

REPORT DETAIL

Name	Exchange Student Program at Kobe University
Period	1st June 2017 – 31st July 2017
Candidate	Miss Apichaya Senathong: 58130500256
Program	Computer Science

BACKGROUND

Kobe University is a university located in Hyogo, Kobe, Japan. The university have around 16,000 students from across Japan and around the world. Kobe University is one of Japan's leading comprehensive universities with 10 faculties and schools, 15 graduate schools and great number of research center and institutions. Kobe University consists the Faculty of Letters, Faculty of Intercultural Studies, Faculty of Human Development, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Economics, School of Business Administration, Faculty of Science, School of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences), Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture, and Faculty of Maritime Sciences.

Kobe University have 4 campuses, which are Rokkodai, Kusunoki, Myodani, and Fukae. Rokkodai area is considered the main campus. It comprises nine out of eleven faculties, which are Faculty of Letters, Faculty of Intercultural Studies, Faculty of Human Development, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Economics, School of Business Administration, Faculty of Science, and Faculty of Engineering.

Kusunoki area have a campus name's Myodani Campus. Which have School of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences) locate in that area.

Fukae area have a campus name's Fukae Campus. Which have Faculty of Maritime Sciences locate in that area.

PREPARATION FOR KOBE UNIVERSITY

Japan Visa Information

For apply Japan Visa, there is Japan visa application centre in Thailand called Japan Visa Application Centre (JVAC) that operated by VFS (Thailand) Limited in Bangkok, which is official service provider for the Government of Japan. Applicants could enter VFS.Global website for information and visa application. This exchange program covers the period from 1st June 2017 to 31st July 2017. Follow the Japan Government compliances, the visa type should be visitor visa for six-month stay. However, because we got the acceptance letter from Kobe University, Japan embassy considered student visa for us.

The application's consideration depends on the discretion of the consular officer. The duration of the operation at least 15 business days (except Saturday - Sunday. And holidays of the Embassy).

Address of VFS Global:

One PACIFIC PLACE 9th FL Unit # 910
140 Sukhumvit Rd, Khlong Toei, Khlong Toei,
Bangkok, 10110,
Thailand

Hours of Operation:

JVAC Opening time :	Monday to Friday, 08:30 - 18:00
Submission of Application :	Monday to Friday, 08:30 - 18:00
Passport Collection :	Monday to Friday, 08:30 - 18:00
Helpline number :	+66 - (0) 2 -251-5197~8
Helpline email :	info.jpth@vfshelpline.com

Address of Japan Embassy:

177 Witthayu Road,
Lumphini, Pathum Wan,
Bangkok, 10330,
Thailand

Steps to Apply for a Canadian Visa

1. Prepare Application

- Passport (with minimum 2 blank pages and with re-entry permit to Thailand. Please present your old passports, if any)
- Application form is available at JVAC or can be downloaded from the website.
- One photograph taken within the last 6 months. (The photo must be 2x2 inches, black and white or color with plain background)
- Questionnaire is available at JVAC counter or can be downloaded from the website.
- Certificate of enrolment from your school in Thailand (original)
- Bank pass book belonging to yourself, your parents or your spouse the original and one photocopy with all transaction pages (Showing your bank book is required in the case of traveling at your own expense. However, exemption applies if you are either a public servant, employee of a government enterprise or public company, employee of a university or other academic institute, and confirmed to be earning more than 20,000 baht per month.)
- Schedule of stay
- Submission of a guarantee letter and/or invitation letter from Japan is voluntary. A letter has no specific form and if you wish you can download a sample PDF file.
- If you meet a certain criterion for a representative to apply on your behalf, your representative may apply on your behalf. In case a representative is applying on your behalf, you need to submit an authorization letter.

Note Every need to show in English only. Any document in Thai must be translated to be English.

2. Submission

The student submits the application and prepared document to JVAC Global office. The Japan Embassy may make appointment with visa applicant for additional information or request more documents.

3. Payment

There are fees for applying Japan visa with VFS Global. The student can check current fee in VFS Global website. The fees can be paid by cash to 'VFS (Thailand) Ltd.

Note: Revision of VISA Fee, effective as of 01 April 2018, VISA Fees have been revised as follows;

Nationality	Single Entry	Multiple Visa	Transit Visa
Thailand and others	920	1,840	210
India	260	260	20

※Processing fee of 595 THB (including 7% VAT) paid to JVAC will be collected upon application.

Meeting about project topic

5th June 2018

My supervisor is Tsutomu Terada. He explains that this lab is working on an IoT and Arduino, if I have any project that I want to do the lab can offer every sensor for a project. He said I have two weeks to think about my project. I need to have information of sensors and detail to present with him.



Picture 3: Last day at Kobe University with Terada-sensei

25th June 2018

Due to Terada-sensei is very busy, I have other TA who is name Yosuke Eguchi (A-San). He will help me to contact to Terada-sensei or helping for preparation of sensors and presentation room. After I got the topic to work on, I have one month to finish this project.



Picture 4: All sensors



Picture 5: Soldering



Picture 6: The project that I work on

When I was working on this project I had a problem that I cannot send data to server because Arduino version does not support. So, I need to order another version It took about 1 week to received it. That mean I have least to work on the project too.

