

SAGA UNIVERSITY PROGRAM FOR ACADEMIC EXCHANGE

by Faculty of Agriculture 2025-2026

(SPACE-AG)

SPACE-AG (Saga University Program for Academic Exchange by Faculty of Agriculture) is a special program designed for international students from affiliated universities around the world. It offers a unique curriculum for Agriculture. We offer students opportunities to learn Integrated Science, which focuses on Sustainable Food Production and Conservation of the Natural Environment, and Advanced Science, which focuses on the Elucidation and Application of Bioscience. Participating students deepen their knowledge and understanding of their major field of study, and/or of Japanese society and people, through academic work and interactions with Japanese students and local people.

1. Type of Academic Program

SPACE-AG Courses are taught in English. This program is only for undergraduate students.

2. Eligibility

Students who meet the condition(s) in each of the following three aspects are eligible to apply.

1) Status

- The applicant must be enrolled in full-time degree programs at overseas universities that have concluded a student exchange agreement or memorandum of student exchange with Saga University or are in the process of concluding such.
- The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student at the home institution throughout the period of study at Saga University.
- The applicant for SPACE-AG must have completed at least two years of study at the home institution if he/she takes Independent Study. If he/she doesn't take Independent Study, he/she must have completed at least one year of study at the home institution.

2) Language Proficiency Requirements: SPACE-AG requires exchange students to be more proficient in English than any of the minimum scores of:

TOEFL ITP: 530, IELTS: 5.5,

TOEFL iBT: 72, TOEIC: 740, or equivalent (CEFR: B2) at the time of application.

(Note that we no longer accept the score of CET.)

3) GPA Requirement

GPA requirement is equal to 2.8 or higher of the four-grade GPA scale: 4 (Excellent), 3 (Good), 2 (Satisfactory), 1 (Pass) and 0 (Fail).

3. Number of Students Accepted

Several students will be accepted for SPACE-AG for the academic year 2025-2026.

4. Admissions and Period of Study

Exchange students commence their study either in October or in April.

Duration of study: either one semester or two semesters.

5. Academic Calendar

The academic year at Saga University is divided into spring and fall semesters:

1) 2025 Fall Semester:

Classes	October 1 to February 4
Winter Break	December 25 to January 7
Exams	February 6 to 13
Spring Break	February 14 to early April

2) 2026 Spring Semester (tentative):

Classes	early April to late July
Exams	late July and early August
Summer Break	early August to September 30

6. Academic Program and Credits

SPACE AG students must belong to one of four courses based on the affiliation of your supervisor.

Biological Science Course

Food Resource and Environmental Science Course

Applied Biochemistry and Food Science Course

Regional Development and Management Studies Course

The SPACE AG program has a flexible curriculum in which exchange students fulfill their aims by taking curriculum from four course about agricultural science, Japanese language and others. The minimum coursework requirement for exchange students is 10 credits per semester. At the end of the exchange period, those students who have fulfilled the requirements will receive a certificate of completion from Saga University. We will report the number of the credits that each student has earned to the international affairs division or the equivalent of the home university at the end of each semester. SPACE students who have earned credits are provided with an official academic transcript from Saga University. The student's home institution may determine whether to grant the credits based on this transcript. After consulting with the supervisor, the class is chosen. It is also necessary to get approval of the teacher in charge of the class. Furthermore, joining the class may not possible when the number of participants is restricted.

Special Subjects	Introduction to Agriculture	2 compulsory	10 credits or more per semester
Core Subjects	Seminar of Research Field	2 compulsory	
	Lab experiments and practical training	1 compulsory	
	Independent Study	2 elective	
Major subjects for courses	Biological Science	1 credit or more, elective	
	Food Resource and Environmental Science		
	Applied Biochemistry and Food Science		
	Regional Development and Management Studies		
Common subjects for exchange students	Japanese Language	elective	
	General Education		
	Cross-culture Interaction		

(1) Special Subjects F: Fall Semester S: Spring Semester

This course is designed to explain general agricultural science from various specialized perspectives. SPACE AG students must take it.

Introduction to Agriculture A - Production and Management (F, 2 credits)

Introduction to Agriculture B - Food and Environment (S, 2 credits)

(2) Core Subjects F: Fall Semester S: Spring Semester

You need to write a research field and topic and possibly professor's name on your application form. Before submitting your application, you need to contact the professor you would like to have as your supervisor and obtain prior consent from him or her. For the students of SPACE AG in the Faculty of Agriculture, Core subjects with your supervisor are "compulsory", except Independent Study. You can find the lists of professors together with their research topics. Please refer to the following URL to search information about professors and their specialization.

