

EAI Curriculum Rules

1. The core curriculum for EAI consists of four primary courses:

JST 301 Japan, Asia, and the West

FA 320 History of Japanese Arts and Aesthetics

PHIL 370 Japanese Religion and Philosophy

JPN 101-103 Elementary Japanese Language and Culture

It should be noted that JST 301 is the gateway course to the EAI program. Each course carries three semester hours of credit. The EAI program also offers a series of required field trips.

2. For purposes of curriculum and campus life, Biola exchange students are part of EAI and come under these regulations.
3. In order to leave time and energy for personal exploration of Japan outside the campus, and recognizing the emotional energy required of international students during their first semester or year in Japan, the East Asia Institute recommends that the student not take more than twelve semester hours of credit during the fall semester. However, the set program fee covers up to fifteen semester hours of credit, so the student can add, at no extra charge, from one to three additional hours of course work if desired or needed.
4. Students are expected to register for the four primary courses, but they may ask for an exemption for any of the following reasons. Students granted such an exemption are normally expected to take other courses from the curriculum at Tokyo Christian University. Some of the other courses are listed elsewhere in this section of the EAI website. The reasons are:
 1. The student has already taken an equivalent course elsewhere.
 2. The student needs a different course to meet requirements (major, minor, general education, distribution, etc.) at the student's home school, or to prepare for graduation, or for application to graduate school, or to meet career/professional needs.
5. It is the student's responsibility to discuss the selection of courses with the proper authority/advisor at the home university.
6. Students who wish an exemption should make their request in one of two ways. First, a place on the application form is provided. Second, it is possible to request an exemption at a later time by emailing the EAI office(eai@tci.ac.jp). In requesting the exemption, the student should also indicate the desired substitute course(s). It is possible later to change the request for an exemption or to change the choice of substitute courses.
7. The following rules apply:
 1. A request to take one extra course (carrying one to three hours of credit) beyond the standard twelve will be granted automatically, provided that the student's previous academic record is strong and provided that the student explicitly recognizes that this may limit the time available for first-hand exploration of Japan outside the campus.
 2. A request to replace one of the four core courses in the EAI curriculum with a different course will normally be granted provided that the student provides an adequate reason (as listed above).

3. A request to replace two of the four core courses will be granted only in unusual cases. The student must provide a clear explanation of its necessity.
 4. EAI students will not be allowed to replace more than two of the primary EAI courses with other courses.
8. It should be noted that the EAI primary courses and the field trips are offered only during the fall semester of each year. Visiting students are welcome to attend TCU during other terms. During the other terms, TCU always offers enough courses using English as the medium of instruction to make a full course load (as required to obtain a student visa from the Japanese government), but the range of courses may be restricted. Students interested in attending TCU other than in the fall term should check with the EAI office(eai@tci.ac.jp) to find out the courses to be offered at the time the student wishes to attend TCU.
9. These rules concerning the EAI curriculum and choice of courses apply to all visiting, English-speaking international students who have another "home" university to which they plan to return and who attend TCU as full-time students. These rules do not apply to people who are not visiting from another university nor to those people who are not full-time students at TCU. Nor do they apply to visiting Japanese students or to others fluent in the Japanese language.