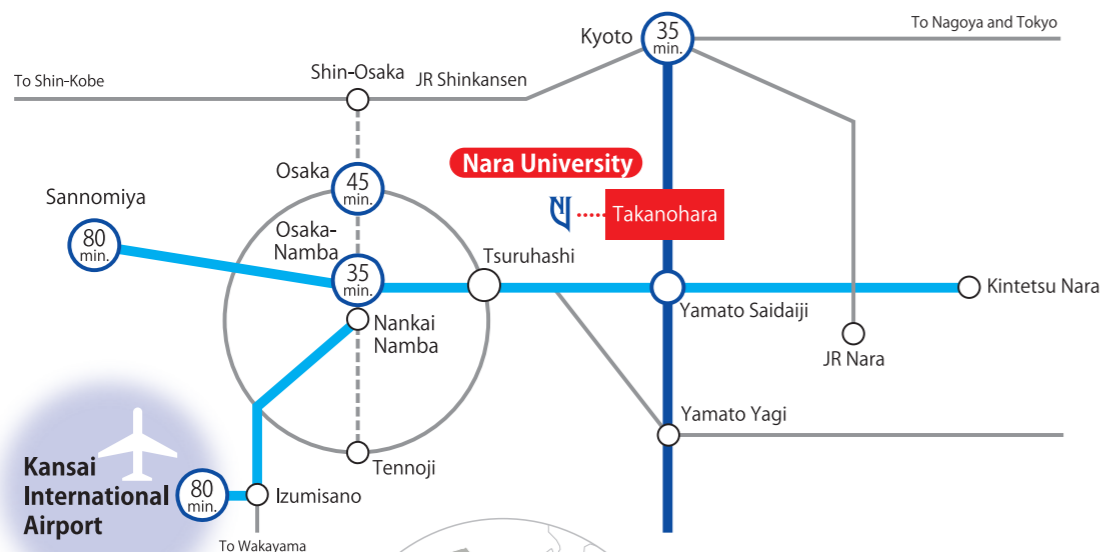


## Getting to Nara University



Kansai International Airport



**By bus** About 5 min. from Takanohara Station

From Kintetsu Takanohara Station, board a Nara Kotsu bus bound for "Nara Daigaku Kounai", which brings you right to campus OR a bus bound for "Gakuen-mae Eki", which lets you off at the "Nara Daigaku" bus stop, a one-minute walk to campus.



