



Hi! from SAGA

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SUISA Newsletter Team
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COVID-19 Situation in Japan

For Japan what the government ask you was only suggesting you to stay inside and go out when you really need to.



Distance Learning during COVID-19 in Saga University

As the state of emergency has been eased on Saga city, Saga University prohibits entering our campus for all students to against the spreading of the Corona virus.



Saga University International Students Feeling during Covid-19

"The online classes are doing well for my case. I don't have so much trouble. This online course system is a good way to overcome this corona virus pandemic.



COVID-19 Situation Around the World

The COVID-19 situation reported by Saga University students in Australia, Senegal, Thailand and Lithuania.

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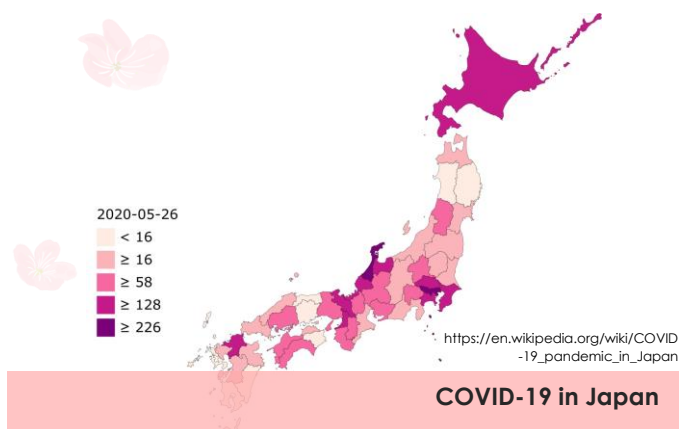


COVID-19 in Japan

"How is the Covid-19 situation in your country?"

This unfortunately became a greeting we use when I speak to my friends from a foreign country or friends from my home country. It seems like I get to talk with my friends from other country more in this crisis. It makes me happy to think how everybody cares about one another in such a hard time like this one. Apart from getting in touch with one another, I think the best way to show care to your friends and society is to restrict a distancing yourself.

There are many guidelines to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 Virus. First is to not travel to the state of emergency which Fukuoka was included. As of the day I am writing this (April 29th) There are 962 people who were infected by the Covid-19 院 Kyushu. The largest number is in Fukuoka where 629 number of people were infected. So, the best idea is to not go to Fukuoka, Tokyo, Saitama, Chiba, Osaka and Hyogo. If you have already made plan to travel to these provinces, some airlines or hotels booking service would give you a refund or a rebooking.



The next guideline is to stay at home. In these modern days it might not be that difficult. You can still get in touch with your friends through video call and if you miss partying you can even party online. Trying new recipes an improving your skills by trying new recipes and maybe showing off the food you made through your friends online. Lastly, this is a great time for study, both for your major project and your Japanese. Why not brush up the JLPT books you both long time ago that you do not have a chance to read?

If you really need to go outside to the supermarkets or drugstore for essential needs. Remember to pick the time when it is not crowded and remember to always wear your mask. Before and after going out, remember to wash your hands with soap and use the hand sanitizer which every supermarket provides. I also advise you to pick an alternative like ordering online and workout at your apartment.

If you think that you caught a Covid-19 virus, it would be impossible to take a test at the hospital immediately. Thus, you need to first contact the Kikokusha Sesshokusha Consultation Centers by dialing 0952-30-3622.

In many countries there are strict policy to counterattack the Covid-19 virus. In Thailand, the government also finally declare to ease COVID-19 lockdown measures due to falling infection number.

For Japan what the government ask you was only suggesting you to stay inside and go out when you really need to and only recently that the shop and restaurant inside Saga are starting to close or provide only take outs. Thus, if we really cooperate with each other the number would finally fall, and then we would be able to see each other face to face again.

