

# CCC Global Internship in Japan 2026

Instructors: James Liu, Norie Yazu

Course Website: <https://kguccc.com/gij/>

Aug. 14, 2025 – 30, 2026 (Seminars and internship period in Japan)

## Course Overview:

This course is an award-winning international internship program (\*1) offered in Japan, combined with online and on-site course work about business analysis and cross-cultural communication. It provides students with an opportunity to experience and analyze practical issues in Japanese business settings through paired internships consisting of a KGU and a Canadian university student. The entire course is offered in English and takes the form of Problem Based Learning (PBL), in which the students are required to tackle actual business assignments given by their internship companies. Working closely as a pair and spending private time together all through the program, the KGU and Canadian students will be immersed in a cross-cultural environment and learn about each other's culture.

This course is divided into two parts: the online period (remote) and the on-site period (in Japan). The online period, conducted in June and July, consists of short video-lectures along with assignments including topics such as SWOT analysis and modern market research methods. The online period also includes an ice-breaker session which allows the students to get to know each other and Q&A sessions with the companies.

The on-site period will take place at the end of August. Prior to their internship, the students will take lectures and participate in workshops and tutorials at the KGU campus. Here they will acquire basic knowledge of internships, business analysis, Japanese business manners and cross-cultural understanding, and study about their assigned companies. Thus, they will fully be prepared before they start their internship. On the last day of their 10-day internship, the students will present their final solution for the assignments given by the supervisors of their companies and receive feedback from them. After their internship, the students will return to KGU to give a final presentation about what they learned at their companies and share their experience with other students.

\*1 :In April 2024, the CCC Global Internship in Japan won the MEXT (Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) Award in the "7th National Career Design Program Competition" for being recognized as the most impactful and innovative program for the students' career learning and development.

## Learning Goals:

This course will offer the students the opportunity to:

- Gain practical experience within the business environment in Japan.
- Develop cross-cultural communication skills.
- Develop the ability to analyze and propose solutions to business problems.

- Develop a greater understanding of Japanese business/social practices while more clearly defining personal career goals.
- Develop and refine oral and written communication skills.

## Course Schedule:

### Online Period:

The syllabus may not always be up-to-date! To check the updated version, go to <https://kguccc.com/gij/>

Date (ONT/NB)	Date (JP)	Content
June 1	June 2	Videos Uploaded *1
June 11	June 12	Resume Submission *2 Self-Introduction Video Submission  Information regarding these submissions will be on <a href="https://kguccc.com/gij/">https://kguccc.com/gij/</a>
July 3 19:00-20:30 (ONT) 20:00-21:30 (NB)	July 4 8:00-9:30	Class 1 - Course Introduction/ Orientation <b>* Synchronous</b> Class 2 - Lecture Videos Released: Company list announcement + Biz Analysis SWOT Analysis
July 5	July 6	Submit Company Preference Form *3
July 12	July 13	Submit Final CV/Resume
July 17	July 18	Lecture Videos Uploaded : Intro to Business Modern Organizations in JP/CAN Creating a Business Idea Modern Marketing Research Methods Web Strategy Business Plan
July 20	July 21	<b>Assignment 1:</b> Submit Business Idea *4
July 22	July 23	<b>Assignment 2:</b> Customer Research Report *4
July 25	July 26	<b>Assignment 3:</b> Website Prototype *4
July 28	July 29	<b>Assignment 4:</b> Business Plan *4

\*Assignments 1, 2, 3, and 4 is optional for students who are in the GCSJ program. For more information, read footnote #4.

Notes:

\* 1: Students are advised to watch the videos as soon as possible and submit the assignments by the deadline. Make sure your work with this course will not conflict with your regular course work at your home university.

\* 2: Please note that you need to describe your personal background information such as dietary restriction and allergy for the companies and organizations to accommodate the internship schedule.

\* 3: Watch the recorded company analysis and the company assignments given by the instructor. Based on these materials, fill out the Preference Form to choose a company/organization which interests you. As this Preference Form will be used to match the students with the companies/organizations, it should be submitted by the above deadline. The students' request may not be accommodated if the form is not submitted by the deadline. The students should also be advised that their first choice is not always guaranteed.

\* 4: For students who are already in the GCSJ summer program, Assignments 1 to 4 are **optional** (Business Idea, Customer Research Report, Website Prototype, and Business Plan). This is to make sure you are not overwhelmed with assignments. You will automatically inherit the marks given in the same assignment in GCSJ. If you choose to do these assignments for GIJ (and your host company in GIJ), then you will get the better mark out of the 2.

For students who are not taking GCSJ course, these assignments are mandatory.

**In-Person (Internship) Period:**

Schedule	Time	Contents
8/14 Fri	Morning	Orientation about Japan / Necessary procedures (those applicable) Class 1 - What is an internship?/ Conflict Management
	Afternoon	Class 2 - Workshop on Business Analysis Class 3 - Tutorials / Pre-Internship Orientation
8/15 Sat	Morning	Class 4 & 5 - Pre-Internship Presentation on hosting companies/organizations (10 min. each)
	Afternoon	Class 6 - Japanese Business Manners Class 7 - Cross-Cultural Understanding
8/16 Sun		Move to respective internship area
8/17 Mon – 8/28 Fri		Internship Period
8/29 Sat		Back to KGU

8/30 Sun	Morning	Class 8 - Final Presentation (10 min. each)
	Afternoon	Class 9 - Wrap-up and Course Evaluation

Detailed schedule to be determined as the internship period approaches.

## Course Grading

### Online Individual Assignments (20%)

For students who are already in the GCSJ summer program, Online Assignments 1 to 4 are **optional** (Business Idea, Customer Research Report, Website Prototype, and Business Plan). This is to make sure you are not overwhelmed with assignments. You will automatically inherit the marks given in the same assignment in GCSJ. If you choose to do these assignments for GIJ (and your host company in GIJ), then you will get the better mark out of the 2.

