



Hokusei Gakuen Guide

Shine like stars in a dark world



Hokusei Gakuen
学校法人 北星学園

Hokusei Gakuen School System
<https://houjin.hokusei.ac.jp/>





Founded in 1887

Hokusei Gakuen and Lilac

It is believed that the plant lilac, which has now become a symbol of Sapporo, was introduced when Sarah C. Smith, the founder of Hokusei Gakuen, brought seedlings from her homeland in the United States in 1890.

In 1960, lilac was chosen as the Tree of Sapporo by a citizen vote. The deep affection that Sapporo's citizens have for lilac is a great honor for Hokusei Gakuen and serves as a symbol of the strong connection between the school and the city.



Sarah C. Smith
Hokusei Gakuen Founder

Sarah C. Smith

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History of Hokusei Gakuen

- 1851 American Missionary Sarah C. Smith was born (March 24)
- 1887 Smith School opened at Kita 1 Nishi 6, Sapporo, by Sarah C. Smith (January 15)
- 1889 Officially recognized as Smith Girls' School
- 1894 Relocated to Kita 4 Nishi 1, Sapporo, and renamed Hokusei Girls' School
- 1912 25th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1917 30th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1926 Bible Studies, English Studies, and Home Economics Majors established
- 1927 40th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1929 New school building constructed and relocated to Minami 5 Nishi 17, Sapporo (later renumbered as Minami 4 Nishi 17)
- 1932 45th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1935 Early Childhood Education Major established
- 1937 50th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1943 Renamed Hokusei Girls' High School
- 1947 Sarah C. Smith passed away (February 18)
60th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1948 Higher Education Department established
- 1949 Renamed Hokusei Gakuen Junior High School and High School
- 1951 Reorganized into Hokusei Gakuen School System
Hokusei Gakuen Women's Junior College (English Department) established.
- 1954 Home Economics Department established in the Women's Junior College
- 1955 Kindergarten Teacher Training Institute affiliated with the Junior College established
- 1962 Hokusei Gakuen University established (School of Literature (Department of English/Department of Social Welfare)).
Renamed Hokusei Gakuen Girls' Junior High School and Girls' High School
Hokusei Gakuen Boys' High School established
75th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1964 University relocated to its current location in Oyachi, Atsubetsu-ku
- 1965 School of Economics (Department of Economics) established at the University
Hokusei Gakuen Yoichi High School established
- 1967 Kindergarten Teacher Training Institute affiliated with the Junior College renamed Women's Junior College School of Early Childhood Education
- 1969 Music Department established at the Girls' High School.
- 1970 English Department established at the Girls' High School.



School building at Kita 4-jo Nishi 1-chome (1894)



School building at Minami 5-jo Nishi 17-chome (1929)



Postcard of the school building at Minami 5-jo (1962)

- 1977 90th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1978 Junior College School of Early Childhood Education renamed Kindergarten Teacher and Nursery Teacher Training Institute
- 1980 The English Department and the Home Economics Department at the Women's Junior College renamed to Department of English and Department of Home Economics, respectively
Boys' High School relocated to Shimonoppo, Atsubetsu-ku
- 1987 Department of Management Information established in the School of Economics at the University
Boys' High School renamed Shin-Sapporo High School and transitioned to a coeducation school
100th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 1988 Kindergarten Teacher and Nursery Teacher Training Institute abolished
- 1989 Home Economics Department at the Junior College renamed Department of Life Sciences
- 1992 Graduate School (Graduate School of Literature) established at the University
- 1996 School of Social Welfare (Department of Social Policy, Department of Social Work, Department of Psychology for Well-being) established at the University
- 1997 110th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 2000 Graduate School of Social Welfare established
- 2001 Graduate School of Economics established
- 2002 Department of Psychology and Applied Communication established in the School of Humanities at the University, and Department of Law and Economics in the School of Economics
Hokusei Gakuen Women's Junior College renamed Hokusei Gakuen University Junior College and transitioned to a coeducation college
Department of Life Sciences of the Junior College renamed Department of Life and Creative Sciences
Hokusei Gakuen Shin-Sapporo High School renamed Hokusei Gakuen University High School
- 2007 120th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 2017 130th anniversary commemorative ceremony held
- 2023 Department of Social Welfare established in the School of Social Welfare at the University
Department of Psychology for Well-being renamed Department of Psychology



Exterior view of the university chapel (1965)



Aerial photograph of the university with undeveloped grounds (1977)



Hokusei Gakuen

学校法人 北星学園

Shine like stars in a dark world

Philippians 2:15




This is the Bible verse from which Hokusei Gakuen derives its name. It is said that Inazo Nitobe recommended it, and Sarah C. Smith was greatly pleased. Just as the name signifies, we hope that the education at our institution, which aims to exude light, will continue to move forward, both in name and substance under God's abundant blessings.

The Founding Spirit of Hokusei Gakuen

Education based on Christianity

The Hokusei Gakuen School System celebrated its 130th anniversary in 2017 since its founding by American missionary Sarah C. Smith as Smith School. As an educator, Smith was deeply passionate about the education of Japanese women at the time. As a missionary, she based her educational philosophy on Christianity, aiming to provide “knowledge that enables individuals to fulfill a multitude of duties and responsibilities in real life, and the cultivation of character through religious and spiritual influence.” Under this guiding principle, many students have learned to serve God and love others before stepping into the world.

Even today, this goal remains unchanged as the educational policy of Hokusei Gakuen, carrying forward the founding spirit of the institution.

Hokusei Gakuen's Vision and Goals	<p>To clarify the vision for our future plans, we have formulated the Hokusei Gakuen School System Mid-to-Long-Term Plan – Grand Design 2020 – 2040.</p> <p>■ Hokusei Gakuen School System Mid-to-Long-Term Plan – Grand Design 2020 – 2040 https://houjin.hokusei.ac.jp/about/grand-design/</p>	
Hokusei Gakuen's Initiatives	<p>In accordance with Article 47 of the Private Schools Act, we prepare and publicly disclose an annual business report. We also independently create and publish a business plan</p> <p>■ Business Plans & Reports (Financial Information, etc.) https://houjin.hokusei.ac.jp/about/finance/</p>	
To Be a Trusted Incorporated Educational Institution	<p>We have established a Governance Code as a framework for autonomous initiatives based on the principles of public interest and independence.</p> <p>■ Governance Code https://houjin.hokusei.ac.jp/disclosure/governance_code/</p>	

Message



FURUKAWA,
Takayasu
Chairperson,
Hokusei Gakuen

Hokusei Gakuen traces its origins back to Smith Girls' School, founded in 1887 by American missionary Sarah C. Smith. At a time when girls' education was often overlooked, Smith introduced a fresh and innovative approach to the educational landscape. Inspired by her vision and dedication, Inazo Nitobe and other faculty members of Sapporo Agricultural College (today's Hokkaido University) wholeheartedly supported her efforts, and the school's high academic standards earned widespread recognition. Ever since her educational philosophy has been upheld by her successors, evolving to meet the changing needs of the times and society, eventually expanding to include higher education and academic divisions. The school's name reflects the biblical ideal: "Shine like stars in a dark world" (Philippians 2:15). Today, Hokusei Gakuen graduates continue to thrive in various fields across Japan and around the world.