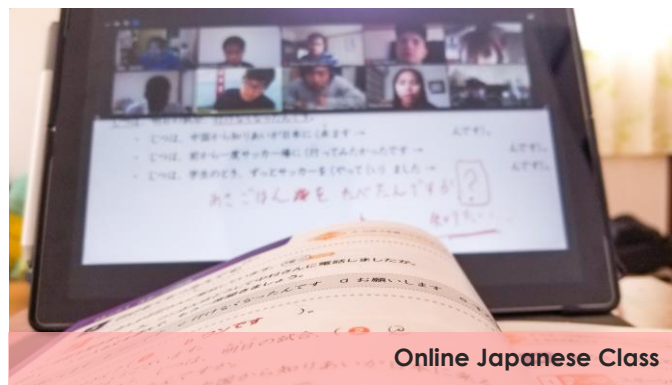
Distance Learning in Saga Univ

'COVID-19 impact on education system' – you cannot deny that.

COVID-19 has been rapidly spreading for 2-3 months in Japan and there are also some people who got infected in Saga Prefecture. As the state of emergency has been eased on Saga city, Saga University prohibits entering our campus for all students to against the spreading of the Corona virus. For this semester, studying has changed dramatically with the rise of online classes or e-learning and maybe the COVID-19 pandemic will change education forever. Therefore, how should we study at home during this pandemic?

The first thing is to understand this situation. The most important thing is to do what feels safe for you. Although we cannot enter the University and attend normal classes, but we can do some online learning that we are all good at using the nowadays technology. There are many programs and applications which support our online classes. In Saga University, we usually use Microsoft team, Zoom, Web-ex and Slack to have online lectures and submit our homeworks. It seems like everyone is learning to use these programs speedily.

By the way, there are many tips on how to study efficiently. First is to build and design a study area. Let's try to make a good space for learning and keep it tidy, it will help you to focus with studying. Second is to manage your time. It is easy to say but a little bit hard to do, but please try to do it. You can try to wake up early. If you continuously wake up early more than 21 days, your body will get up early automatically by itself. It is a good starting point. The next advice is to plan your day. Write your calendar or take a note for reminding your presentation date, examination or work's submitting deadline.



Online Japanese Class

Besides, do not forget to attend every of your class. The most important one is to keep communicating. Even though you rarely meet your friends, but you can chat with them via many applications. You can also make a party online with friends or classmates, it will make you not feel alone, there are many colleagues who still here and face this same situation with you. Be patient, everything will be brought back to normal soon.

Stay safe everyone, and let's hope this whole COVID-19 situation gets better soon!

Students Feeling

Mathiro José: Master of Geotechnical Engineering (Benin)



"The online classes are doing well for my case. I don't have so much trouble. This online course system is a good way to overcome this corona virus pandemic to protect everyone. Personally, the online class gives us the opportunity to watch again and again the past courses in order to understand better even after the class times."

Vidushi Gunatilake: Space-E (Sri Lanka)



"I think online lectures are easy for us to participate, but it's not lively like we used to be in the class. Hard to concentrate. For some practical subjects, we can learn something through the online classes but not efficient."

Htet Wai Htun: Master of Electronic Engineering (Myanmar)



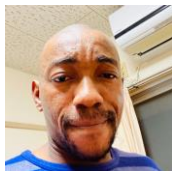
"Due to the widespread of the COVID-19, the Japanese government announced the emergency state all over the nation. As a consequence, universities in Japan were shut down to help prevent the level of infection, leading to provide distance learning (Online classes) for the students. From my point of view, this might be an effective one for a proper amount of time but on the other hand, continuing to do so tends to be lack of motivation to study in the future. This is because I absolutely enjoy studying in the campus and sometimes, I need more time discussing about my research plan with my professor in the meeting room rather than discussing via online. Moreover, in some cases, I have to do the experiment which can be conducted only in the campus. Therefore, all the academic processes may be delayed due to the prolonged prohibition to enter the campus. I think Saga University should introduce an alternative way like allowing the students to enter the campus with the time allocation."