**By taxi** About 5 min. from Takanohara Station



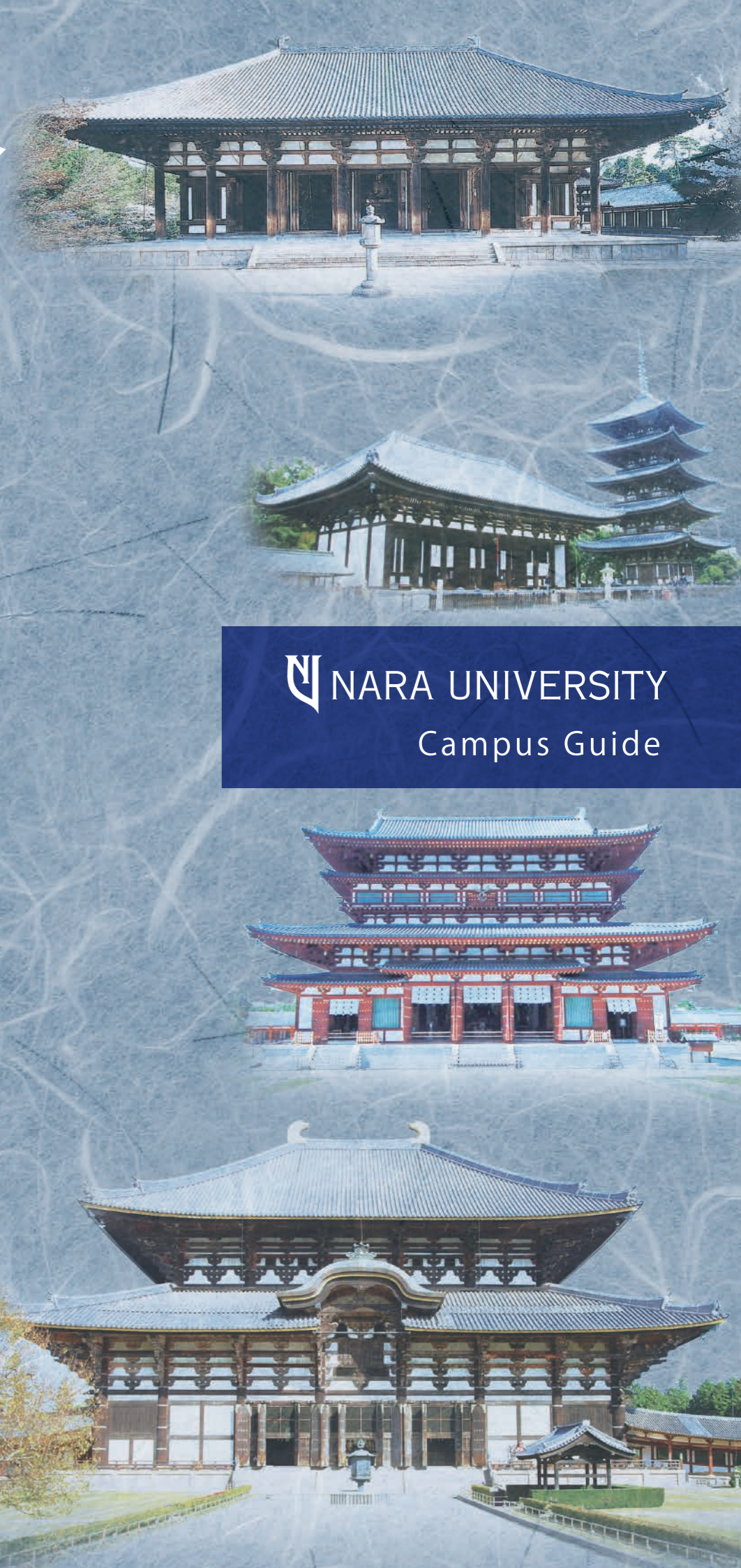
**On foot** About 18 min. from Takanohara Station



**NARA UNIVERSITY**

<http://www.nara-u.ac.jp/>  
 1500 Misasagi-cho, Nara-shi, Nara 631-8502 Japan  
 Phone: +81-(0)742-44-1251 Fax: +81-(0)742-41-0650

# 奈良大学



**NARA UNIVERSITY**  
 Campus Guide



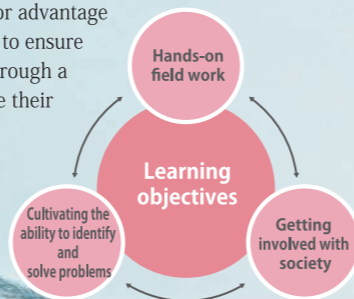
# Find the power to act, and the power to inspire others to act, at Nara University.

Since its founding, Nara University has actively pursued practical learning through encounters with authenticity and involvement with the real world. A diverse faculty that is active on the cutting edge of academia facilitates students' exploration of a broad range of research topics as they master theory and technology through practice and experience as part of a program that fosters independence, autonomy, and the ability to observe and take action so that they can act, and inspire others to act, in society and the world.



## Field Activities

Nara University's Field Activities program has three objectives. The first is to facilitate students' hands-on field work. Through experiences at sites such as active archaeological excavations, students are able to master valuable knowledge. The second objective is to help students become involved with society. Through activities in the local community and at companies, students come to understand society and communication, offering a major advantage when it comes time for them to go out into the world upon graduation. The third objective is to ensure that students gain the skills they'll need in the future through involvement with society. Through a program that offers experiential learning that goes beyond classroom study, students refine their practical skills.



