Japan Immersion

Summary of Japan Itinerary
Third largest in the world by nominal GDP, the Japanese economy benefits from political and social stability and efficiently run institutions. Japan is a member of the G7 and it is the world's third largest automobile manufacturing country and has the largest electronic goods industry. Japan is often ranked among the world's most innovative countries, leading several measures of global patent filings. Facing increasing competition from China and South Korea, manufacturing in Japan today now focuses primarily on high-tech and precision goods, such as optical instruments, hybrid vehicles, and robotics.

Japanese business culture is different than that of the US or Europe, but it is not any more risky to do business in Japan than elsewhere in the world. In fact, certain aspects of Japan's business culture, especially the very stable long-term relationships resulting from the conservative Japanese sense of loyalty to trusted partners, can be very beneficial for those foreign companies that understand how to swim with the cultural tide as opposed to vainly struggling against it.

While Japan is well-advanced in many science, medical, and technology fields, it is also well known for preserving and including its history and traditions in its business culture at the grass root level. During this business immersion, students will also be able to experience both the modern and traditional aspects of Japan.

Trip elements

- Faculty leaders: Dr. Sharad Asthana and Ms. Mimi Yu
- Immersion dates: June 2018
- Cities visited: Tokyo and Kyoto
- 18 students to be accepted
- Students will stay in 3-star hotels or better, two to a room
- Buffet breakfast served every morning at the hotel; lunch or dinner will also be provided by the program (typically at a local Japanese restaurant)
- In-country travel will be by chartered bus and public transportation (bus, subway, and bullet-train)


Industry/Business exposure: The business visits for this immersion are still being coordinated. Due to the nature of the Japanese economy and the locations in our travel schedule, students can expect to visit companies in the high-tech and service industries.

Important visits: To be announced; possible visits include the U.S. Embassy, local government offices and in Tokyo and Kyoto.
Cultural exposure (subject to change): The group will visit most famous landmarks in and near Tokyo, including the Tsukiji Fish Market, Tokyo Sky Tree, Meiji Shrine, Ghibli Museum, and Yokohama. The group will also visit famous landmarks in the ancient capital of Kyoto, including the world famous Gion geisha district, Golden Pavilion, Royoanji Temple, Nijo Imperial Palace, Monkey Park, Himeji Castle (outside of Kyoto) and more.