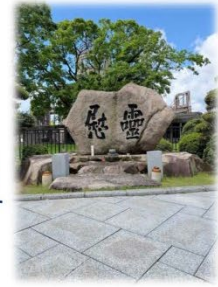


Making a Second Home in Japan

Exchange Semester Experience Spring2026

University of Technology Sydney , Australia



Hello readers! I'm an exchange student from the University of Technology Sydney in Australia. I'm currently pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and a Bachelor of International Studies. I decided to choose Yokohama National University's JOY Program because of its flexible curriculum, their offered subjects and the university's prestige.

Academically, the JOY program significantly enhanced the international studies aspect of my degree. Furthermore, the student support provided by the university is phenomenal. My favorite experience was the high school internship subject, where we worked as English Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) at a public high school. It was incredibly rewarding to collaborate with the students, and the experience improved my cross cultural communication skills immensely.

But my exchange wasn't just about academics, living in Yokohama and Japan in general has been an unforgettable adventure. One of my most memorable experiences was traveling to Hiroshima and visiting the Peace Memorial Museum and Park. It was a profoundly moving visit that changed my perspective on war and its human cost.

To any future students considering the JOY program, just do it! My biggest piece of advice is to manage your time effectively. Time will fly by faster than you expect, so plan and prepare accordingly to make the most of every moment. My time at YNU has helped me grow both academically and personally and I know it will do the same for you!