## Fostering problem-solving skills through real world experience and involvement with society

Nara University takes advantage of the rich environment in which its campus is located to allow students to research authentic materials and participate in off-campus lectures. We also offer an array of projects in partnership with the local community and companies to allow students to deepen their learning while experiencing the bonds that link the University with its community. Many students also participate in overseas training and exchange programs, giving their studies a global reach.



### The Spirit of Nara University

We believe that genius requires effort, and that it is the responsibility of each individual to bring his or her own dreams to fruition. We encourage students to fully develop their own powers through self-discovery and to never lose sight of their ambitions. Through cultivating confidence and perseverance, we hope that our students will become well-rounded adults with the spirit and determination that will lead them into the future.

### Our Philosophy of Education

We aim to cultivate students who will continuously search for the truth; who fully appreciate the harmony between traditional and modern sensitivities; and who will contribute to the creation and development of academic culture.

We strive to foster an education rich in human interaction and dialogue, producing talented individuals with a cooperative spirit and an abiding respect for independence and freedom.

As a university founded on a respect for globalization, we hope to build meaningful connections with the local community as well as to promote peace and development in the wider world.



## History

### April 1969

- ◆ Nara University opens its doors in the Hourai-cho district of Nara.
- ◆ The Faculty of Letters is established with three departments: Japanese Literature, History, and Geography.

### April 1979

- ◆ The Faculty of Letters establishes the Department of Cultural Heritage Studies.

### February 1988

- ◆ The University relocates to its present campus in Misasagi-cho.

### April 1988

- ◆ The Faculty of Social Studies is established with two departments: Sociology and Industrial Sociology.

### April 1993

- ◆ The Graduate School is established and begins offering master's degrees in Japanese Literature and Cultural Heritage Studies and Archival Science through the Graduate School of Letters as well as a master's degree in Sociology through the Graduate School of Social Studies.

### April 1995

- ◆ The Graduate School begins offering doctoral degrees with a major in Cultural Heritage Studies and Archival Sciences.

### April 1999

- ◆ The Departments of Sociology and Industrial Sociology change their names to the Department of Interpersonal Relations Studies and the Department of Contemporary Sociology, respectively.
- ◆ The Graduate School establishes a masters course in Geography.

### April 2005

- ◆ The Distance Education Division's Faculty of Letters establishes the Department of Cultural Heritage Studies and History.
- ◆ The Graduate School of Social Studies establishes the Clinical Psychology Course and Sociology Course.

### April 2007

- ◆ The Department of Interpersonal Relations changes its name to the Department of Psychology.
- ◆ The Nara University Museum opens.

### October 2007

- ◆ The Nara University Clinical Psychology Clinic opens.

### April 2010

- ◆ The Department of Contemporary Sociology changes its name to the Department of Social Research.

### April 2012

- ◆ The Graduate School's program in Sociology is reorganized to add the Sociocultural Research Course and the Clinical Psychology Course.

### May 2014

- ◆ The University receives a gift of 63,000 specialized texts on cultural properties from the Japanese Archaeological Association, making it one of Japan's leading centers of research on cultural properties.

# Faculty of Letters

Departments of Japanese Literature, History, Geography, and Cultural Heritage Studies

## Department of Japanese Literature

### Field of study

Students undertake a deep, systematic study of the world of Japanese language. They decipher works of literature and study knowledge related to culture and publishing. They refine their ability to express themselves in Japanese while emphasizing experiences that facilitate encounters with authentic materials.

#### Japanese Course

Students study Japanese from the standpoint of spoken and written language as well as vocabulary and grammar. They also consider various kanji expressions, word games, unusual words, and other topics while referring to ancient and contemporary dialects.

#### Modern Literature Course

Students focus on deciphering the works of a variety of authors dating from the Meiji period to the present day. They approach these works from a variety of perspectives, including media, thought, and customs, while mastering basic knowledge related to literature.



