how dietary habits have changed during Japan's post-war economic recovery period. They were able to examine the context in which instant ramen and Cup Noodles became a symbol of affluence and convenience, as well as the impact that their widespread adoption had on dietary habits and consumer culture.



They also participated in a workshop at the 'Chicken Ramen Factory', where they had the opportunity to knead the dough and create their own instant ramen noodles, as well as learn about the history of instant ramen, watch a documentary about the inventor of the popular noodles, Momofuku Ando, and deepen their knowledge of the different varieties of instant ramen noodles that are available in Japan.

This field trip was not just a fun, team-building activity but it was also a valuable learning opportunity for the students to gain a renewed and deeper understanding of the historical and economic significance of a familiar product enjoyed around the world.

(3) Field Study in Uji (Kyoto)



The students in Professor Kinshi's 'Research Seminar II' went on a field study to Uji City in Kyoto Prefecture as part of their research on sustainable tourism.

In this seminar, each group of students spent the semester working on planning sustainable tourism tours focused on the Kansai region. From among the various proposals, the '1-Day

Trip to Uji, Kyoto' was selected, and the students were able to conduct field research in the historical city of Uji.

During their field study, the participants visited the Byodoin Temple, a World Heritage Site, experienced traditional matcha preparation and also had the chance to explore the Tale of Genji Museum.

Through these activities, the students deepened their understanding of Uji's rich cultural heritage and had the opportunity to reflect on how sustainable tourism can provide meaningful experiences for visitors while also preserving local traditions.

3. Initiatives at the Global House (International Student Dormitory)

(1) Clean Unit Competition

In June, with the planning and support of the Resident Assistants (RAs), an inaugural 'Clean Unit Competition' was held at the Global House. In this contest, the unit on each floor that kept its shared living space the cleanest was recognized, acknowledging the dormitory residents' regular efforts.

It was a great opportunity for the dormitory residents to work together to create a more comfortable and hygienic shared living environment.



4. Employment Support for International Students

At the Kobe Campus for Commerce, as part of its support for international students' job hunting, employment-related information is regularly provided on the student portal site 'Universal Passport' and on the bulletin board in front of the 'Career Center'. In addition, the university also offers various career seminars and accompanies students to joint company information sessions, helping them gain useful information and knowledge for their future careers.

Furthermore, starting this academic year, a new career advisor responsible for global career support has joined the Career Center, strengthening the support for students' international career development.

(1) Career Seminar Series & Individual Consultation Sessions

For international students aiming to find employment in Japan, three career seminars and in-person individual consultation sessions were held on campus on June 3, 10 and



24. International students who attended the seminars were not only provided with basic knowledge about Japan's unique job hunting process and status of residence, but also had the opportunity to learn how to identify their strengths and define the career path that they should pursue through practical tasks, such as self-analysis and creating an entry sheet.

In addition, the individual consultation sessions, which were held on the same days as the career seminars, provided a valuable opportunity for the students to discuss their

own questions and concerns about job hunting in Japan with the external instructors specializing in providing career support for international students.

① Seminar 1: Overview of Job Hunting and Status of Residence

This session discussed the key features of the job-hunting schedule and timeline in Japan, differences between job hunting in Japan and overseas, statuses of residence that permit employment, and the importance of Japanese-language proficiency. The activity in this session was to create a 'Career Goal Chart' to map out individual future career plans.

② Seminar 2: Self-Analysis

After learning about the importance of self-analysis and understanding one's strengths and weaknesses, this session focused on identifying relevant career paths. The activity in this session was to conduct a 'SWOT Analysis' to gain a deeper understanding of these concepts.

③ Seminar 3: How to Write a Resume and Entry Sheet (ES)

The lecture talked about the differences between a resume and an entry sheet, key points to cover when writing each, how to conduct company research, and the important points to include when writing a statement of motivation. Following this, the activity in this session was to create an 'Entry Sheet'.

(2) Participation in 'KOBE × HYOGO, Job fair for International Students'

On June 17, 2026, the international students participated in the 'KOBE × HYOGO, Job fair for International Students' at Kobe Sambo Hall. With approximately 77 companies from within and outside Hyogo Prefecture participating in the event, the university provided a free direct bus service to the venue to encourage and support students' active participation.



At the job fair, international students actively engaged in company presentations and had opportunities to directly interact with recruiters as well. The number of international student participants continues to grow and, at the same time, companies are also increasingly recognizing the value of global talent. It is hoped that through this event, the students will be able to connect with companies that align with their career goals, paving the way for their future job hunting activities.

5. Events and Activities

Events and Activities	Content
1) RA Coffee Time (March 31 - April 10) 	RAs hosted an ‘RA Coffee Time’ to provide a warm and welcoming space where any interested student could join and discuss questions related to dormitory life, classes at GBC, or student life in general. Getting advice from seniors over coffee and light snacks was a great opportunity to connect with the RAs and make new friends.
2) New Student Welcome Party (April 6) 	Under the beautiful cherry blossom trees and the lovely spring weather, a welcome party was held for the new students enrolled in April. RAs organized fun games and provided snacks for the students to enjoy, making it a meaningful opportunity for international and Japanese students to enjoy the event together and make new friends.
3) Clean Up Event (May 14) 	About 60 participating dormitory residents were divided into four groups to clean the common areas inside the dormitory, areas surrounding the dormitory, around the campus and the path leading to Gakuentoshi Station. Through this event, the residents were able to learn about cleaning habits and waste sorting, and it provided an opportunity for them to recognize the importance of working together to create a comfortable and clean living environment for residents and the local community.

Events and Activities	Content
4) Tanabata Event (June 25) 	To introduce the students to traditional Japanese culture, RAs organized a Tanabata event. Participating students created beautiful decorative ornaments using origami and wrote their heartfelt wishes and dreams on the colorful tanzaku strips of paper. The colorful bamboo branches displayed inside the Global House instantly brightened the building, adding a vibrant touch of Japanese culture.
5) Summer Get-Together Event (July 2) 	About 60 dormitory residents gathered to enjoy a lively summer evening together. On stage, there were many wonderful performances, including songs from Hungary and Bangladesh, a piano performance and a guitar duet. In addition, the event also included a fun quiz competition, a fashion contest and a game of bingo, allowing all participants to deepen their connections with one another while enjoying the event. The event, organized with great care by the RAs, served as an opportunity to strengthen the bonds within the Global House community and build lasting international friendships.

Events and Activities	Content
6) Vegan & Halal Food Event (July 24 and 29) 	S&I (Sustainability and Inclusion) Club organized the event titled 'World Vegan Days' at i-Square on the first floor of Global House. The venue was full of students, who enjoyed the Halal certified and vegan dishes from around the world. The first day included Mexican Tacos, French Quiche and Vietnamese Pho, while on the second day, Middle Eastern Hummus and Pita Bread, Indonesian Cap Cay and Mozambican Matapa were served. The delicious food sparked conversations among the participants, providing them with a valuable opportunity to experience the diversity of food cultures firsthand, while also fostering cross-cultural understanding and international exchange.

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