



Liberal Arts Track Course Descriptions – Class of 2027

General Information

- The Class of 2027 is enrolled in one of two tracks: **Liberal Arts (LA)** or **Honors (H)**. This document focuses only on the **Liberal Arts Track**.
- Ikubunkan Global High School is a Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)-accredited school that follows the Japanese national curriculum. However, the school is flexible in its approach to curriculum delivery, and a number of courses are taught in English rather than Japanese.
- IGHS uses a relative 1–5 grading system aligned with the American letter-grade framework. Final grades are determined in relation to overall class performance and grade distribution patterns rather than fixed absolute percentage thresholds.
- This document provides information on the year level in which each course is offered, the language of instruction, and whether the course is compulsory or included in an optional **subject set**. Where courses are offered as part of a subject set, students are required to select from the subjects available in that set.
- For further information, please contact collegecounselor@ikubun.com

Liberal Arts students must choose from the following subject sets.

Set 1 Grade 10	Art & Design I	Calligraphy I	Music I
Set 2 Grade 12	Japanese Language Expression		Classical Japanese
Set 3 Grade 12	Advanced World History	Politics & Economy	

Japanese

Contemporary Japanese Language

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to the reading and analysis of critical essays. Genres studied include social issues, science, language, economics, and international affairs, preparing students for further study in critical reading and analysis.

Language Culture

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course develops students' skills in literary analysis through close reading of poetry, modern novels, and classical Japanese literature. Novel selections span works from the Meiji period onward, while classical texts focus primarily on Heian-era writings, preparing students for further study in Japanese literature and cultural expression.

Japanese Language Logic

Grade 12 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course challenges students with advanced critical essays. Genres include ideological discourse, narrative theory, historical analysis, and conceptions of nationhood, preparing students for further study in logical reasoning and advanced textual analysis.

Japanese Language Expression

Grade 12 | Japanese | **Optional (Set 2)**

This course emphasizes short-essay writing. Students engage with humanities and social science texts, practice basic data analysis, and learn to express logical, well-structured arguments, preparing them for further study in academic writing and the humanities.

Classical Japanese

Grade 12 | Japanese | **Optional (Set 2)**

This course introduces students to classical Japanese grammar and develops skills in reading high-level classical texts. By applying their grammar knowledge, students interpret and analyze a wide range of classical literature, preparing them for further study in classical literature and advanced grammar.

Mathematics

Equivalent U.S. course titles have been provided for reference

Mathematics I

Equivalent to Algebra 2

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to the foundations of algebra, covering basic algebra, quadratic functions, and trigonometric ratios, preparing them for further study in algebra and functions.

Mathematics A

Equivalent to Statistics

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to statistics, covering probability and data analysis, preparing them for further study in data science and quantitative reasoning.

Mathematics II

Equivalent to Pre-Calculus

Grade 12 | English | Compulsory

This course builds on prior study of algebra and functions, covering trigonometric functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and introductory differential and integral calculus, preparing students for further study in advanced mathematics.

Science

Basic Biology

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to the foundations of life science. Topics include cell structure and energy, genetics, immunity and disease, and ecosystems and biomes. Students develop a broad understanding of essential biological concepts, preparing them for further study in the life sciences.

Integrated Science

Grade 10 | English | Compulsory

This all-English course introduces students to the foundations of scientific inquiry. Through an experiment-based curriculum, students gain a practical understanding of the scientific method while exploring core concepts in biology, chemistry, and physics. The course fosters curiosity, analytical thinking, and a strong scientific mindset, preparing students for further study in the sciences.

Social Studies

Civics

Modern & Contemporary History

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course focuses on modern and contemporary history. Students explore the causes and historical background of major current issues, developing an understanding of how the past shapes today's society.

Geography

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course explores the physical and human geography of Europe and Southeast Asia. Students examine geographical features, population patterns, ethnic and religious distribution, economic activity, and regional integration, while also considering contemporary issues such as Brexit, immigration, and urban and environmental challenges. Through comparative study, discussion, and research, students develop analytical skills and a deeper understanding of the relationship between geography, society, and global development.

Public

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to the foundations of ethics, philosophy, and civic education. Topics include human rights, civic duties, and the structures of government, law, and economics. Students gain knowledge essential for responsible citizenship

Advanced World History

Grade 12 | English | **Optional (Set 3)**

This course surveys world history from the origins of humankind to the present day. Students study the historical development of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, and Oceania, preparing them for advanced study in history and related fields.