NAKAMURA, Kazuhiko
President
Hokusei Gakuen University
Hokusei Gakuen University
Junior College



Karen. E. Bessin
Principal
Hokusei Gakuen Girls'
Junior High School and
Girls' High School

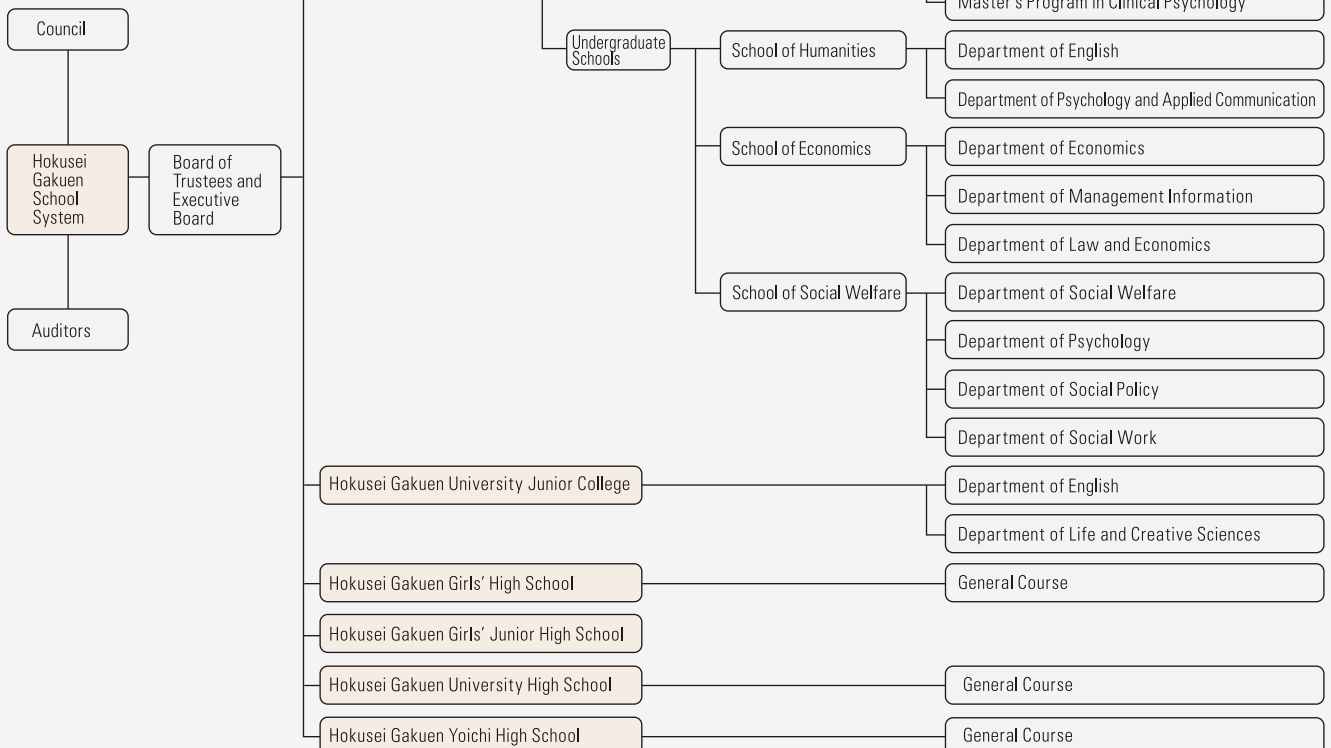


IMAJO, Isaku
Principal
Hokusei Gakuen University
High School



IMAHORI, Hiroshi
Principal
Hokusei Gakuen Yoichi
High School

Hokusei Gakuen Organization



Hokusei Gakuen University

Nurturing Individuals with Rich Humanity and a Global Perspective

The founding spirit of Hokusei Gakuen University is “character education based on Christian principles.” Our mission is to nurture individuals with a well-rounded sense of humanity, social awareness, and an international perspective. Our education, which emphasizes both intellectual development and character formation, has produced many outstanding graduates who have made significant contributions to society, earning widespread recognition and appreciation.



Hokusei Gakuen
University



<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/>



Hokusei Gakuen University and Hokusei Gakuen University Junior College Campus

Department of English, School of Humanities

The Department of English aims to cultivate specialists with advanced English proficiency and communication skills who can serve as cultural bridges in today's complex international society. In the first and second years, students take courses conducted entirely in English by professors with extensive international experience. These courses focus on developing fundamental English proficiency, including oral communication skills and written expression ability. From the second year onward, students can also take specialized courses in areas such as interpretation and translation between Japanese and English. From the third year onward, students specialize in one of the following three courses: the Language & Culture course, in which students explore literature and culture from an objective perspective while learning about the diverse and profound English expressions and cultural backgrounds as found in British and American literary texts; the Language & Communication course, in which students delve into the structure of languages, language acquisition processes, and the role of language in society, education, and interpersonal communication, with English as the main focus; and the Global Studies course, in which students develop global knowledge, critical thinking skills, and intercultural communication abilities from an international perspective based on studies in multiculturalism and international relations.

<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/english/>



Department of Psychology and Applied Communication, School of Humanities

The Department of Psychology and Applied Communication focuses on integrating scientific knowledge and practical experience, aiming to educate individuals who can create new value in local and global communities through enriched human communication. To achieve this fusion of science and practice, the curriculum incorporates extensive field training. In their second year, students are divided into educational, industrial, fieldwork, and community courses for practical onsite training. To promote independent and flexible learning, a full-flex system is introduced in the latter half of the third year, when students have only one compulsory course. This system allows students to design and engage in self-directed domestic or international activities for up to seven months. Students are also given the freedom to focus on either a human-science approach or a regional/international approach, with diverse options for graduation research. The program also emphasizes language as a crucial communication tool, providing training in writing and speaking skills to enhance self-expression. Students can also earn academic credits for their achievements in English proficiency tests and other language certifications.

<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/psycom/>



Department of Economics, School of Economics

Based on its motto of “Experience the Fascination of Knowledge, Discover Your Ideal Self, and Become a Leader in Society,” the Department of Economics aims to cultivate well-rounded generalists who look at society from an economic perspective and have acquired economic thinking as an insight that can be applied throughout their lives. Students learn to apply economic thinking smoothly by combining basic and advanced subjects from two specialized courses: the Applied Economics course, which is based on microeconomics, macroeconomics, and economic statistics; and the Socio-Economic course, which is grounded in social economics, economic history, and contemporary capitalism studies. Students can also broaden their global perspective by taking subjects from the Global Society course, which covers topics such as international relations and global society studies. The program also emphasizes cutting-edge fields such as environmental economics, cultural economics, and fair trade. It offers subjects in collaboration with society, including Media and Society and Companies in Hokkaido. For students pursuing teaching certifications, the department provides specialized subjects necessary to obtain licenses to teach junior high school social studies and high school geography, history, and civics. In the first-year Newspaper Utilization subject, students study newspapers daily throughout the year to enhance their collective social information literacy.



<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/econ/>

Department of Management Information, School of Economics

The wave of innovation driven by digital technology is accelerating the spread of online businesses, as seen in internet-based transactions and payments, fundamentally transforming corporate management. As businesses continue to evolve and expand, there is an increasing demand for analytical skills in management and accounting information, as well as proficiency in utilizing information systems. To address these needs, the Department of Management Information offers a structured curriculum that enables students to progress step by step. The curriculum consists of four categories of specialized subjects: Basics for Specialized Departmental classes, Introduction to Specialized Departmental classes, Practical Skills for Specialized Departmental classes, and Specialized Departmental classes. For example, in the Practical Skills for Specialized Departmental Course, students cultivate information literacy and business application skills. In the exercise subjects, small-group learning is emphasized to deepen students' understanding of corporate management, accounting theory, and information systems technologies, ensuring they acquire the knowledge and skills to become immediately effective professionals in the workforce. The teacher-training course offers a curriculum model that allows students to obtain credits in commerce and information simultaneously, preparing them for careers in education.