#### Publishing Culture Course

Students undertake an experiential study of traditional Japanese publishing culture while encountering Edo period printing blocks and woodblock prints. They also consider the past, present, and future of publishing culture through the passionate commitment of publishers and the technologies they use.

#### Classical Literature Course

Students undertake a broad study of classical Japanese literature, from the Nara period Man'yōshū to Edo period authors like Saikaku Ihara and Bakin Kyokutei. They also study Japan's traditional culture from the standpoint not only of text, but also of food, clothing, and shelter.



#### Culture and Representation Course

Literature is transformed into film, drama, anime, and other forms as creators weave new stories. It also influences, and is influenced by, other forms of expression such as film, art, and music. Students consider the diversity of style that is manifest in literature in the context of its involvement with a variety of peripheral domains.

#### Traditional Culture Course

Students study culture as it is passed on orally in the form of myths and legends; stories that are passed down within regions; classical performing arts such as Noh farces, puppet theater, and Kabuki; and regional folk songs. Some classes attend live puppet theater and Kabuki performances.

### Message

#### Encountering literature and discovering a new world of words

Our ancestors left a rich and varied tradition of Japanese classics in the form of songs and stories. That tradition exists against a backdrop of the daily lives, deep insights, and playful spirit of the ancient people, and it has evolved into contemporary language and literature. Students undertake a systematic study of the brilliant culture surrounding such classics.



## Department of History

### Field of study

The Department of History takes maximum advantage of the University's location in the ancient capital of Nara to offer an experience- and action-based program of study that puts "history you can think about" and "history you can feel" into practice.

#### Japanese History Course

History must be reconstructed based on facts, so it is necessary to read historical materials correctly. In addition to books, such materials include ancient texts, drawings, newspapers, and strips of wood used to record official messages in ancient times. Students learn how to decipher these materials.



#### World History Course

The World History Course focuses its research on all of the areas of the world outside of Japan. These include Asian regions such as China and Korea, which greatly influenced ancient Japan; the Islamic region, which built up a global empire; and European countries, leaders in the capitalist movement. The American and Oceanic regions are also important areas of study. In this course, students decipher historic facts from literature as well as from documents written in classical Japanese, Chinese, English and in some cases, even Persian and Greek. Through their course of study, students will discover the relationships among different regions of the world and come to understand the dynamic shifts of history.



### Message

#### Fostering the ability to learn from history and create a better future

How did our ancestors think, live, and perceive their world? In the unbroken narrative of their history lie numerous lessons with the potential to help us intelligently navigate the 21st century. Students gain wisdom while encountering the works of the people whose lives give color to that history.



## Department of Geography

### Field of study

Students of the Department of Geography learn about "living" geography, through active outdoor observations both in Japan and overseas. The Department fosters students' ability to think creatively through a curriculum offering four courses.

#### Regional Revitalization Course

Rural Japan is grappling with serious issues related to its aging population, depopulation, and a lack of shops and services. Creative approaches are needed to deal with these challenges. Students learn about regional characteristics and consider how to revitalize local communities through an urban planning approach.



#### Regional Environment and Disaster Prevention Course

When a natural disaster such as an earthquake, tsunami, or flood occurs, authorities must take steps to minimize the damage. Students gain knowledge related to the natural environment, for example topography and climate, and about the natural environment in which people live.

#### Historical and Cultural Geography Course

As internationalization proceeds in Japan, it is necessary to cultivate an accurate understanding of history and culture. Students consider the characteristics of regional culture by using resources such as drawings and ancient maps to study the spatial relationships observable in past people's lives.



#### Spatial Data Science Course

Today's advanced information society is characterized by the accumulation of vast quantities of data, making sophisticated data analysis skills a must. Students study spatial analysis techniques using geographical information systems and other resources as they gain presentation skills that will allow them to communicate their findings in an easy-to-understand manner.



### Message

#### Synthesizing natural phenomena and human activity to solve regional problems

Geography strives to chart the spatio-temporal reality of Japan's regions by exploring the characteristics of their people and natural environment based on landscape, natural features, climate, history, culture, lifestyles, and industry. It also focuses on dealing with natural disasters and on our advanced information society, and will play a vital role in our future.

