

Osaka University Anniversary Lecture Series

1. Summary

Osaka University will celebrate its 90th anniversary on 1 May 2021, while the 100th anniversary of the Osaka University of Foreign Studies, which was integrated with OU in 2007, is also this year. Although student exchange activities have been limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we believe there is still an opportunity to strengthen the connections with our partner institutions through digital transformation (DX). As one of our celebration events, we will hold the Osaka University Anniversary Lecture Series, a special online lecture program offered to students at our partner universities. OU professors in a wide variety of fields ranging from the natural sciences to the humanities will deliver these lectures, and students will engage in discussions themed around the latest research.

2. Program

The Osaka University Anniversary Lecture Series consists of three components that will introduce advanced research in various fields:

1. Osaka University 90th and Osaka University of Foreign Studies 100th Anniversary Event
2. Six lectures for each of the 11 courses (some lectures may overlap with other courses)
3. Student discussion

All the courses are offered online to students at partner universities. A transcript and certificate will be issued upon successful completion of the program.

We invite students from OU as well as students from our partner universities to join the above activities. Topics will include research connected to the UN's SDGs, OU's advanced research, and more.

While most courses will be streamed in real time, videos on demand (VOD) will be available for viewing to account for time differences. Lectures will be streamed at either 16:50–18:20 or 18:30–20:00 Japan Standard Time (GMT+9).

3. Overview

Program period: Eight lectures including the Anniversary Event and student discussion will be given from May to July 2021 (lecture times vary by course). Each lecture is 90 minutes.

Student enrollment period: From May to August 2021

Number of courses: 11 (Students may only choose one of the 11 courses)

Common theme: Solutions to Societal Issues

Language: English (except for the Digital Transformation (DX) and Modern Society course in which some lectures are given in Japanese)

Eligible students: Both undergraduate and graduate students from OU's partner universities and APRU member universities

Course level: Undergraduate

4. Learning Goals

Students who take the course will achieve the following three goals.

1. Gain knowledge about the advanced research of Osaka University and become motivated to do research in their field
2. Improve debating skills through discussions focusing on each course theme
3. Gain knowledge about solving societal issues

5. Teaching Materials

Teaching materials will be provided online by each lecturer.

6. Requirements for Passing Grading Policy

Students must get a passing grade and complete this online program to pass.

Credit: 1 credit (45 hours of learning time including pre- & post-study)

Evaluation: Courses will use one of the following forms of evaluation (evaluation used varies by course).

1. Pass-Fail Grading: Students who satisfy all requirements pass.
2. Letter Grading: A score is calculated based on attendance, assignments, etc.

7. Tuition Fee

In celebration of Osaka University's 90th and Osaka University of Foreign Studies' 100th anniversaries, and to promote some form of student exchange despite the effects of COVID-19, tuition fees will be waived for students from partner universities with tuition waiver agreements.

Students may only choose one of the 11 courses to complete. Generally, OU will only accept 30 students from each partner university.

Additionally, since these lectures are being specially offered to celebrate OU's anniversary, the number of students who participate in this lecture series will not count toward the maximum number of tuition waivers for a partner university.

8. Optional Contents

The following optional programs will also be offered online as supplementary contents.

1. Introductory laboratory tours focusing on each research field
2. Campus tour contents
3. Student Video Contest and Virtual Student Forum (scheduled for 25 June 2021)

9. Program Schedule

Mid-March: Application deadline

Early April: Notification of admission acceptance

From May to July: Lectures are held (schedule varies by course)

September: Issuance of transcript and certificate