

University wide liberal arts subjects / Comprehensive Courses [fall semester course/2 credits]

## 2024 Rikuzentakata Project Application Guideline

**Collaborate Program with Stanford U × U of Hong Kong × National U of Singapore etc.**

Understand the progress of reconstruction and current situation of the area impacted by the Great East Japan Earthquake and through dialogues with local citizens and overseas university students

**Rikuzentakata Project recruitment information website (RIKKYO SPIRIT)**

<https://spirit.rikkyo.ac.jp/ghrd/rikutaka/SitePages/index.aspx> (V-campus ID required, Click here to apply)

### I. Program Outline

Thirteen years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Rikuzentakata city is in the coastal area in Iwate prefecture located in the northern part of Honshu, main island of Japan. The city was struck by a series of strong earthquakes, followed by tsunamis with the height of which was approximately like a five-story building. The disaster had brought over 1,700 lives including missing persons, among 24,246 citizens at that time. The city has been continuing the process of recovery in stages by conducting disaster prevention and preparedness oriented city plan, and realization of a town with no need for the word “normalization”. After 10 years since the earthquake, the land has been raised approximately 10 meters, and residential land was developed for housing reconstruction. In 2021, the new city hall building was completed on the elevated land, and a new picture of the town is being created. On the other hand, there are many future challenges for new town development and revitalization.

While memories of the disaster do not fade easily, it is important to know how people in Rikuzentakata are dealing with the disaster as the years go by.

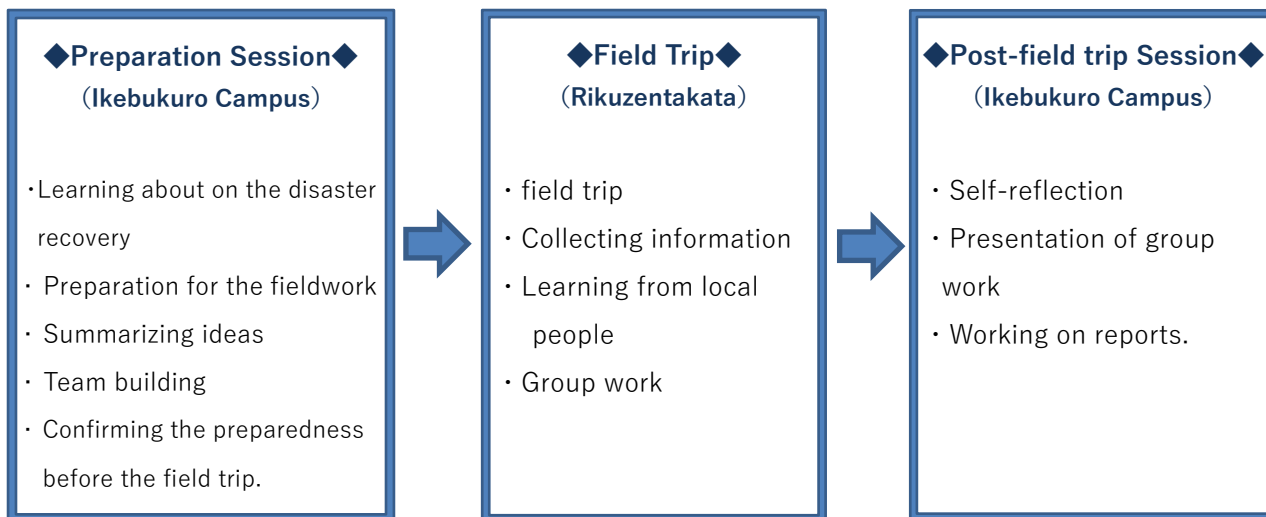
Rikkyo University has built a constant communicating forum with Rikuzentakata city and has been managing project-based learning programs with the city since 2013. Through this program, the university hopes to encourage more students to gain an accurate and deep understanding towards the current situation in the devastated area and to address the issues related to disaster recovery together with the citizens. Besides, with the opportunity of collaborating with students from overseas universities, students will be able to express their learning experiences internationally, as well as to consider different issues in much more various aspects and visions.

Stanford University (2015-), The University of Hong Kong (2018-), and the National University of Singapore (2019-) and other American universities have had students participating in this program.

#### 【Aims of The Program】

- Understand the current situation of the city and the process of recovery in the affected area.
- To share the challenges facing the Rikuzentakata city and its citizens
- Address the issues in wide visions and multiple aspects through discussion with students from overseas universities.

【Structure of The Program】



**II. FY2024 Program Outline**

◆Course Classification／Credits

- University wide liberal arts subjects / Comprehensive Courses / Cross-Disciplinary Studies "Rikuzentakata Project"
- Fall semester Others, 2credits

◆Participating Universities (TBD)

Rikkyo University, Stanford University and other American universities, The University of Hong Kong, and National University of Singapore

◆Instructors

Akiko TAKAI

Specially Appointed Associate Professor, Center for Global Human Resource Development, Rikkyo University  
Executive Director cum Secretary General, Save the Children Japan

Yuki UEDA

Program Director, VIA (Volunteers in Asia) based in San Francisco, USA.

◆Language used

English

◆Program Theme

Rikuzentakata × Your hometown × SDGs

Goal 11 : Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

Visit the city of Rikuzentakata, which was affected by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, its journey of recovery, and its vision of creating a sustainable community. From the perspective of the SDGs 11 "to create a city where people can continue to live", how can we make our community sustainable?