<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/dmi/>

Department of Law and Economics, School of Economics

Japan's economic system and legal framework are undergoing significant transformations due to globalization, societal diversification, and advancements in information technology. Against this evolving landscape, the urgent task is to rebuild a fair and efficient society based on the rule of law. Achieving such a society requires professionals with both specialized economic knowledge—validated through empirical research—and legal expertise grounded in a strong legal mindset. The Department of Law and Economics aims to equip students with practical skills that will enable them to thrive in society, founded on a solid understanding of both economics and law. To achieve this goal, the department provides an educational curriculum that enables students to acquire advanced expertise in economics and law, which is essential for career development in the professional world. The department offers small-group learning opportunities, including special courses in various basic subjects (first year) to help students develop the fundamental skills necessary for university-level learning, as well as seminar-type discussion groups (second to fourth years), which provide an in-depth exploration of economics and law as academic disciplines. As tools to guide students in their coursework, a course system and study planning framework have been implemented.



<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/ECLA/>

Department of Social Welfare, School of Social Welfare

Modern society is increasingly becoming an isolated society where human connections are weakening. Simultaneously, challenges such as a low birth rate, an aging population, and depopulation are exacerbating the complexity, diversity, and severity of social issues. Addressing these problems requires an integrated perspective that connects individuals, communities, and society while adopting a professional and multidisciplinary approach in various fields. Collaboration and cooperation with relevant individuals and organizations are also essential. To meet these needs, the Department of Social Welfare provides an education that centers on social welfare studies while incorporating interdisciplinary perspectives. The curriculum focuses on developing six key competencies: communication skills, analytical skills, design thinking, support skills, planning and implementation skills, and research skills. By applying these competencies, the program prepares students to engage with contemporary social issues, contribute to the building of an inclusive society that embraces diversity, and promote community development and revitalization. To this end, the department has established three pillars of learning: social work, community design, and clinical education, and has prepared a curriculum that not only allows students to systematically build up their courses according to their own interests, but also to select courses across disciplines. Thus, the specialized, comprehensive, and interdisciplinary study of social welfare enables students to choose a wide range of post-graduate career paths, including welfare professionals (social workers, mental health workers, etc.), school teachers, administrative agents (national and local), general companies, public service corporations and organizations, and advancing to graduate school.



<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/social-welfare/>

Department of Psychology, School of Social Welfare

In the face of various societal challenges such as the pandemic and prolonged economic downturns, there is a growing awareness of mental health issues. In the Department of Psychology, where students study a wide variety of types of psychology in a comprehensive manner, it is important to organically link the two important wheels of psychology, namely, psychology as a science (fundamentals) and addressing problems of the mind (applications). The Department of Psychology aims to cultivate individuals who possess specialized knowledge and skills grounded in scientific psychological research. Students develop a psychological mindset, characterized by sensitivity and the ability to actively engage with others, as well as the practical skills and human qualities necessary to make a contribution to their local communities. To achieve this goal, the curriculum of the Department of Psychology not only provides instruction in fundamental psychological theories, such as cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, social psychology, and clinical psychology, but also offers subjects designed to foster flexible and open thinking, as well as comprehensive decision-making skills. These subjects emphasize objective psychological exploration through experiments and research, experiential learning to develop interpersonal support skills, such as psychological assessment and psychological support, and graduation research projects tailored to students' individual interests and passions.



<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/psy/>

Research Student Program

For those who wish to continue their studies under the guidance of a faculty advisor after graduating from the university or junior college, the one-year Research Student Program is available.

Credited Auditor Program

For individuals who are not enrolled as regular students at the university, but who wish to audit specific courses, the Credited Auditor Program is available. Admission is granted upon selection and approval as a credited auditor.

Hokusei Gakuen University Graduate School

Pursuing Specialization in a Well-Equipped Research Environment

The Graduate School is composed of three divisions: the Graduate School of Literature, the Graduate School of Economics, and the Graduate School of Social Welfare. The Graduate School of Literature offers a Master's Program in Language, Culture, and Communication, while the Graduate School of Economics provides the Master's Program in Economics. The Graduate School of Social Welfare includes both Master's and Doctoral Programs in Social Welfare as well as the Master's Program in Clinical Psychology. Each program offers highly specialized and advanced education and research opportunities in their respective fields.



Hokusei Gakuen
University
Graduate School



https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/graduate_college/

Master's Program in Language, Culture, and Communication, Graduate School of Literature

The rapid advancement of globalization and digitalization has significantly increased interactions among individuals, groups, and organizations with diverse languages and cultures. As a result, achieving mutual understanding and reaching agreements have become more complex and challenging than ever before. In this evolving landscape, there is a growing demand for individuals who possess more than just linguistic proficiency and negotiation skills. Professionals are now expected to have a deep understanding of the historical, social, and economic backgrounds of the languages and cultures they engage with, along with a strong interest in and empathy for human interactions. The Master's Program in Language, Culture, and Communication aims to nurture individuals with such abilities, and offers highly specialized courses in the three areas of literature and culture studies, English education and communication studies, and human relations studies. A long-term study system is also available, allowing working professionals and other non-traditional students to extend their studies beyond two years to accommodate their individual needs.



Master's Program in Economics, Graduate School of Economics

In today's globalized world, the challenges facing the Japanese economy and the issues arising from changes in corporate management environments are increasingly interconnected. Addressing these challenges requires highly skilled researchers capable of analyzing and evaluating economic phenomena and corporate management from multiple perspectives. The Master's Program in Economics is designed to cultivate experts and specialized professionals with advanced research capabilities. To this end, the program offers subjects not only in economics but also in business administration to enable students to conduct advanced research. For exceptional students who wish to pursue graduate studies, a pre-admission course enrollment system allows them to take graduate-level courses before officially entering the program. A fast-track graduation system also enables students with outstanding academic achievements to earn their degree in just one year. For working professionals and other non-traditional students, a long-term study system allows them to extend their studies beyond the standard two-year period to accommodate their individual needs.



Master's and Doctoral Programs in Social Welfare / Master's Program in Clinical Psychology, Graduate School of Social Welfare

In Japan, the rapid pace at which the birth rate is decreasing and the population is aging has intensified challenges related to the social security and welfare systems, necessitating solutions not only at the policy and institutional levels, but also at the practical level. Simultaneously, changes in social systems and diversification of values are reshaping human relationships, creating a growing need for solutions to various psychosocial issues in different contexts. In response to these societal demands, the Graduate School offers two specialized majors: Social Welfare and Clinical Psychology, as well as a doctoral program that allows those who have completed a master's degree to continue their studies, responding to the demands of society. The Master's Program in Social Welfare aims to develop experts and academic researchers with advanced knowledge in social welfare studies, as well as the ability to conduct research and analysis in the field. The Master's Program in Clinical Psychology is designed to train academic researchers and highly specialized mental health professionals with advanced specialized knowledge in psychology and research as well as analytical skills. The Doctoral Program in Social Welfare further focuses on fostering highly specialized professionals, educators, and researchers. The Master's Program in Social Welfare offers certified social worker training courses, while the Master's Program in Clinical Psychology includes a curriculum aligned with the requirements for the examinations for certified psychologists. The Master's programs offer a long-term study system, allowing students to extend their studies beyond the standard two-year duration.



Centers

Smith Mission Center

At Hokusei Gakuen University, which was founded on Christian (Protestant) principles, students, faculty, and staff work together to uphold and practically apply this founding guideline. The university's activities are based on four core pillars: (1) understanding Christianity, (2) volunteerism, (3) the pursuit of peace, and (4) collaboration with the local community.



Smith Mission Center ▲
<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/smc/>

Career Planning Center

The Employment Support Office serves as the point of contact for employment and career support. It also collaborates with seminar instructors from each school and department to advise students. The Employment Support Office also has a resource section equipped with various materials related to employment, such as guidebooks, job listings, and pamphlets.



Career Planning Center ▲
https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/carrer/career_center/

International Education & Language Center

This center was established to promote educational and research exchanges with foreign universities and academic research institutions, while enhancing students' foreign language proficiency and international understanding. So far, we have conducted exchange programs with partner institutions in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Spain, Switzerland, and Indonesia, facilitating exchanges of approximately 30 outgoing and 60 incoming students per year.



