

My Experience at Shimane University



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Course: Bioenvironmental Science (Microbial Ecology)

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I graduated from Tottori University in March 2019 and spent three and a half transformative years at Shimane University, Matsue, Japan, conducting my PhD research. My time at Shimane University was marked by a strong academic support system and a close-knit community that fostered professional and personal growth. The faculty and staff were highly supportive and accessible, encouraging students to excel in their research and studies. The International Center was crucial in my early days, offering language-learning programs and facilitating a smooth transition to life in Japan. The university's diverse student body, comprising Japanese and international students, created an intellectually stimulating and culturally enriching environment, promoting collaboration and knowledge exchange.

Beyond academics, my family—my wife and two children—also had a rewarding experience adapting to Japanese life. My children attended a local Japanese school, actively participated in cultural and sports events, and formed lasting friendships. Together, we explored Japan's natural beauty, from the mesmerising cherry blossoms and serene snowfall to visits to iconic destinations such as Daisen Mountain, Izumo, and Miyajima Island. A homestay with a Japanese family in Unnan Town further deepened our cultural understanding and appreciation.

Shimane University also offered a vibrant social environment. I engaged in activities such as cycling around Hiruzen with Japanese friends, attending international welcome events, and participating in the unique "English Party Walk and Talk" sessions, facilitating enjoyable language exchange experiences. The university provided an excellent academic foundation and contributed significantly to my personal and cultural growth.

I highly recommend it as a destination for students seeking a globally connected and academically rigorous learning experience.

Bio

Dr. Ramesh is an agricultural scientist with expertise in microbiology and plant genetics. He earned his Ph.D. from Tottori University and conducted his research and academic work at Shimane University, Japan. With a strong research background, he has published over 20 peer-reviewed papers. Currently, he serves as an Extension Officer at the Department of Primary Industries, Queensland, Australia, where he focuses on research, development, and extension initiatives to support the Australian vegetable industry.