<http://research.dl.saga-u.ac.jp/search/index.html?lang=en>

Independent study I (F, 2 credits) and II (S, 2 credits)

These are the research a student does independently with the guidance of their supervisors. He/she must have completed at least two years of study at the home institution if taking Independent Study.

Seminar of Research Field I (F, 2 credits) and II (S, 2 credits)

These are the seminar on the specialized research field with laboratory members of your supervisors.

Lab experiments and practical training (F, 1 credits) and II (S, 1 credits)

These are the experimental training with laboratory members of your supervisors. Food Resource and Environmental Science Course and Applied Biochemistry and Food Science Course are 2credit.

(3) Major subjects for courses

Major subjects are prepared based on the course of students belonging, which you can select one credit or more from your course subjects.

Biological Science Course

Experiment of Applied Biology (F, 1 credit)

Experiment of Biology (S, 1 credit)

Food Resource and Environmental Science Course

Experiment of Hydrospheric and Atmospheric Environment (S, 2 credits)

Applied Biochemistry and Food Science Course

Seminar for Applied Biochemistry and Food Science (F, 2 credit)

Regional Development and Management Studies Course

Practice of Social Survey II (F, 1 credit)

Practice of Social Survey I (S, 1 credit)

(4) Common subjects for exchange students

Saga University offers common subjects for Japanese language, general education, and cross-culture Interaction. SPACE-AG student can select one credit or more from these.

Japanese Language (S &F, 3 credits)

Saga University offers Japanese language courses from beginning. Students are required to take a placement test upon their arrival and will be placed according to their language level. The program offers flexibility and choice, and students are able to gain Japanese skills ranging from a daily life level to an academic level.

General Education

SPACE-AG students can register English courses in General Education and study contents together with regular Saga University 1st-year or 2nd-year students. The contents of the courses are about natural science, cultures, societies, etc. The number of the international students each course joins is limited.

Citizenship Education (Fall; 2 credits)

Introduction to Sociology (Fall; 2 credits)

Aspects of Modern Society (Fall;2 credits)
 Cultural Metaphors (Fall; 2 credits)
 Introduction to Science (Fall; 2 credits)
 Western Culture (Spring; 2 credits)
 Critical Thinking for the Modern Age (Spring; 2 credits)
 Life in the Global World (Spring; 2 credits)

Cross-Cultural Interaction

OGE (Organization for General Education) of Saga University offers courses for Cross cultural Interactions to international students together with Japanese students. International students should be aware that while they are encouraged to take these courses, the number of available class slots might differ among the classes offered. How international students enroll and participate in courses vary from course to course.

7. Application Procedures

1) Documents Required for Application

- (1) SPACE Application Form (photo attached)
- (2) Consent of acceptance from the desired supervisor
- (3) One (1) Letter of Recommendation
- (4) Academic Transcripts: issued by the student's home institution
- (5) Language Proficiency test results (i.e., TOEFL, IELTS, TOEIC, or equivalent (CEFR: B2)
 Applicants for SPACE-AG must submit your score sheet.
- (6) One (1) copy of the Certificate of Enrollment at the Home Institution:
 issued by the student's home institution.
- (7) Application for Certificate of Eligibility for Status of Residence
- (8) Certificate of Health
- (9) Financial Support Statement (3500USD for 1 semester /7000USD for 1 year) with the bank statement of financial supporter
- (10) A copy of your passport

2) Application Deadlines

Complete application forms must reach the SPACE office by the following dates:

Fall Semester Admission 2025:

Nomination	May 1, 2025
Application	May 15, 2025

Spring Semester Admission 2026:

Nomination	November 1, 2025
Application	November 15, 2025

3) How to Apply

1. Your home university will nominate students.
2. Your home university will send all the documents and send them by e-mail to the e-mail address.

Application for Certificate of Eligibility should be sent in EXCEL Format.:

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Documents should be sent through the international office of your home university.

We don't accept any documents sent directly by students.

8. Notification of Results

The results of the preliminary document screening examination will be made available to students through their home institutions.

Fall Semester Admission 2025: Mid-July 2025

Spring Semester Admission 2026: Early-February2026

9. Saga University Scholarship for Exchange Student

Saga University scholarship for exchange students is our own scholarship. We decide to whom we grant the scholarship considering the relationship with partners, so you don't have to apply for the scholarship separately.

Saga University scholarship for exchange students is as follows:

1) Eligibility for Saga University scholarship for Exchange Student

Special audit students accepted to the graduate or undergraduate school based on academic exchange agreements, who are participating in the Saga University Short-Term Study Abroad Program, have an excellent academic record, and are not receiving scholarships from other institutions in Japan.

2) Scholarship

Monthly amount: ¥50,000