

THOMAS GAVIN EDWARD

(Apr. 2026 - Aug. 2026)

Clemson University



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

I decided to study in Japan to further my Japanese language studies and meet new people. My main reason for choosing Chukyo University was its location. Situated between Osaka and Tokyo, while not being in an overly crowded area, it was exactly the kind of place I was looking for. On top of that, Chukyo offered a wide variety of courses that weren't available at my home 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.

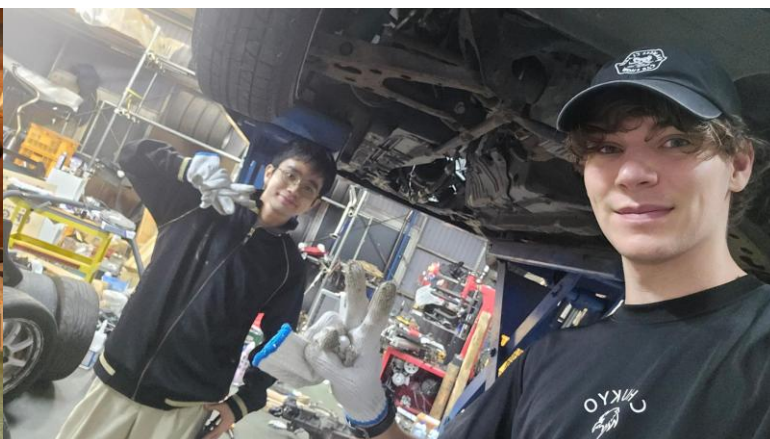
Chukyo has helped me grow both personally and academically. Experiences like the Buddy Program and multicultural events at VOICE helped me develop my interpersonal skills while building friendships with people from diverse backgrounds. The Car Club gave me hands-on experience in the automotive field and introduced me to Japan's car culture. Looking back, I can't believe how much I've grown in such a short time.

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

I plan to apply what I learned at Chukyo throughout my professional career. As someone who hopes to work in international trade, my time spent connecting with people from different cultures and backgrounds has been an invaluable experience and excellent preparation for the global work environment I hope to be a part of.

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

Chukyo provides not only an incredible opportunity to study abroad, but also unparalleled support for every exchange student. The thought of being away from home for months may seem intimidating, but the staff and student body do everything they can to make you feel welcome and at home. If you are on the fence about studying abroad or unsure which university is right for you, I highly recommend taking the opportunity to study at Chukyo.



MATHESON, RILEY ERIN

(Sep. 2024 - Aug. 2025)

Clemson University



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

I chose to study in Japan to immerse myself in the culture and language and to challenge myself with new experiences. Studying a foreign language and actually experiencing the culture firsthand are two different things, so I think that studying abroad is an invaluable experience, whether it's for one month or one year. I chose Chukyo University for the location in Nagoya, their experience with international exchange programs, and for the various support services and events that they offer such as the student buddy system and Global Talk Hour.

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.

During my study abroad, I took many courses designed for Japanese students. Although the content was very challenging for me, I was able to learn things that are not taught in my home country, which made the experience very fulfilling.

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

I have learned how to navigate Japanese culture and daily life in Japan, and I also had many interesting exchanges with Japanese people of various ages and backgrounds. Through learning about a different culture, I learned more about my own culture as well. I have also had to step out of my comfort zone a little bit in order to overcome challenges such as language barriers and cultural differences.

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

Throughout my time in Japan, I have gained a sense of cultural and language differences that may not be obvious to outside observers. I plan to utilize this experience to navigate intercultural exchanges in the future, both in my career and in everyday life.



SAVERENO, ISAAC ARLAN

(Apr. 2024 - Dec. 2024)

Clemson University



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

The city and mainly a lot of my other friends went to Chukyo.

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've definitely become more global. In a sense of experiencing the world around me. I now have lots of friends from different regions of the world. Ranging from Nepal to Brazil. Being here at Chukyo has also allowed me to create long lasting friendships within America too. Who knew that I would be talking to someone just a state away.

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

Well, hopefully I get into grad school allowing me to continue studying the Japanese language along with pursuing my interest in linguistics.

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

It's nice. You're close to the heart of the city and because Nagoya is a port area you'll see alot more than just Japanese people.



GEORGE, Abigail Mackenzie

(Apr. 2024 - Aug. 2024)

Clemson University



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

My decision to study in Japan and at Chukyo University was deeply influenced by my love for Japanese culture, which began around the age of 16. I made a Japanese friend online who not only introduced me to the richness of Japanese culture but also encouraged me to start learning the language on my own, as my high school didn't offer Japanese classes. This experience sparked a passion for understanding different cultures and perspectives. As I transitioned into university, I knew I wanted to choose a major that would allow me to view the world through a global lens, explore diverse cultures, and prepare for an international career. Studying in Japan, particularly at Chukyo University, offers me the perfect opportunity to achieve these goals. The university's strong academic programs and vibrant cultural setting provide an ideal environment for both personal and professional growth.

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.

My time at Chukyo University has been transformative in so many ways. Before coming here, I was quite introverted, but the support and events provided by the CSEP program played a significant role in helping me come out of my shell. These experiences allowed me to meet many new people, build meaningful connections, and learn a lot about myself. Additionally, Chukyo offered numerous opportunities for practicing Japanese, which has greatly improved my language skills. This combination of personal growth and academic development has made my time at Chukyo incredibly rewarding.

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

I plan to use my experience at Chukyo University in a lot of different ways. Learning Japanese and understanding more about intercultural communication will really help me as I work toward a career that involves working internationally. Being able to see things from different cultural perspectives is something I know will be a big plus in any global job. On a personal level, the confidence and adaptability I've gained here will help me handle whatever comes my way in the future. I'm looking forward to applying everything I've learned, both in my career and in my personal growth. This experience has really set me up for the kind of global career I've always wanted.

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

If you're thinking about studying at Chukyo University, I can confidently say it's a decision you won't regret! My time here has been nothing short of amazing-- filled with growth, learning, and unforgettable experiences. Chukyo offers a supportive environment where you can really immerse yourself in Japanese culture and language. The CSEP program, in particular, has been incredibly helpful in making the transition smooth, with lots of events and opportunities to meet new people. So, if you're looking for a place where you can grow, learn, and make lasting memories, Chukyo University is the perfect choice.



GRAY, SOFIA ELISE

(Apr. 2025 - Aug. 2025)

Clemson University



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

I wanted to grow my Japanese skills and Chukyo is in the middle of Japan, a convenient location for traveling.

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.

Yes I believe I have grown. I have never experienced a culture other than the one in the USA, and living in Japan and going to college here has allowed me to live in a world in which I never have before.

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

I hope to continue my Japanese studies and come back to Japan in the future.

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

I recommend Chukyo if you want to further your Japanese studies. Chukyo has a great Japanese program and I believe if you work hard, your Japanese skills will get better faster than they have before.