## Department of Cultural Heritage Studies

### Field of study

The Department of Cultural Heritage Studies is organized into four courses. Students master practical skills in areas such as cultural property disaster prevention and rescue, cultural property management, World Heritage studies, and museology.

#### Archaeology Course

This course seeks to reconstruct the lives of people in the past based on sites and artifacts. Students gain the skills they will need to serve as archaeological specialists and museum curators by actually excavating sites and handling authentic artifacts such as excavated earthenware with their own hands.



#### Art History Course

This course examines changes in characteristics and production techniques associated with arts in particular historical periods for paintings, sculpture, handicrafts, and other works as well as the background against which such works developed. Students observe authentic art through visits to exhibits, temples, and shrines.



#### Historical Studies Course

The discipline investigates history through texts that survive in the form of cultural properties. Students seek to discern the silent voices of their ancestors, deciphering their messages by examining textual materials such as strips of wood used to record official messages, epigraphs, ancient documents, books, and other resources.

#### Conservation Science Course

This discipline seeks to safeguard cultural properties from environmental change by investigating their material characteristics and underlying technologies. Students master practical skills for passing cultural properties down to future generations by studying the technology and theory of preservation and through practical study.



### Message

#### Encountering authentic materials to learn from them, protect them, and pass them on to future generations

Home to numerous World Heritage sites and national treasures, Nara is uniquely suited to the study of cultural properties. Nara University has trained more museum curators and cultural property specialists than any other institution in Japan.



# Faculty of Social Studies

Department of Psychology and  
Department of Social Research

Programs in the Faculty of Social Studies explore the society in which we live, with a focus on the disciplines of sociology and psychology. Students learn to explain all aspects of social behavior using social research and the approaches of psychology. The Faculty's programs are designed to foster a clear perspective for observing our constantly changing society and a sharp sense for anticipating future trends.

## Department of Psychology

### Field of study

This department explores human emotion while observing the effects of society on individuals. Through lectures and practical study, students master techniques that will facilitate a deeper understanding of human emotion such as experimentation, psychological studies, and interviews, as they explore human psychology.

#### Clinical Psychology Course

In order to offer patients understanding and support, it is necessary to study theory and master specialized skills. In counseling and psychological testing classes, students learn from experience through meticulous practical instruction in a small-group setting.



#### Social Psychology Course

As human beings, we continuously think about relationships with society, for example with friends, family, and the mass media. The Social Psychology Course approaches human emotion in the context of these social relationships using the empirical techniques of psychological studies and experimentation.



### Message

#### Exploring human emotion and society more deeply

In today's society, interest in mental health is growing. The Department of Psychology seeks to offer a deeper understanding of human development, mental illness, and group psychology, based on a consideration of the relationships between individuals and between individuals and society.



## Department of Social Research

### Field of study

This Department offers two courses. Its goal is to help students develop the comprehensive skills they will need to enjoy happy and successful lives in contemporary society. Students undertake studies in a wide range of academic disciplines and apply what they learn in the real world.

#### Economic Management Course

Today, companies need workers with the ability to reliably analyze data, make predictions, and form judgments based on objective data. Students in this course study basic knowledge in the field of economics and business administration and learn how to analyze phenomena in a scientific manner. They also learn to assess companies and economic conditions through off-campus interviews and questionnaires.



#### Cultural Information Course

In this course, students decipher contemporary society based on information related to society as a series of relationships between individuals. Specifically, they investigate interactions between people in a variety of settings using questionnaires, interviews, social media, AI and virtual reality technologies. They also study techniques and technologies for passing on cultural information from the past to the future.



### Message

#### Gaining comprehensive skills that will be useful in society

Students in this course observe society deeply through a balanced study of sociology, anthropology, economics, business administration, and information science, in order to understand the complexities of contemporary society. They put their knowledge into practice through the "Practical Experiences in Society" program.



