JAPAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL
EXCHANGE (JCIE/USA)
（米国法人）日本国際交流センター

475 Riverside Drive, Suite 731
New York, NY 10115
Tel. 212-679-4130
www.jcie.org

Japan 101 Online Course: Understanding US-Japan Relations
September 2020

Background: The US-Japan alliance is a central pillar of America's Asia strategy and it affects almost every aspect of the US approach to the region. Japan is the most important US defense partner in Asia, hosting 130 US military bases and facilities and more than 54,000 American service members, along with the US Navy's Seventh Fleet. As the world's third largest economy, Japan is the fourth greatest trade partner and the third leading source of foreign direct investment into the United States. A world leader in technology, science, and culture, it boasts the most established democracy in East Asia and is a key US partner in confronting a range of global challenges.

Contents: Building on its 50-year history of hosting exchanges and dialogues for Congressional members, Diet members, Congressional staff, and others, JCIE will organize a month-long mini-course of online briefings and roundtables for Congressional staff to update them on the forces shaping US-Japan relations. These are designed to give Congressional staff who cover Asia policy issues the opportunity to speak with some of the world's top experts on US-Japan security, trade, and political issues. This course is limited to 15 participants in order to ensure to ensure that each participant can engage in substantive discussion with the guest speakers.

JCIE annually operates a study program in Japan for Congressional staff, and nearly 200 aides from both sides of the aisle have traveled around the country for high-level meetings and site visits on that program. We envision this course as better equipping potential participants for that travel program once in-person exchanges can resume in 2021.

The series of one-hour briefings will take place in September 2020 with meetings on Tuesdays and Thursday/Fridays for a total of eight sessions. To complete the module, we request that participants commit to attending at least six of the eight sessions. Those who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate.

Schedule

Week 1
Tuesday, September 8, 12:00-1:30 pm – **Introduction: Understanding US-Japan Relations**
Thursday, September 10, 8:00-9:00 pm - **The North Korea Challenge & the Future of Northeast Asia**

Week 2
Tuesday, September 15, 8:00-9:00 pm **– Managing Relations with China**
Friday, September 18, 12:00-1:00 pm – **Security Issues in the US-Japan Alliance**

Week 3
Tuesday, September 22, 8:00-9:00 pm – **Challenges & Opportunities in Japan-ROK Relations**
Friday, September 25, 12:00-1:00 pm - **US-Japan Trade**

Week 4
Tuesday, September 29, 8:00-9:00 pm **- COVID-19 & How It is Changing Japanese Society**
Thursday, October 1, 12:00-1:00 pm – **Wrap-up: The Future of US-Japan Relations**

*Please note that we may adjust the time and session title based on speaker availability.

Applying: Apply online. Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Open to Congressional staff in the US Senate, House of Representatives, and Congressional Research Service.