International Education & Language Center ▲
https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/international/inter_center/

Student Learning Support Center

The Learning Commons is operated as a facility for individual and collaborative student learning, along with the implementation of various learning support programs. The Student Learning Support Desk inside the facility is staffed by faculty and other staff members, as well as Hokusei Peer Supporters (current student staff), making it easy for students to seek advice and ask questions.



Learning Commons ▲
https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/activity/learning_commons/

Community Cooperation Center

As a central hub for community engagement, the center aims to strengthen cooperation and exchanges with local residents, municipalities, and other organizations, contributing to regional development and the advancement of both local and global communities. To also support skill development of students and the general public, we offer a variety of courses through Hokusei Open University



Hokusei Open University ▲
<https://www.open.hokusei.ac.jp/>

Accessibility Support Office

Campus social workers and support staff are always available to provide consultation of students with disabilities or those in need of special support. We work together to determine appropriate support measures based on reasonable accommodations, striving to create a barrier-free student life.



Accessibility Support Office ▲
https://cgw.hokusei.ac.jp/accessibility_room/

Student Counseling Center

Professional counselors (clinical psychologists) are available to provide support. They offer individual consultations to help students navigate uncertainties and concerns encountered in various aspects of student life, working together to find solutions and overcome challenges.



Student Counseling Center ▲
<https://cgw.hokusei.ac.jp/support/>

Center for Practice and Research of Clinical Psychology (Hokusei Psychological Counseling Room)

With the goal of improving the mental health of the local community, faculty members and part-time counselors with professional psychological qualifications as well as graduate students specializing in clinical psychology provide consultations on various mental health concerns of local residents.



Hokusei Psychological Counseling Room ▲
<https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/activity/consultation/>

IT Systems Center

The center promotes the digitalization of educational, research, and administrative operations while managing and maintaining the university's IT infrastructure. It also provides user support and handles matters related to information security.



IT Systems Center ▲
<https://cgw.hokusei.ac.jp/ipc/>

Teacher Education Center

The center aims to equip students aspiring to become school teachers or obtain a teaching license with the necessary mindset, knowledge, and skills required for the profession. It ensures that students can obtain their teaching license upon graduation. To achieve this, the center provides strong support through university faculty assistance and additional resources at the Teacher Education Support Office.



Teacher Education Center ▲
https://cgw.hokusei.ac.jp/teach_course/

Faculty Research Center

The center aims to promote and enhance the academic research activities of faculty members while improving the overall research standards. It serves as a hub for project-based research at the university and also contributes to the local community by accepting research commissions from external organizations.



Admissions Center

The center primarily focuses on planning recruitment activities and entrance examinations. It conducts a wide range of admissions outreach activities, including open campus events, academic counseling sessions, and university information sessions, to guide prospective students from the application process to enrollment.



Enriched Learning Environment

■ International Lounge / NORTH STAR CAFE Sarah

This lounge serves as a hub for multicultural exchanges at Hokusei Gakuen University. To promote interaction between international and local students, student organizations host international exchange events every month. The lounge also offers a weekly English conversation session with native-speaking faculty members, providing opportunities for students to improve their language skills.



■ Learning Commons

This is a learning space designed for students and serves as a place of encounters and the expression of creativity among students. It is designed to foster active learning, allowing students to engage in discussions, work on group projects, and adapt to various learning styles.



■ Library

The library houses approximately 630,000 books and is operated to support the learning and research activities of students and faculty. It offers online catalog search capabilities, allowing users to explore its collection and access academic journal articles. As part of its community outreach efforts, the library is also open to high school students and the general public aged 18 and older.

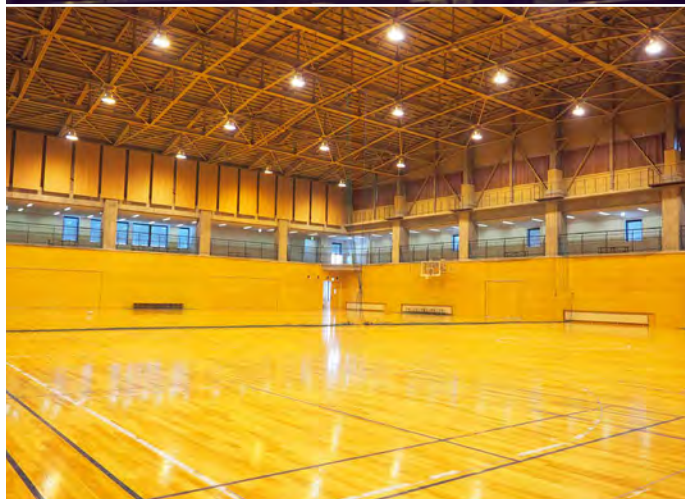


■ Retreat House and International Housing Kirari

This facility serves as a lodging house, meeting hall, and international exchange center. It is equipped with accommodation rooms, training rooms, a dining hall, shower rooms, and a barbecue area. The facility can be used for a variety of purposes, including club activities, seminar retreats, stays for international exchange faculty and visiting students, and group study sessions.

■ Chapel

Officially named “Webster Groves Hall,” the chapel hosts various Christian-related events, including Chapel Time (university worship services) from Monday to Friday and Christmas services. It also serves as a venue for graduation ceremonies, concerts, and weddings.



■ Gymnasium

The gymnasium is a four-story facility with three above-ground floors and one basement level. It features an arena, fitness room, and running deck. When not used for classes, students are free to use the facility as a space for maintaining and improving health as well as building physical strength.

■ Student Cafeteria

With 800 seats, this cafeteria-style dining hall allows students to mix and match various menu options. It also has an excellent view, where students can enjoy their meals while overlooking the Teine mountain range, Daiwa House Premist Dome, and the cityscape of Sapporo in a relaxed atmosphere.