# Graduate School

Graduate School of Letters and  
Graduate School of Social Studies

Fostering specialized individuals  
who will contribute to society



The Graduate School seeks to foster experts who can carry out research and apply the theories and techniques of each major field of study in order to assume leading roles useful to society. The Graduate School of Nara University is divided into two departments, the Graduate School of Letters, and the Graduate School of Social Studies. There are three majors within the Graduate School of Letters: Japanese Literature; Cultural Heritage Studies and Archival Science; and Geography. The Graduate School of Social Studies offers a major in Sociology.

### ► Overview of the University's graduate programs

#### Graduate School of Letters

##### Major in Japanese Literature

(Master's degree course)

Students majoring in Japanese Literature conduct research with a focus on classical literature, modern literature, and the Japanese language. The program helps students gain the ability to decipher documents and data while endowing them with a refined sensibility for Japanese language, literature, and culture. It also strives to give students a diverse outlook that will enable them to see Japanese culture from the perspective of the world.

##### Major in Cultural Heritage Studies and Archival Science

(Master's and Doctoral degree courses)

This program consists of study in the four areas of archival science, archaeology, art and handicraft history, and conservation and restoration science. Students conduct broad and specialized multidisciplinary research into problems involving society, culture, art, and other topics from both physical and textual perspectives.

##### Major in Geography

(Master's degree course)

The Major in Geography conducts research in the fields of physical geography, human geography, and regional geography, focusing on topics such as urban issues, regional planning, environmental protection, and disaster prevention. The program is dedicated to training professionals who combine specialized knowledge with technological skills through practical study.

#### Graduate School of Social Studies

##### Major in Sociology

(Master's degree course)

The Major in Sociology seeks to deepen understanding of contemporary society through a program of study that places sociology at its core while adding cultural anthropology, social psychology, and economics to address specific problems such as Japan's aging society, low birthrate and the need to revitalize rural communities. The Clinical Psychology Course prepares students for certification as psychologists and clinical psychologists.

# Distance Education Division

Faculty of Letters  
Department of Cultural Heritage Studies and History

The Distance Education Division has integrated two separate fields of study into one interdisciplinary program. A blending of our Cultural Heritage Studies curriculum and our History curriculum, the program offered by the Distance Education Division emphasizes the historical legacies and cultural properties from each historical era. Nara was the very center of ancient Japan, and it is from here that we can now transmit the traditions and culture of our ancestors all over Japan.



# Campus Map

Nara University's quiet, leafy campus is the ideal learning environment.

Surrounded by natural beauty and the area's historical legacy, Nara University's campus offers a quiet, academic ambience. The University invites you to deepen your studies while experiencing the weight of history in a culturally rich atmosphere.



① Main Entrance



② Administration Building



③ Faculty of Letters



④ Faculty of Social Studies



⑤ Laboratory and Training Building



⑥ Classroom Building



⑦ Library



⑧ Student Union



⑨ Auditorium



⑩ Graduate School and Research Building



⑪ Computer Center



⑫ Distance Education Division / Museum



⑬ Extracurricular Activities Center



⑭ Gymnasium



⑮ 50th Anniversary Memorial Building (tentative name)

# Facilities

## Library

The University's library features a collection of valuable books including a number of the world's oldest first editions as well as reports detailing the findings of research on cultural properties nationwide.

The University's library houses 550,000 volumes, including a first edition of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* and extensive materials related to Nara. The University's collection of specialized works on cultural properties exceeds 150,000 volumes, and the University is considered one of Japan's leading sources of information about history and cultural properties.



## Museum



In addition to preserving, studying, and researching the scholarly materials held by the University, the Nara University Museum contributes to the community as a place for lifelong learning by making research findings from the University available to a broad audience through exhibits, symposiums, and other events. The facility is also used for practical study by students seeking to become museum curators.