Politics & Economy

Grade 12 | Japanese | **Optional (Set 3)**

This course covers both political and economic systems. In the political field, students study the origins of natural rights, theories of governance, and compare legislative, judicial, and executive systems in Japan and abroad. In the economic field, students learn about international economics, the role of central banks, and the foundations of fiscal and monetary policy. Students develop an informed understanding of politics and economics, preparing them for further study in the social sciences.

Foreign Languages (English)

Comprehensive English I, II

Grade 10 | English | Compulsory

These courses help students build a solid foundation in English grammar and develop reading comprehension strategies for a wide variety of texts. Students learn to identify and apply grammar rules, expand vocabulary, and analyze meaning in both fiction and non-fiction passages, preparing them for further study in advanced English language and literature.

Essay Writing I, II

Grade 10 & 12 | English | Compulsory

These courses help students plan, structure, and write clear, well-supported essays in response to complex prompts. Instruction emphasizes both academic writing and personal narrative essays. Through this practice, students strengthen their ability to construct logical arguments and express nuanced ideas in writing, preparing them for further study in academic writing and the humanities or sciences.

Debate & Discussion I, II

Grade 10 & 12 | English | Compulsory

These courses equip students with the skills to research, debate, and discuss a wide range of topics, grounded in their mandatory personal research projects and in contemporary social and scientific issues. Students also learn to present their findings clearly through structured reports and visual posters, preparing them for further study in public speaking, presentation, and academic research.

Health and P.E.

Physical Education

Grade 10 & 12 | Japanese | Compulsory

Students take Physical Education in each year of on-campus study at IGHS, developing skills across a variety of activities designed to promote lifelong fitness and well-being. The course emphasizes physical literacy, teamwork, and healthy lifestyle habits, preparing students to maintain fitness throughout high school and beyond.

Health

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to health education with a focus on practical knowledge and responsible decision-making. Topics include lifestyle habits, infectious diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, mental health, and first aid. Students learn to apply this knowledge to support their own physical and mental well-being, preparing them to make informed choices throughout their lives.

Fine Arts

Students are required to take at least one Fine Arts course in Grade 10

Art & Design I

Grade 10 | Japanese | **Optional (Set 1)**

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of visual expression. Students explore drawing, painting, and design principles while developing creativity, technical skills, and an appreciation of

artistic processes. The course prepares students for further study in art and design.

Calligraphy I

Grade 10 | Japanese | **Optional (Set 1)**

This course introduces students to the traditional art of Japanese calligraphy. Students practice brush technique, balance, and composition while deepening their understanding of the cultural and historical significance of written forms. The course develops both artistic skill and cultural appreciation.

Music I

Grade 10 | Japanese | **Optional (Set 1)**

This course develops students' skills in music appreciation and performance. Students learn basic music theory, vocal and instrumental techniques, and engage in ensemble activities. The course fosters creativity, expression, and collaboration through music.

Practical & Interdisciplinary Studies

Information Study I

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of ICT skills. Topics include information security, digital expression, information design, basic programming, and the mechanisms of computer networks. Students develop practical digital literacy to support academic work and responsible technology use, preparing them for further study in information science.

Basic Home Economics

Grade 10 | Japanese | Compulsory

This course provides students with practical knowledge for daily life and well-being. Topics include maintaining health through diet, managing comfortable living spaces and clothing, family and community relationships, and environmentally responsible consumer behavior. Students gain skills to support sustainable lifestyles and lifelong well-being.

Applied Learning / Collaborative Seminars

Grade 10 & 12 | Japanese | Compulsory

This program was previously delivered as a collaborative seminar in which first- and third-year students learned together in cross-grade groups, exploring SDG-related themes and building foundational inquiry and research skills. It has since been restructured into a more specialized applied learning program. Students now join one of seven research labs, establish their own research themes, and pursue deeper academic inquiry through collaboration with universities and companies under expert guidance. Practical experiences, including study abroad and fieldwork, further strengthen this process and help students develop their research into work of greater academic depth and value.

Grade 11 Study Abroad Year Credits

All students undertake a compulsory one-year study abroad placement during Grade 11. Because students attend different host schools across a range of countries, it is not possible to provide standardized course descriptions for that year. However, students are expected to complete courses that may be used to fulfill the MEXT-required credits for graduation.