Fisilmi Azizah Rahman: Space-E (Indonesia)



"I know this is a difficult time for all of us. Many people were affected by COVID-19, one of them was a student. At the beginning I was very complaining and thought it was hard to go to online class. But I realize online class is the only way we can get it now. As time passed, I began to feel accustomed to did that, and in my opinion, it was very easy. But as a foreign student, I hope that this pandemic will be gone soon and I can attend classes offline and face-to-face with everyone. I miss everybody."

Daniel David Omowele: Master of Architecture (Nigeria)



"Well for me, the online class is not as effective as the classroom lectures due to some challenges such as internet connection, audio and video connection, etc. Also, sometimes I lose concentration during some of the classes as my room for me is not a conducive learning environment."

Hu Jiaojiao: Space-E (China)



"From my perspective, I like it overall. Even at the beginning, it's a little bit inconvenient to register and I log in to different required teaching applications, but after that it became quite easy to have lectures by saving the commuting and making up time. But if it is okay for the face-to-face lectures, I would also like it."

COVID-19 Around the World

Vanessa, Saga University's Student from Australia

In Western Australia our government acted early, shut our regional borders and stopped most flights coming into the country. During lockdown we've enjoyed two months of a rare glimpse into a much slower pace of life, like people may have enjoyed in the past.

We have lots of space around us and have had the chance to get to know some local wildlife: kangaroos, bandicoots,

skinks(lizards), magpies, cockatoos and some other native birds. It was quite funny that while people panic brought toilet paper, hand sanitizer, pasta and flour here like everywhere else, many people went out and panic brought seeds and seedlings. They sold out everywhere and it has even been labeled 'crisis gardening' which is in essence planting an edible garden to rapidly grow food in an attempt to be self-sustaining. In Albany we've also enjoyed long bush walks, trips to our local, almost deserted beaches and life without any normal school or work busyness. Other than watching all the tragedy constantly on the the news it's been so peaceful here.

Our case numbers are now so low, only 2 active cases left in Western Australia (22th May) and so now everything is opening up again, leaving many of us wishing we didn't have to return to normal busy life, and trying to work out how we can create simpler lives.

Saide Diaw, Saga University's Student from Senegal

The Senegalese government is leading the response and prevention work with support of key partners including UNICEF. Many preventive measures have been announced including a state of national emergency, extended school closure to 2 June, night curfew and closed borders and international air traffic.

Negative social and economic is already seen in Senegal. Considering the rapid increase in the number of cases, a concerted effort is needed to scale up preventive messaging, hygiene and sanitation actions child protection service and support to homebased learning.

Janjira Sukwai, Saga University's Student from Thailand

Covid-19 situation in Thailand is getting better. Comparing to mid-March when cases rose to over hundreds per day leading the Thailand government announced an Emergency decree to order to close public venues and businesses along with a curfew to limit people mobility outside the home from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Since that time, our life was changed. We mostly keep ourselves at home, stop going out unnecessary, and try not to get near to each other, in order to prevent the infection.

Even our most important traditional festival, Songkran, was called off. We could not go out to enjoy the water festival with friends or even visit family members this year.

It has been four months after the outbreak. Recently no death and very few cases were found for weeks. Lockdown was relaxed to help lift the economy. Everything is getting better and it seems to go back to (nearly) normal. Shops, offices, malls, markets, everywhere except educational institutions, are gradually reopened. Life here, little by little, is going back to the way it used to be, except for the casual check of temperature at the entrance and more people wearing face masks and keeping distance to each other while being outside.

Ruta, Saga University's Student from Lithuania

We're having quarantine from the march 16th. At first, everything got closed, only the food shops, and restaurants and cafes for take out worked, most of the people started working from home, masks became mandatory. Then, little by little, the number of infected people got lower and lower, and now, even though we still under quarantine, all of the shops are opened, restaurants and cafes are opened too (we just have to sit outside), and as the weather is getting better, more and more of people are stepping outside to enjoy the life.

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