## Conservation Science Lab and Historical Materials Processing Lab



The Department of Cultural Heritage Studies operates an extensive range of state-of-the-art equipment for analyzing cultural properties, including an X-ray fluorescence analyzer and X-ray diffraction analyzer, a digital microscope, a 3D printer, an infrared TV camera, and an infrared spectrometer. Students learn how to operate this equipment as part of their classes.

## Computer Center



The Computer Center offers state-of-the-art computers and other equipment to support students in a way that meets the needs of today's advanced information society. Students are able to search the Internet, investigate research findings from both on and off campus, and exchange information.

## Research Institute



This research facility is dedicated to using the University's research findings to benefit the region. By allowing faculty members to conduct research in line with university-wide projects and interact with colleagues in other fields, it fosters new findings, disseminated through open lectures and courses.

## Clinical Psychology Clinic

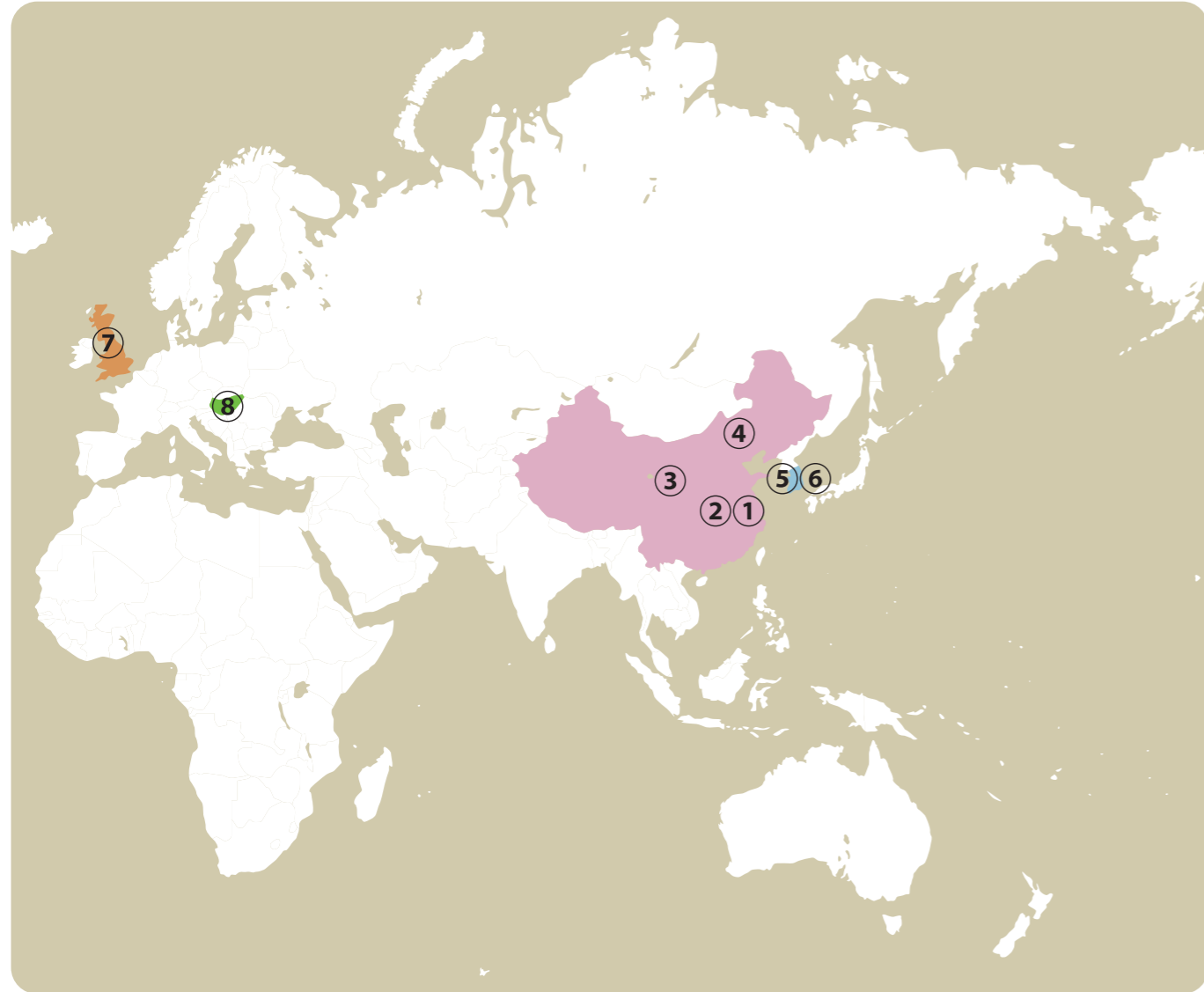


The Clinical Psychology Clinic offers counseling to local residents to help address emotional concerns and problems. It also supports the education of clinical psychology professionals by offering education, research, and practical study opportunities to students.

# Academic and Educational Exchange Programs

Facilitating student exchanges and joint research

**Universities and institutions with which Nara University has entered into overseas academic and educational exchange agreements**



**China**

- ① Fudan University (3/1997)
- ② Suzhou University of Science and Technology (1/2008)
- ③ Shaanxi Normal University (4/2010)
- ④ Tianjin University of Technology (12/2017)