1. Business Idea (5%)
2. Customer Research Report (5%)
3. Website Prototype (5%)
4. Business Plan (5%)

**Submit as PDF or Word document via the submission links on the CCC website : <https://kguccc.com/gij/>**

Early response is highly recommended. Late submission will be penalized.

**1. Business Ideas (Max 380 words):**

Due date(s): July 21, 9:00 (JP) / July 20, 20:00 (ONT) / July 20, 21:00 (NB)

Part 1 (100 words):

Explain your business idea that solves the issue outlined by your company.

Include a simple illustration of sorts: Charts, graphs, drawings, anything that helps visualize the product, service, or process. This should be a simple illustration that takes less than 10 minutes.

Part 2 (300 words):

Write a ~300 word note explaining your business idea from the perspectives of 2 parties:

1 : Perspective of the customer (150 words or less) Talk about the perspective in the first-person view, in regard to how it benefits the customer.

2 : Perspective of the company (150 words or less) Talk about the perspective in the first-person view, in regard to how it benefits the company and how feasible it is.

**2. Customer Research Report (Max 500 words):**

Due date(s): July. 23, 9:00 (JP) / July. 22, 20:00 (ONT) / July. 22, 21:00 (NB)

Write a maximum 500 word report with :

1 : Customer Persona (100 words)

Based on the company assignment and your idea described in the “Inspiring Ideas” assignment, describe the persona of your customers in less than 100 words. It also needs to address the company’s assignment as well.

2 : On-site Customer Research Plan (150 words)

Then, describe the on-site research that you want to do. How will you find the participants? What questions will you ask them? What will be the setting? Location? Etc. Make sure your plan is executable. We will actually do these interviews if the opportunity arises.

3 : Digital Research Data (Customer Volume & Interest) (150 words + screenshots)

Describe the possible customer volume & interest using digital data. Use screenshots from the tools described in this lecture or any market research tools like Exploding Topics, etc to validate your idea. You should be interested in validating that there are volumes of customers(ie search volume), as well as general interest in your idea.

**3. Website Prototype**

Due date(s): July. 26, 9:00 (JP) / July. 25, 20:00 (ONT) / July. 25, 21:00 (NB)

Make a single page website introducing the Business Idea that you’ve submitted previously. Use Carrd.co or Squarespace or WIX. Write the URL of your site in a word document. You can save and get the URL of the website on Carrd.co by following the instructions on this [image](#).

**4. Business Plan**

Due date(s): July. 29, 9:00 (JP) / July. 28 20:00 (ONT) / July. 28, 21:00 (NB)

Prepare a 5-page PowerPoint slide regarding a business plan for your host company.

Content of the slides need to follow the format given in this video : <https://kguccc.com/gcsj/lecture10>

**Active Participation (20%):**

All students are expected to check necessary online lectures and actively participate in classroom discussions as well as in the Internship.

At your host institution, you are expected to comply with your host institution's regulations and be punctual with regards to the time of various meetings and deadlines. Be sure that you do not think of yourself as an "invited guest" at your host institution and take care of your own affairs by yourself.

**Pre-Internship Presentation (15%):**

Make a 10-minute short group presentation on your host institution and its industry. Briefly introduce your host institution and its business type, and identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats at your host institution. Evaluations will be made by instructors based on the following points: content and structure of your presentation, understanding of your host institution and response to questions.

**Critical Reflection Paper (25%):**

As you proceed in your internship, write a 120-word critical reflection paper on what you have experienced each day. Just describing your duties and accomplishments is not sufficient. You should support your argument with reasons and evidence. (e.g., If you think some business practices at your host company are "strange," you need to clarify why those practices are strange to you, and why you think the host institution implements such "strange" practices). Please compile and hand in the reflection paper on the final day of the class (Aug. 30th).

As the host institutions are different in nature from each other, the instructors will take this into account when grading.

In your critical reflection paper, please include the following points.

- What did you learn about the organization and its industry?
- What did you learn about yourself (attitude, perception, presumption, values) with regard to the internship?
- How did your internship experience redefine your career plan?
- How did your internship experience redefine your learning of the course material?

**Final Presentation (20%):**

Make a 10-minute group presentation on the final day of the course (Aug. 31st). Briefly introduce your internship tasks and describe the lessons you learned from the internship. (e.g., lessons you gained from working with your partner and employees at your host organization.) You do not need to redescribe the details of your host company and its industry. Evaluations will be made based on the following points:

- 1) Content and structure of your presentation
- 2) Critical reflections on your internship experience supported by reasons and evidence (anecdotes and personal episodes.)
- 3) Response to questions

### **Method of submission**

Submit via the links at <https://kguccc.com/gij/>

Late submissions will be penalized.

### **References**

1. Thiel, P. & Masters, B. (2014). *Zero to One: Notes on Startups, or How to Build the Future*. Crown Currency.

※本科目は「学生のキャリア形成支援における産学協働の取組み」の4つの類型のうち、タイプ3の「汎用型能力・専門活用型インターンシップ」に該当するため、インターンシップ期間中に企業が取得した参加学生の情報を、当該企業が採用活動時に活用することができます。ただし、本科目参加時に2年生の学生については、上記取り扱いの対象外となります。詳しくはURLリンク1（インターンシップを始めとする学生のキャリア形成支援に係る取組の推進に当たっての基本的考え方）を参照してください。

[https://www.mext.go.jp/a\\_menu/koutou/sangaku2/20220610-mxt\\_ope01\\_01.pdf](https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/koutou/sangaku2/20220610-mxt_ope01_01.pdf)