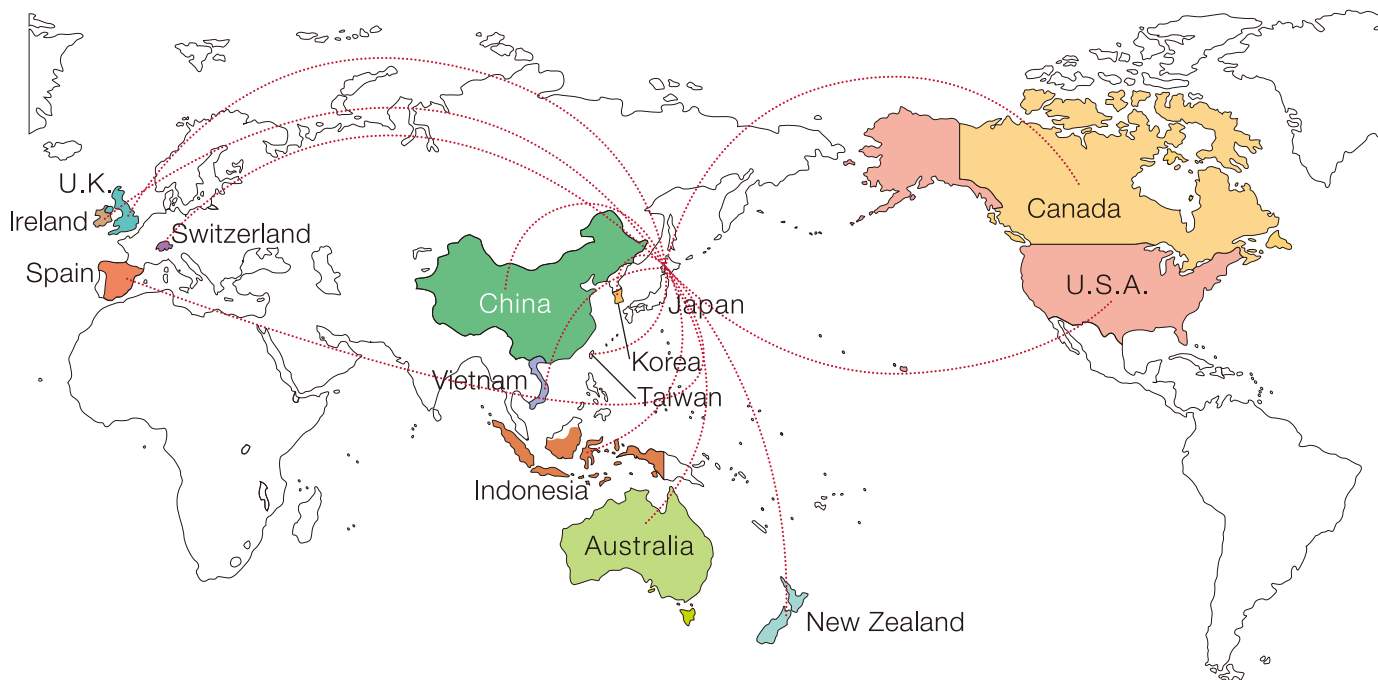


Hokusei Gakuen University Facilities are 100% Earthquake-Resistant.

The earthquake resistance rate refers to the ratio of buildings (by area) designed according to the new seismic standards introduced in 1981, as well as buildings constructed before that year that have undergone seismic assessments and either meet seismic performance requirements or have been retrofitted for earthquake resistance, divided by the total building area.

International Education & Language Center

Hokusei Gakuen university established the International Education & Language Center to promote exchanges in education and research with overseas universities, as well as to improve the foreign-language skills and enhance the international understanding of our students.



Countries of partner universities: USA, UK, Canada, Korea, China, Taiwan, Spain, Switzerland, Indonesia, Ireland, Vietnam



Since its founding, Hokusei Gakuen University has continuously tried to promote international exchange and understanding as one of its educational principles. In order to foster students' international perspective, the university offers many classes taught by foreign instructors; and to facilitate overseas exchanges, the university has established partner school relationships with a number of universities and colleges abroad. The overseas study exchange programs include a credit transfer system and a tuition waiver system.

As of May 2021, Hokusei has exchange programs with partner schools in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, South Korea, China, Taiwan, Spain, Switzerland, and Indonesia. The university annually sends approximately Hokusei 30 students overseas to partner schools, and it hosts roughly 60 students from those partner schools. Through these programs, Hokusei strives to provide opportunities for students to learn new languages and experience different cultures.

The Department of English of Hokusei Gakuen University Junior College has a four-month-long overseas education program in which approximately 20 Hokusei students study at universities in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia every year.



Partner Institutions and Total Number of Exchanges to Date (As of May 1, 2025)

Student exchange longer than one semester

School Name (Year of Exchange)	Students received	Students sent
Lewis & Clark College (1965-)	406	154
Buena Vista University (1988-)	71	117
Manchester University (former BCA partner school) (2014-)	24	55
Juniata College (2014-)	40	41
BCA Study Abroad (1988-2013)	271	154
St. Olaf College (2014-2024)	7	1
University of Hawai'i Maui College (2019-)	0	0
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2019-)	2	1
St. Thomas University (2001-)	20	45
Algoma University (2011-2024)	0	3
Liverpool John Moores University (1999-2013)	29	24
Regent's University (2012-2024)	7	3
University of Central Lancashire (2012-)	20	5
San Pablo University (2012-)	7	6
Nabrija University (2012-2024)	0	0
Geneva Business of School (2013-)	14	4
Dalian University of Foreign Languages (1988-)	20 <40>	80
The Catholic University of Korea (2001-)	35 <233>	33
Tunghai University (2004-)	46	25
Maranatha Christian University (2013-)	30	7
Total	1049 <265>	758



Lewis & Clark College



Buena Vista University



Manchester University



Juniata College



University of Hawai'i Maui College



University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee



St. Thomas University



University of Central Lancashire



San Pablo University



Geneva Business of School



Dalian University of Foreign Languages



The Catholic University of Korea



Tunghai University

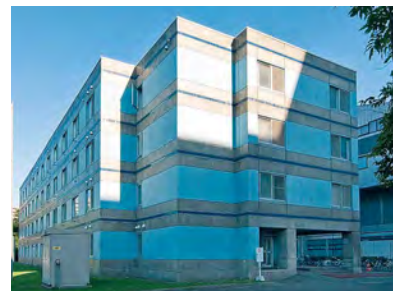


Maranatha Christian University

The lower figure in parentheses for hosted students from Dalian University of Foreign Language shows the number of trainees.
The lower figure in parentheses for hosted students from the Catholic University of Korea shows the number on short-term programs.

Facilities

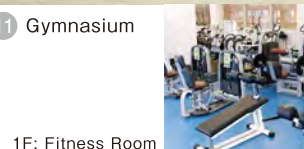
Total Land Area	112,726 m ²
Total Building Area	58,671 m ²
① Building A	13,671 m ²
1F: Education Support Office Student Support Office, Accessibility Support Office	
② Building B	6,025 m ²
1F: Admissions Office / Employment Support Office	
2F: Smith Mission Center, Chaplain's Office Information Systems Office	
③ Building C	7,489 m ²
1F: 50th Anniversary Hall, Community Cooperation Office	
3F: President's Office, Vice-President's Office, Deans' Office, Chief Administrative Officer's Office, Planning and Public Relations Office, Institutional Research and Quality Assurance Office, General Affairs Office, Personnel Affairs Office, Financial Affairs Office	
④ Chapel	509 m ²
⑤ Library Building	7,749 m ²
2F: Library Office	
⑥ Center Building	1,359 m ²
1F: NORTH STAR CAFE Sarah, International Lounge, International Education and Language Office	
2F: Learning Commons, Student Learning Support Desk	
⑦ Faculty Office Building 1	4,919 m ²
1F: Center for Practice and Research of Clinical Psychology	
2F: Research Support Office	
⑧ Faculty Office Building 2	2,594 m ²
⑨ College Hall	3,463 m ²
⑩ Student Activities Building	2,516 m ²
⑪ Gymnasium	5,657 m ²
⑫ Retreat House and International Housing kirari	2,178 m ²
● Other Buildings	543 m ²



