

FREEL CONNOR EDWARD

(Sep. 2025 - Aug. 2026)

Liverpool John Moores University



1. Why did you decide to come study in Japan and choose Chukyo University?

I visited Japan in 2024 and ever since then I've wanted to come back. I had such an amazing experience then and I just wanted more time to experience everything Japan had to offer. I also wanted to become more confident in myself, improve my future job prospects and learn Japanese. I thought Chukyo University was very well situated to explore many different and exciting places. I also saw they had a great support system for exchange students, so that convinced me to choose Chukyo University.

2. How do you think you have matured through your studies at Chukyo? Please share your experiences, events, or feelings while studying at Chukyo University.

I have become so much more confident since I first arrived at Chukyo. I have made many Japanese and international friends here that have really made me grow as a person. Specifically the variety of events held by VOICE have pushed me to meet so many new people and improve my Japanese. Through the Japanese classes I have gone from no Japanese knowledge to being able to confidently take the JLPT. I also have learnt so many interesting things about Japanese culture and daily life!

3. How do you hope to make use of this experience in the future?

I hope to continue studying Japanese using what I learnt at Chukyo as a basis for future learning. I plan to use my Japanese language skill to one day live and work in Japan. The other skills I have fostered here, such as independence and cross-cultural communication, will also be useful for me in a future career. For me, most importantly, I will keep in contact with all the amazing people I have met and I hope to meet them all again someday.

4. Finally, please give a message to juniors who are considering studying at Chukyo University in the future.

This has been the best experience of my life, and Chukyo now feels like home! Everyone here is so friendly and welcoming, and you're going to meet so many fantastic people and make loads of international connections. I have seen some of my favourite bands live in Japan and explored many beautiful places. I was very anxious before I came, but after arriving I never wanted to leave! I am so glad that I took the leap to study here, and I think you would regret it if you didn't!