**Korea**

- ⑤ Hanseo University (11/2005)
- ⑥ The Korea National University of Cultural Heritage (3/2006)



**UK**

- ⑦ The Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures (1/2014)



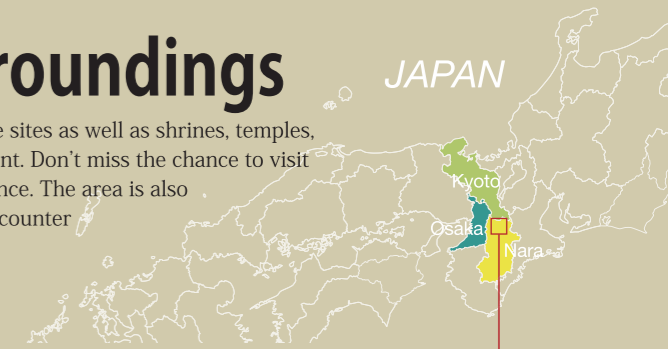
**Hungary**

- ⑧ Eotvos Lorand University (11/2018)

# Nara University and Its Surroundings

JAPAN

The area around Nara University's campus is dotted with numerous World Heritage sites as well as shrines, temples, and historical sites that are valuable from both an academic and historical standpoint. Don't miss the chance to visit these remarkable sites and in the process, experience Nara's unique cultural ambience. The area is also home to numerous museums with valuable collections, offering opportunities to encounter Japanese history and traditional culture.



**Nara is home to eight World Heritage sites:**



Toshodaiji Temple



Yakushiji Temple



Heijo Palace Site



Kasuga Grand Shrine



Kofukuji Temple



Todaiji Temple



Gangoji Temple



Kasugayama Primeval Forest



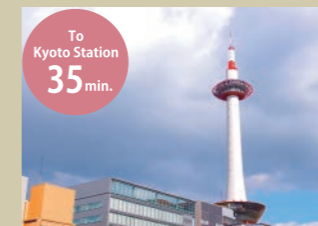
## Convenient access to Kyoto and Osaka

Nara University's campus is only one hour from both Osaka and Kyoto, making it conveniently located for daily commuting, visiting historical sites, and even for getting away for shopping and fun.



### Kyoto

Kintetsu Kyoto Station is 35 minutes from Takanohara Station. Visit World Heritage sites, shrines, and temples, or enjoy shopping.



To Kyoto Station 35 min.

### Umeda, Osaka

Osaka's Umeda area is a shopping district with numerous department stores and malls, including Grand Front Osaka.



To JR Osaka Station 45 min.

### Namba, Osaka

Namba is Osaka's entertainment district, home to regional performing arts such as puppet theater, kabuki, and comic theater.



To Namba Station 35 min.