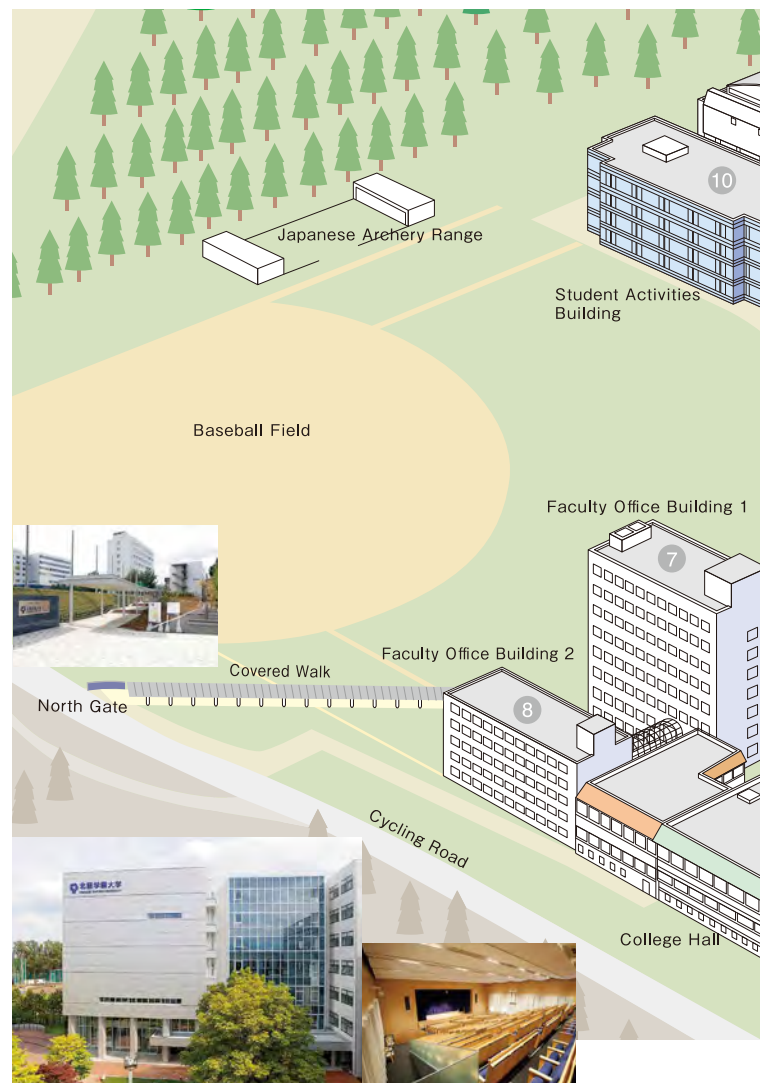
⑩ Student Activities Building



⑪ Gymnasium



1F: Fitness Room



③ Building C

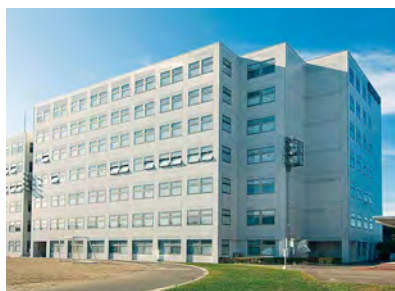
Floors 1 & 2: 50th Anniversary Hall



⑨ College Hall

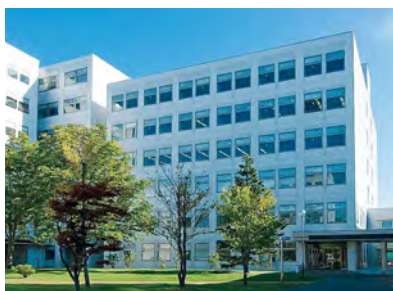


⑦ Faculty Office Building 1



1 Building A

2F: Call classrooms

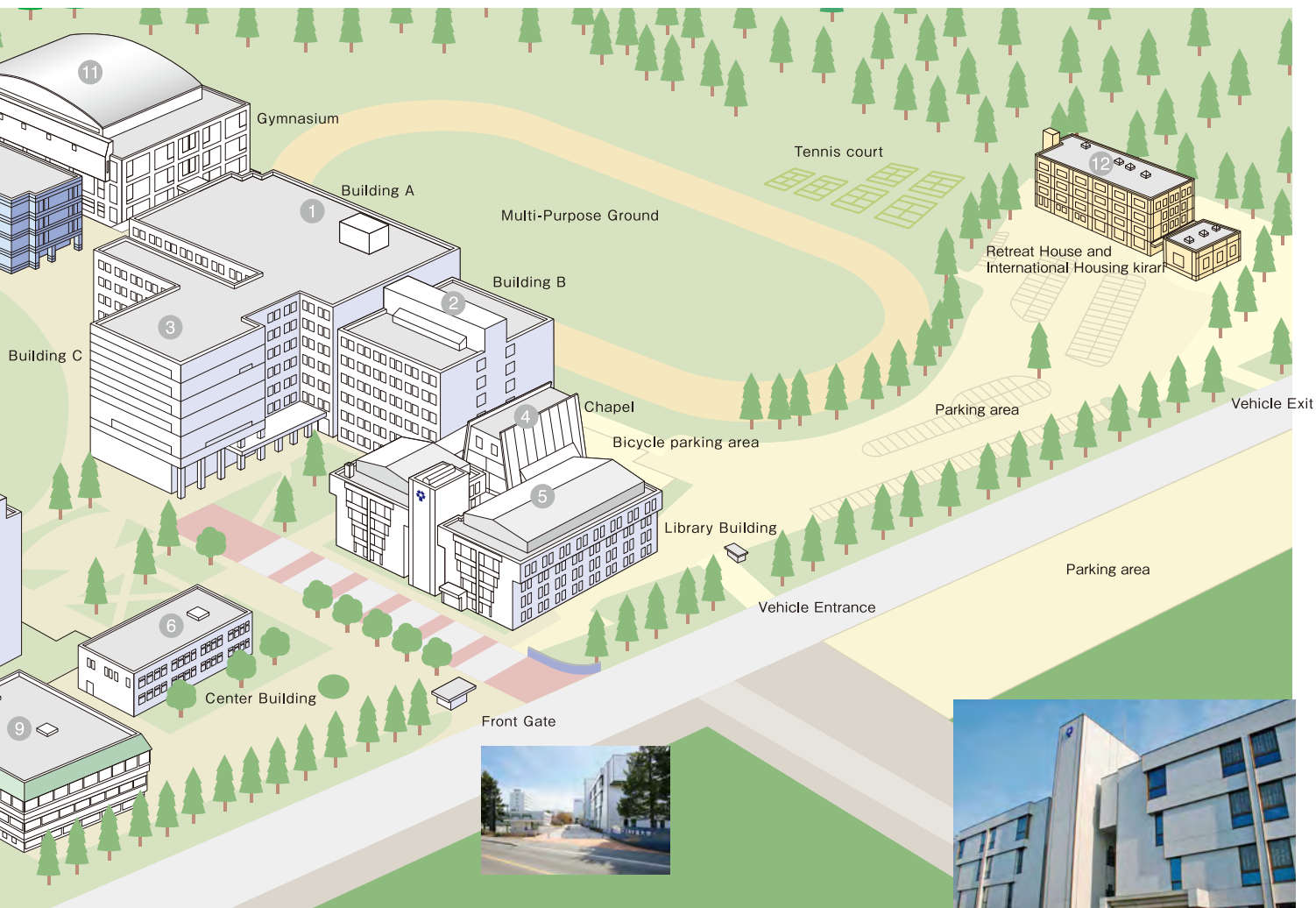


2 Building B

2-3F: Computer classrooms



12 Retreat House and International Housing kirari



5 Library Building



8 Faculty Office Building 2



6 Center Building



4 Chapel

University Data

Admission Capacity and Current enrollment ● As of May 1, 2025

Schools and Departments			Admission Capacity	Current enrollment		
				Total	Male	Female
School of Humanities			934	997	256	741
	Department of English	1st	131	135	35	100
		2nd	113	115	34	81
		3rd	143	144	26	118
		4th	141	179	38	141
		Total	528	573	133	440
	Department of Psychology and Applied Communication	1st	96	100	29	71
		2nd	90	105	30	75
		3rd	110	90	30	60
		4th	110	129	34	95
		Total	406	424	123	301
School of Economics			1,552	1,628	1,047	581
	Department of Economics	1st	161	171	120	51
		2nd	152	160	125	35
		3rd	164	160	116	44
		4th	164	193	128	65
		Total	641	684	489	195
	Department of Management Information	1st	107	119	56	63
		2nd	102	111	52	59
		3rd	112	118	65	53
		4th	114	122	68	54
		Total	435	470	241	229
	Department of Law and Economics	1st	116	116	83	33
		2nd	110	113	69	44
		3rd	120	112	78	34
		4th	130	133	87	46
		Total	476	474	317	157
School of Social Welfare			996	997	343	654
	Department of Social Welfare *Newly established in April 2023	1st	120	128	42	86
		2nd	—	—	—	—
		3rd	—	—	—	—
		4th	—	—	—	—
		Total	120	128	42	86
	Department of Social Policy *Student recruitment ended in April 2023	1st	—	—	—	—
		2nd	85	92	44	48
		3rd	105	79	47	32
		4th	105	117	59	58
		Total	295	288	150	138
	Department of Social Work *Student recruitment ended in April 2023	1st	—	—	—	—
		2nd	85	83	24	59
		3rd	105	93	26	67
		4th	105	113	38	75
		Total	295	289	88	201
	Department of Psychology *Name changed from Department of Welfare Psychology in 2023	1st	70	75	12	63
		2nd	64	63	10	53
		3rd	74	64	17	47
		4th	78	90	24	66
		Total	286	292	63	229
University Total			3,482	3,622	1,646	1,976
Junior College Total			400	293	28	265
	Department of English	1st	120	69	9	60
		2nd	120	95	16	79
		Total	240	164	25	139
	Department of Life and Creative Sciences	1st	80	51	1	50
		2nd	80	78	2	76
Total		160	129	3	126	
University&Junior College Total			3,882	3,915	1,674	2,241