Presentation Day

26th July 2018

After I finish the project, I must present all of work that I have done. On the presentation day Terada-sensei was not in Kobe University so I present with laboratory members. Anyway I was record the video while I am presenting to send to Terada-sensei.



Picture 7: Presentation Day

Life in University



Picture 1: Lunch time at Kobe University



Picture 2: Engineering Summer School Programs

TRAVEL ITINERARY

Don Mueang Airport to Osaka, Japan	
Bangkok to Osaka, Japan	Jun 02 (Sat) AirAsia XJ-610 DMK 02:10 PM to KIX 09:55 PM (5 hours 45 minutes)
Kansai International Airport to Kobe, Japan	Skygateshuttle by MK Taxi One Way Kansai International Airport to Osaka, Japan

Tokyo, Japan to Don Mueang Airport	
Shinkansen from Shin-Kobe to Tokyo	Shinkansen Train One Way Shin-Kobe to Tokyo Japan
Train to Narita International Airport	Train airport line to Narita International Airport
Tokyo, Japan to Bangkok	Aug 08 (Wed) AirAsia XJ-603 NRT 02:25 PM to DMK 07:10 PM (6 hours 45 minutes)

ATTRACTIONS IN JAPAN

Japan is a sovereign island nation in East Asia. Located in the Pacific Ocean, it lies off the eastern coast of the Asian mainland and stretches from the Sea of Okhotsk in the north to the East China Sea and Taiwan in the southwest.



Kansai Region

The Kansai region is often compared with the Kantō region, which lies to its east and consists primarily of Tokyo and the surrounding area. The Kansai region displays many more idiosyncrasies. The culture in Kyoto, the mercantilism of Osaka, the history of Nara, or the cosmopolitanism of Kobe and represents the focus of counterculture in Japan. This East-West rivalry has deep historical roots, particularly from the Edo period. With a samurai population of less than 1% the culture of the merchant city of Osaka stood in sharp contrast to that of Edo, the seat of power for the Tokugawa shogunate.

1. Shin-Kobe Ropeway



A nice aerial view of both Nunobiki Waterfall and the Nunobiki Herb Garden. One thing I like is the observation deck. It is a very popular night view spot that offers spectacular views of Kobe.

2. Arima Onsen



Arima Onsen is one of Japan's oldest and famous hot spring town, popular among Kobe and Osaka residents just for a day trip or a weekend getaway. This town is so small, can explore it just on foot. Though it looked modern, can still find narrow lanes and wooden buildings along the town, accompanied by a natural mountain setting as the background. The two types of hot spring waters, the Kinsen (gold water) belief to be good for skin and aid muscle pain; the clear Ginsen (silver water) is said to cure different muscle and joint ailments.

3. Himeji Castle



Himeji is famous for its magnificent castle, Himeji Castle. It is Japan's most beautiful surviving castle and designated both a national treasure and a UNESCO world heritage site. With a population of half a million people, Himeji is the second largest city after Kobe in Hyogo prefecture. It is less than one hour from Osaka or Kyoto and is a popular stopover.

4. Gion Kyoto



This is the place to visit if plan to see a geisha. Gion is filled with shops, restaurants and ochaya (teahouses), where geiko and maiko entertain. The most popular area of Gion is the Hanami-koji street. You should try the Kyoto style kaiseki ryori (Japanese haute cuisine) that are served by the traditional machiya houses lined along the side alleys. Gion is a nice place to dine but be aware that it is pricey.

EXPENSE

TITTLE	JPY	THB
Flight Ticket Bangkok to Japan	22,142.39	6,510.00
Flight Ticket Japan to Bangkok	20560.79	6,045.75
Skygateshuttle by MK Taxi to Kobe, Japan	2,500.00	735.90
Shinkansen from Shin-Kobe to Tokyo	15,000.00	4,2410.43
Residence home per month	30,000.00	8,820.86
Meal per week	3,000 - 4,000.00	800 – 1,000

PROBLEMS/OBSTACLES

1. Language

Most of Japanese people do not speak English. Lucky for me that members in the lab can speak so I can communicate with them. On the other hand, people in supermarket or train station do not understand so I need to write it down or use google translated. I recommend people who interest to do the internship here should have some basic Japanese skill.

2. Residence location



Kobe's area is well known for its rugged landscape and hiking trails. Kobe University does not provide residence for short-time student. We need to find residence by ourselves. The residence that I stay this time is far away from the university. It takes 25-30 minutes to walk to university. It is also taking 15 minutes to walk to train station.

BENEFITS OF EXCHANGE PROGRAM AT KOBE UNIVERSITY

Internship at Kobe University is great opportunities for me. First, this is my first time to go to Japan. I get a chance to learn about Japanese culture and language. In Japan, the student who study in university do not need to wear uniform. The student who is studying in bachelor's degree don't have a strict time to come to the laboratory. Second, the opportunity to study in everything that I am interesting. Due to Japan is one of leader of technology, this is so easy to get a sensor or android to create a project. Third, Japan has many tourist attractions such as Osaka, Kyoto and Hyogo. I don't have time to travel in all recommend spot, but it was amazing to travel in Japan. Lastly, I get out of my comfort zone. While I was living in Japan there was a lot of situations happened for example earthquake, Typhoon and heat-wave. I think it was very good experience to learn to live by myself. Moreover, even if most of Japanese people do not speak English but I learn to speak Japanese from native speaker instead.