

(1) Higher Education before the pandemic

➤ **Mostly in-person class**

Most of the courses were conducted in-person in the classroom.

A limited number of courses were taught online

International collaboration on online learning through joint classes and courses were being practiced.

Legal requirement on online courses in Japan:

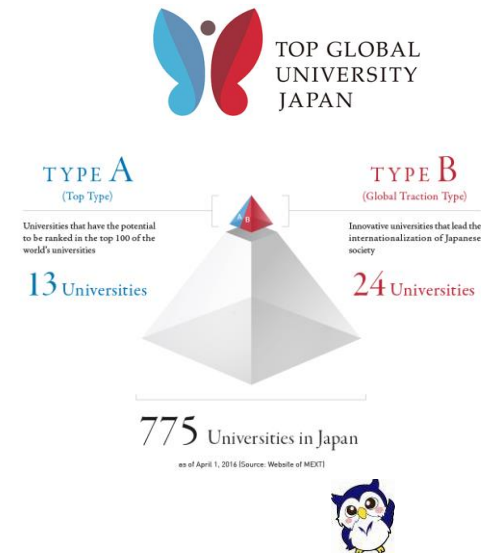
Among 124 credits for graduation, up to 60 credits may be obtained by online courses (except distance learning universities).

➤ **On-site Study abroad program**

Study abroad programs were planned and operated as on-site events

Most of the degree-seeking students from overseas to Japanese universities were from China and Korea.

Top Global University Project (2014-2023) aims internationalization of Japanese universities. It made international student exchange more active.



(2) Higher Education during the pandemic

➤ Online class

In 2020 most courses were conducted online. In 2021 many universities try to offer in-person or hybrid classes.

Some international students take online courses from their countries since they cannot enter in Japan.

➤ Online Study Abroad Program

Some universities provides online programs for the partner universities' students.

➤ The pros and Cons of online class and online study abroad programs from Japanese students' view (From the survey of Meiji University 2020-2021)

	Pros	Cons
Online classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• repeat /skip the recorded contents• more comprehensible• less stressful	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• more assignments• more concentration• less / no opportunity for socializing
Online study abroad programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• less expensive• more flexible schedule• safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• difficult to immerse life and culture



(3) Higher Education for the future

- **Combination of online module and on-site module on study abroad programs**
We can deliver on-site study abroad programs together with online modules as a preparation or follow-up.

- **Online joint classes or courses together with international partner universities**
We can seek further possibilities to utilize online learning
 - in undergraduate studies (such as joint programs for cross-cultural understanding etc.)
 - in graduate studies (credit transfer and joint thesis advising etc.)

- **New horizons on international educational collaboration**
We can focus on lesser developed countries and regions on virtual exchange programs.