◆Schedule

- ▷Preparation session: July 13 (Sat) 14:30-17:30 @Ikebukuro Campus (Rikkyo students only)
- ▷Pre-departure session: August 24 (Sat) @Ikebukuro Campus (with Overseas Students)
- ▷Fieldwork: August 25-29 (Sun - Thu)@Rikuzentakata City
- ▷Post training/wrap-up session: August 30 (Fri)@Ikebukuro Campus
- \* Please keep your schedule open all day for each of the August dates.
- \* Participants are required to attend the entire schedule.

◆Program Fee

Approx. 20,000 JPY (the amount expected to be collected from participants)

\*Fixed amount and payment method will be announced after participants are determined.

〈Perspectives on Program Fees〉

- Participants are to bear Round trip travelling between Tokyo and Rikuzentakata, accommodation, meals for the field trip. The university will collect the program fee in advance. However, students need to pay for some meals when eating separately during the program or in group activities.

- Necessary Expenses: Approx. 50,000 - 60,000 JPY

This program is eligible for "[Rikkyo University Rikuzentakata Satellite Allowance](#)" and the program fee will be collected from each participant after offsetting the amount of the allowance from the necessary expenses.

[Rikkyo University Rikuzentakata Satellite Allowance]

- Amount paid in previous year: 35,000 JPY (For first-time users of the same allowance)
- The amount will be subject to change due to review on a case-by-case basis and may vary. Details of application are introduced after the acceptance of offer.

※In case of no-show due to personal reasons, cancellation fee will be charged depending on the timing.

<Regarding Program Operating Expenses>

This program is supported by designated donations from Obic Business Consultants Co. Ltd. and Otsuka Corporation.

◆Preventing of the spread of infections

- Participants are required to act in manner to prevent the spread infectious diseases.

### III. FY2024 Application Guidelines

◆Eligibility for Application

All undergraduate students

◆Requirements

- Must be enrolled in both the Spring and Fall Semesters of AY2024 (Not available for students on leave of absence)
- Participants are required to attend the entire schedule.

- Required to have the capacity and will to communicate in English in the program (there are no standards set for English qualification test scores; however, all programs will be conducted in English, so you are required to be able to hold discussions in English.)

◆Number of Offers

Est. 10 Rikkyo students (and Est. 10 overseas students, Total Est. 20)

#### IV. FY2024 Application Process

◆How to Apply

Apply by answering the questions on the application form at the URL below.

<https://forms.gle/CF5Y4u3uTgdTt6Zz5> (V-Campus ID/PW required)

※The form requires the input of the following information, so please prepare your thoughts in advance before filling out the form.

「What you think about Rikuzentakata City and the Great East Japan Earthquake (approx.200 words in English) 」, 「Volunteer experience (name of organization, date, location, etc.), lessons learned (approx. 200 words in English) 」, 「Reasons for participation and program expectations (approx. 300 words in English), Personal statement」

◆Required Documents (Data) for Application

Prepare the following items in advance and upload them according to the instructions on the application form. Submissions will be shared with program administrators along with responses to the form.

1. Short video taken under the following content/conditions

- Self-introduction, reasons for wishing to participate, personal statement
- In English
- Approx. 2 minutes
- The applicant's own face must be photographed
- Begin by stating your college, department, grade, and name.

※Video should be shot in sequence and not edited.

※MP4 format recommended (MOV, AVI are acceptable), size up to 500 MB

2. Copy of Grades reference screen in PDF data

- Should be referenced after April 22, 10:00am
  - Required all pages (to the end)
- (PDF formatting is possible from the printable page of the grade reference system)

3. Copy of the official score or certificates of English language proficiency exams.

(TOEIC IP is acceptable. If a certificate cannot be prepared, a screen copy of the website showing the name of the qualification, name, year and month of the examination, and score is also acceptable. Submit PDF or photo image data)

◆Application Period

**May 7 (after Information Session) - June 12 (Wed) 17:00 JST** ※ Strict deadline

◆Selection Process

Selection① Selection based on the contents of the application form and the submitted documents.

Selection② Online interview will be conducted for those who passed the selection process in ① to determine the successful candidates.

※Notification of the results of Selection ① and the date and time of the interview will be sent to successful applicants by June 19. Notification of the results will be sent to your Rikkyo domain address.

◆Online Interview Schedule

June 20 (Thu)~22(Sat). Times are listed on the application form.

◆Announcement of Selection Results

To be notified by June 24 (Notification of the results will be sent to your Rikkyo domain address.)

## V. Course Registrations

- Course title “Rikuzentakata Project”
  - Only those who pass the screening process will be registered by the university in September
- For details of course registration, evaluation methods and criteria, please refer to the [R Guide](#) (descriptions of Comprehensive courses and "[Taking courses in the Rikuzentakata Project](#)") and the [Syllabus](#).
- Registration will not be cancelled after the selection acceptance is confirmed.
- If you are unable to participate in the training because you have a school-acquired infectious disease or other reasons, you will be graded according to the grading and evaluation method criteria and may fail the course. Failure to participate in all days of the fieldwork will not be subject to evaluation and will result in a failing grade.

### 〈Contact〉

Center for Global Human Resource Development

Mckim Hall 2F

Rikkyo University

email: [cghrd-rtpj@rikkyo.ac.jp](mailto:cghrd-rtpj@rikkyo.ac.jp)

