

# **The University life in Japan from a French point of view**

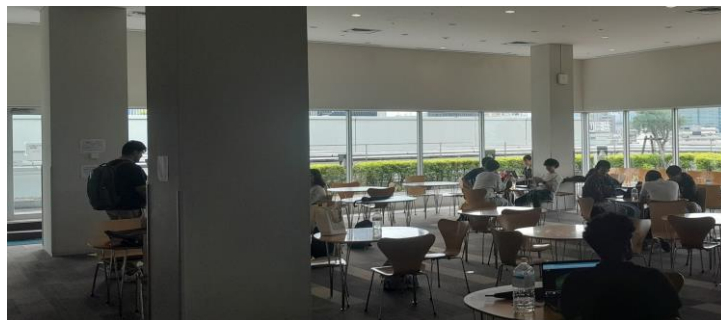
MASSON Stella

*It has been around 8-9 months that I'm studying in Hosei University as an exchange student, and I can say that I had a completely different experience of University life here than in France.*

First, I think that the most noticeable difference is in the grading system. Here, oral participation seems to be valued a lot, and usually counts for around 30% of the grade. As my studies in France are applied languages, I was allowed to take any classes taught in English. Taking classes that I was curious about, and interested in, made me participate a lot, which I wasn't used to do, back in France. I really noticed the improvements I have made, and I really encourage other students to get involved and interested in classes, because studying is actually fun when you like the topics.

## **Comfortable school environment**

Another difference is, I would say, the environment. In France, I usually go to the university only for classes, and then I go back to my apartment or move around the city center with friends after classes. But here, I sometimes go to the University even though I don't have class, just to meet people, or to study. I feel really comfortable, and there are a lot of different places in the campus itself where you can go to relax, or else.



## **Club activities**

Finally, I really like the club's culture here. There are clubs for everything (cheerleaders, music, etc.), I even heard recently that there was a gaming club in Hosei. I didn't try to enter any, however, I often go to those meetings called "French café" that are regrouping students interested in French culture - there are also clubs for other foreign cultures like Russian café, German café, etc. I really like going there to talk about France and to see it from a Japanese point of view.