Number of Faculty & Staff ● As of April 1, 2025

President	NAKAMURA, Kazuhiko		Professors	Associate Professors	Assistant Professors	Instructors	Total
Vice-President	IWAMOTO, Ichiro	School of Humanities	21	7	4	1	33
Classes in charge	Constitutional Law, Philosophy of Law	School of Economics	27	11	7	0	45
		School of Social Welfare	27	4	2	1	34
Chaplain	HIDAKA, Yoshihiko	Hokusei Gakuen University Junior College	9	6	1	0	16
Classes in charge	Christian Studies	Total	84	28	14	2	128

*Excluding the President, Vice President, and Chaplain

Names of Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Instructors are listed in alphabetical order.

School of Humanities (33)	
Professors (21)	Field of Research
EGUCHI, Hitoshi	English Language Education, Second Language Acquisition
GOTO, Yasuhiro	Cognitive Science, Experimental Psychology
HASEGAWA, Noriko	Social Psychology
ISHIKAWA, Satoru	Cognitive Science, Experimental Psychology
Joseph W. LUCKETT	Psycholinguistics, English Education
KATAOKA, Toru	Pedagogy
MATSUURA, Toshio	Linguistics, Japanese Linguistics
MINOUCHI, Yutaka	Sports Psychology, Health and Exercise Psychology
NAKACHI, Mie	International and Global Studies
NAKAJIMA, Teruaki	Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Science, Educational Technology
NARUMI, Masae	Social Studies Education, International Understanding Education, Teacher Training
OSHIMA, Sumiko	Medical Sociology, Health Science, Sociology of Science
Peter GRAY	Creative Writing, Bob Dylan's Lyrics
SAKAI, Hiroshi	Media Theory, Journalism Studies, Film Production
SHIMADA, Keiko	Christian Literature, 19th - 20th Century British Literature
SUZUKI, Tsuyoshi	Pedagogy, Educational Thought
TAKAHASHI, Katsuyori	American Theater, Japanese Theater
TAKANO, Shoji	Sociolinguistics, Language Variation and Change, Socio-phonetics, Japanese Linguistics
TANABE, Takehiko	Experimental Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Social Welfare Studies
YAMAMOTO, Noriko	Chinese Classical Literature (Novels), Chinese Language Education, Chinese Science Fiction
YANAGIMACHI, Tomoharu	Applied Linguistics, Interaction Analysis, Second Language Studies, Second Language Education
Associate Professors (7)	
GOMITA, Tai	French Literature
KAKIHARA, Kunika	Educational Psychology, Clinical Psychology, Child Studies
THOMSON, Robert	Media and Communication Theory, Cross-Cultural Psychology, Internet Psychology, Adventure Tourism
SEO, Katsutoshi	Educational Technology, Pedagogy
TAMURA, Sanae	Linguistics
TAN, Andrea	English Linguistics, Foreign Language Education, Sociology of Education
TERABAYASHI, Akira	Environmental Sociology, Community Sociology, Qualitative Research Methods
Assistant Professors (4)	
BELIAKOV, Grigory	Organizational Behavior Psychology, Energy Value Chain
TACHIBANA, Kouta	Early Christian History, New Testament Studies
TAKEBE, Haruki	American Literature
YAMAMOTO, Kota	Sports Psychology, Motor Learning Science, Informatics
Instructors (1)	
YONEYA, Sakura	Cognitive Science, Animal Physiological Chemistry, Physiology, Behavioral Science

University Data

School of Economics (45)	
Professors (27)	Field of Research
ADACHI, Kiyoto	Civil Law, Land Law, Roman Law, History of Western Legal Systems, Disaster Recovery Law, Legal Education, SDGs and Law
AKIMORI, Hiroshi	Finance and Financial Studies
FURUYA, Jiroh	Research on Information Education in the Later Secondary Education
HAGIWARA, Kota	Economic Law, Special Lecture on Advanced Legal Studies
HAN, Moon Hee	Marketing, Consumer Behavior, Embodied Cognition and Consumer Behavior
HAYASHI, Hidehiko	Knowledge Science, Information Processing
HOSHINO, Hiroshi	Sports Science, Nutrition, Health Science
ITAYA, Jun'ichi	Public Economics, Economic Growth Theory, Game Theory
JUNG, Keunju	Area Studies, Asian History, African History
KANEKO, Daisuke	Educational Informatics, Educational Technology, Higher Education
KATSUMURA, Tsutomu	Marxian Economic Theory, Cultural Economics
KAYANO, Tomoatsu	Political Science, International Relations
KONNO, Yugo	Russian and CIS Economies, Value-Added Trade in Emerging and Developing Economies
MASUDA, Tatsuyoshi	Entrepreneurship in Regional Communities, Cultural Economics, Economic Analysis of Legal Systems
MOROOKA, Takuma	Japanese Literature
NAGAYA, Yukiyo	Appraisal in Civil Litigation
NISHIWAKI, Ryuji	Commerce and Marketing
OHARA, Masaaki	Nonprofit Organization Accounting, Value-Added Accounting
OKADA, Misao	Linguistics
SATO, Kazuo	Food and Agricultural Economics, Economic Statistics, Statistical Science, Agricultural Social Structure
SATO, Tomoaki	Computer Architecture, Embedded Devices, Wireless LAN Systems, Network Security, Information Security
SHINODA, Yu	Russian Housing Law, Russian Social Security Law, Russian Land Law, Social System and Law
SHU, Zenji	Game Theory, Statistics
SUZUKI, Katsunori	Business Administration (Management Science), Transportation Planning and National Land Planning (Transportation Planning and Urban Planning), Environmental Impact Assessment and Environmental Policy (Environmental Planning)
URANO, Mariko	Political Science
YAMAYOSHI, Tomohisa	Old Testament Studies, Oriental Studies, Religious Studies
YOSHIOKA, Ryo	Japanese Literature
Associate Professors (11)	
HUANG, Yawen	Business Strategy, International Management
ITO, Masumi	Commercial Law
KUSUKI, Atsushi	History of Economics / Economic Thought
NAM, Hocheol	Finance, Corporate Finance
NOMOTO, Keisuke	Political Science, International Relations, Area Studies
SAWAYA, Yuusuke	Foreign Language Education, Educational Technology
SHIMAUCHI, Takeshi	Sociology, Social Exclusion, Social Inclusion, Danish Social Policy
SHIN, Eunjin	Sociology of Sport
TANAKA, Yukiko	Business Organization Theory, Organizational Environmental Adaptation, Organizational Change, Corporate Restructuring
WATANABE, Minoru	Macroeconomics, Economic Mathematics
YAMAGUCHI, Takayoshi	Resource Conservation, Human Geography
Assistant Professors (7)	
AKIMOTO, Yusuke	Philosophy, History of Social Thought
FUJII, Kohei	Environmental Policy, Environmentally Friendly Society, Recycling-oriented Social System
IMAI, Akihito	Economic Theory, Economic Thought, Theoretical Economics, Economic History, Asian and African History, Philosophy, Ethics
OTA, Senichi	Economic History, Business History
TAKEDA, Tsunenori	Comparative Study of Administrative Procedure Law in Japan and Germany, Community Planning for Disaster Recovery and the Role of Law
TAMAGAWA, Emi	Accounting
YU, Chaowen	Microeconomics, Game Theory

Administration Bureau (124)			
Chief Administrative Officer	Full-time Staff	Contract Staff	Part-time Staff
YAMAMOTO, Kazuhiro	81	16	27

School of Social Welfare (34)	
Professors (27)	Field of Research
ABE, Masahito	Social Security Finance, Health Care Economics, International Comparison of Healthcare Systems (Mainly Japan-U.S. Comparison), Objectives and Methods of Healthcare IT (ICT) Implementation
HATA, Ryosuke	Social Welfare Studies, Care Management
IKEDA, Masako	Social Welfare Studies, Community-based social work
ITO, Shin'ichiro	Social Welfare Studies, Theory of Social Welfare
James E. ALLISON	History of Hokusei Gakuen and Its Founder, Sarah C. Smith
K. Ulrike NENNSTIEL	Gender Studies, Youth Sociology, Family Sociology, Sociology of Education, Sociology of Welfare
KATO, Tomoyuki	Social Jurisprudence, Emerging Legal Studies
KURIBAYASHI, Yoshimasa	Social Psychology
KURIYAMA, Takashi	Child Welfare, Family Welfare, Institutional Social Work, Social Group Work
MAJIMA, Yoshimasa	Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Science, Science Education, Social Psychology
MAKITA, Koh'ichi	Clinical Psychology
MATSUOKA, Yoshinobu	Public Assistance Theory, Social Security Theory
MIYAZAKI, Yasushi	Japanese Literature, General Literature, Japanese Linguistics, Folklore Studies
MIZUKAWA, Yoshifumi	Sociology, Cognitive Science, Social Welfare Studies
MOCHIZUKI, Kazuyo	Social Welfare Studies
NAGAI, Junko	Social Welfare Studies, Sociology
NISHIDA, Mitsukiyo	Psychology of Children with Disabilities, Educational Psychology, Special Support to Education
NISHIHARA, Aki	Pedagogy
NISHIYAMA, Kaoru	Clinical Psychology
OKADA, Naoto	Social Welfare Studies
ONISHI, Masami	Coaching Studies
OTOMO, Shuji	School Social Work, Collaboration between Education and Welfare, Supervision
SAHASHI, Katsuhiko	Social Welfare Studies
TANAKA, Koichiro	Social Welfare Studies, Disability Studies
TAZAWA, Yasuhiro	Clinical Psychology
Thomas H. GOETZ	eLearning, EFL/ESL, Language Acquisition, Communication Skills
YOKOYAMA, Yuzuru	Social Welfare Assistance Technology, Social Welfare Theory, Social Welfare Thought and Philosophy, Discrimination and Prejudice
Associate Professors (4)	
HARIMA, Shoichi	Special Support to Education
NAKATA, Ryuzaburo	Experimental Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Cognitive Science, Food Science, Comparative Cognitive Science
SAITOH, Masashi	Public Libraries, Community Center Libraries, Community Development, Lifelong Learning
SATO, Yuki	Clinical Psychology, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Assistant Professors (2)	
MURAI, Fumika	Clinical Psychology, Educational Psychology
TAKAHASHI, Asumi	Clinical Psychology, Psychiatry and Neurology, Educational Psychology
Instructors (1)	
KATSUMATA, Kenta	Social Welfare Studies

Hokusei Gakuen University Junior College (16)	
Professors (9)	Field of Research
ENDO, Taro	History of Western Architecture, Aesthetics and Art History
FUJIWARA, Risa	Perceptions of Poverty, Maternal and Child Support Facilities, Children's Welfare Institutions
John F. MAUNE	Shakespeare Studies, Biochemistry, Literary Darwinism, English Education
KAWABE, Daisuke	Graphic Design
Kurt ACKERMANN	English Language Education, Anthropogeography, Environmental Impact Assessment, Area Studies, Geography
MORIKOSHI, Kyoko	Tourism Studies, Foreign Language Education
SHIRATORI, Kingo	Methods for Fostering Learners in Elementary School English with Reference to Washback and CEFR (Keywords: Research on Testing and Evaluation Methods in English Language Education, Elementary School English Education)
TAKEMURA, Masashi	Foreign Language Education
UCHIYAMA, Satoshi	Fundamentals of Quantum Mechanics, Quantization Methods
Associate Professors (6)	
FUJIKI, Akiko	Experimental Psychology, Cognitive Science
KAZATO, Mari	Cultural Anthropology, Area Studies
COTTER, Matthew	Intercultural Communication, Indigenous Languages and Cultures, Sports and English, Computer-Assisted Language Learning, International and Virtual Exchanges
TANAKA, Naoko	Interpreter Training, Hospitality Education, Tour Guide Training, English-Based Internship Programs, Online Exchange Activities with Overseas Students
THOMSON, Haidee	Applied Linguistics, English Linguistics, Training of Tour Guide Interpreters
YAMAMOTO, Shimpei	Nitobe Inazo's Political and Economic Thought, The Neoliberal Movement in Interwar Japan
Assistant Professors (1)	
HAYASHI, Shintaro	Theoretical Linguistics, Syntax



Hokusei Gakuen
学校法人 北星学園

**Hokusei Gakuen University Graduate School
Hokusei Gakuen University
Hokusei Gakuen University Junior College**

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Sapporo 004-8631
Tel.: +81-11-891-2731
Website: <https://www.hokusei.ac.jp/>

Official University
Instagram



**Hokusei Gakuen
Girls' Junior High School and
Girls' High School**

2-2 Minami 4-jo Nishi 17-chome, Chuo-ku,
Sapporo 064-8523
Tel.: +81-11-561-7153
Website: <https://www.hokusei-ghs-jh.ed.jp/>

Official Girls' Junior
High School and
High School
Instagram



**Hokusei Gakuen University
High School**

38 Shimonoppo, Atsubetsu-cho,
Atsubetsu-ku, Sapporo 004-0007
Tel.: +81-11-897-2881
Website: <https://www.hokusei-s-h.ed.jp/>

Official University
High School
Instagram



Hokusei Gakuen Yoichi High School

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Yoichi-gun 046-0003
Tel.: +81-135-23-2165
Website: <https://www.hokusei-y-h.ed.jp/>

Official Yoichi
High School
Instagram



Hokusei Memorial House



This building was originally constructed in December 1926 at its current location as a residence for female missionaries dispatched by an American church. It was designed by Swiss architect Max Hinder. In 1941, the year when the Pacific War broke out, the missionaries residing in the building returned to the United States, and the structure was repurposed as a music room. After the war ended, the missionaries returned, and the building was once again used as their residence. In 1960, as part of the construction of the Girls' Junior High School and High School buildings, the structure was relocated northward. However, due to significant aging, it became unsuitable as a residence. It was subsequently repurposed as a research laboratory, library, and clubroom of the junior college. In 1987, as part of Hokusei Gakuen's centennial anniversary project, the building was relocated and renovated, with improvements to the courtyard, to be preserved as a memorial hall. The restoration work was completed in 1989, and it has since been open to the public as a place to learn about the history and founding spirit of Hokusei Gakuen. As historic buildings became rarer in Sapporo, the structure was included in the Sapporo 100 Hometown Cultural Selections in 1988. In 1998, it was designated as a Registered Tangible Cultural Property by the Japanese government. In March 2005, it was recognized as an Important Urban Scenic Architecture, and in October of the same year, it received the 12th Sapporo Cityscape Award.

■ Locations of Established Schools

