Newly Enrolled Students
For AY2027 April & September

APU Pre-enrollment Study Guide

Successful English-basis candidates



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※Math Assignments（KOUDAI Bridge）is available in Japanese only.

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Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University
Dean, Admissions
YAMAGATA Tatsufumi

Welcome to APU!

At the time you receive this booklet, you will likely have different amounts of time left until your enrollment, and will be at different places in your learning journeys. Even so, we have prepared this study guide to help you use the time you have left before enrollment effectively so you can make the most of your “Global Learning” experience at APU. The four years of your student life may seem long, but they will be over before you know it. Let’s get started as soon as possible.

First of all, if you have a specific goal, start working backwards from your goal to figure out what you need to do now, and start working to achieve that. For example, if you are thinking about studying abroad or joining the Double Degree Program, your English Proficiency test scores will be essential. Think carefully about what kind of score you will need, and by when, to achieve your goal. Then, think about what you need to start doing now to achieve that goal, and start making an effort every day. If you have already started working toward your goals, I hope you will keep up the good work.

Even if you don’t have a specific goal yet, don’t waste your time while you are in high school – you can focus on improving your skills. Some people may have the misconception that what they have learned up through high school doesn’t matter, but it goes without saying that what you have learned in high school serves as the foundation for your learning at university. Consider your own weak areas, and try to improve your basic skills by taking advantage of our pre-enrollment courses or other resources.

I hope you understand the importance of English at APU. Having English skills makes it easier to communicate with English-basis students, and students who start from higher levels of English classes are more likely to have more options during their student lives. On the other hand, Japanese and Mathematics are also fundamental to everything. These essential skills form the power of thinking itself, and can serve as the basis for learning in other subjects. It is essential you be able to think deeply to avoid being replaced by AI, and instead become able to take advantage of AI. This is not something you can improve overnight, but it’s important to start working toward it steadily while you still have time.

The specialized knowledge you will gain at university is important, but you must also continue to learn new things even after entering the workforce. In this way, when learning something new, if you already know how to learn and improve your learning skills, this will be even more important that what you have learned at university. To make your four years of leaning more meaningful, and for your future, we recommend you make effective use of the time you have left before enrollment while also focusing on building good study habits and finding your own learning style.

After you take advantage of this time to grow, I am looking forward to meeting everyone on campus!

The Skills Expected of APU Students

This page is a summary of content we would like students to review before enrolling at our university. In order for you to be successful on the world stage in the future, you should have a firm grasp of foundational academic skills and study practices. If you acquire these abilities, you can make the most out of your time at APU.



Study Areas

■ Mathematics

College of Asia Pacific Studies (APS), College of Sustainability and Tourism (ST)

Data analysis, logical thinking, and knowledge of mathematics is essential.

We recommend covering the basics of the two points below.

(1) Things to review:

- Everything you learned up through middle school (especially calculations, Venn diagrams, equations, linear and quadratic functions, statistics and probability)
- Mathematics I / Mathematics A (especially calculations, equations, inequalities, number of outcomes, probability, logic and sets)

(2) Practice doing basic mental calculations and arithmetic so that you can calculate quickly

In addition, you should complete the units marked as pre-enrolment assignments (atama+) based on the two points above. Please use it to maintain and improve your math skills before enrolling.

College of International Management (APM)

In APM, students are required to take and pass mathematics and statistics courses in order to graduate.

You have been provided with pre-enrollment assignments (atama+) based on this situation.

In addition, mathematical knowledge and ways of thinking will be essential for many of your courses.

Up to now, each of you has probably achieved different levels of learning and awareness about mathematics, but please consider what you will need to learn before enrolling, set your own learning goals, and make sure to follow through on them until you achieve them.

★Things to review

- □ Sum, difference, product, and quotient of formulas (complete expressions) containing letters (x,y,z or a,b,c, etc.)
- □ Calculating formulas involving square roots
- □ Factoring quadratic expressions
- □ Quadratic equations, quadratic inequalities
- □ Finding functions from graphs (linear functions, quadratic functions)
- □ Differentiating quadratic functions (slope of tangent)
- □ Calculating exponents and logarithms
- □ Series

1. Those who have always avoided math
   If you are worried about how to carry out basic calculations such as the four types of arithmetic (adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing), we recommend you start from the basics, such as arithmetic tables and brain training, before working on your pre-enrollment math assignments (atama+).
   Starting to review from the fundamentals may help you target and overcome your weaknesses.

2. Those who feel they are not good at math, or who have only studied a little math, and feel it is not enough
   We recommend you build and strengthen your fundamental skills with the pre-enrollment math assignments (atama+).
   However, even if the questions seem too easy at first, please don't skip through it, but see it through to the end.

3. Those who fully understand all the content of Math II / Math B
   The pre-enrollment math assignment system (atama+) also includes Math II and Math B units.
   Please use these to review and check your learning.
   However, if this is still not enough for you and you want to wield math and statistics like a weapon, why not try studying to get a statistical proficiency certificate or learn a programming language?

■ Reading Comprehension

What you should do to prepare for enrolling at university?

(1) Get in the habit of reading (aim to read at least one book per week, from various genres)
(2) Read materials such as the newspaper every day, and nurture your ability to continue reading lengthy, present day texts without issue

■Society

What you should do to prepare for enrolling at university?

Review:

- ✧ Reread the textbooks (world history as well as national history) which were used in your high school (you don't have to memorize detailed information like the names of different imperial eras, but this can help you understand how Japan or your own country fits into the larger world, for example)

Lifestyle Practices

■ Develop a Regulated Lifestyle

- ✧ To prepare for your enrollment at university, allow for at least two hours of study time (excluding test periods) during your high school classes as well as at least 4 hours of study time during the spring and winter breaks.
- ✧ Acquire the habit of going to bed and waking up early (strictly avoid staying up late and get into the habit of waking up by 7 a.m.)

■ Define what it is you would like to do at university before you come here

- ✧ Plan for your four years of university based on the APU website and so on.

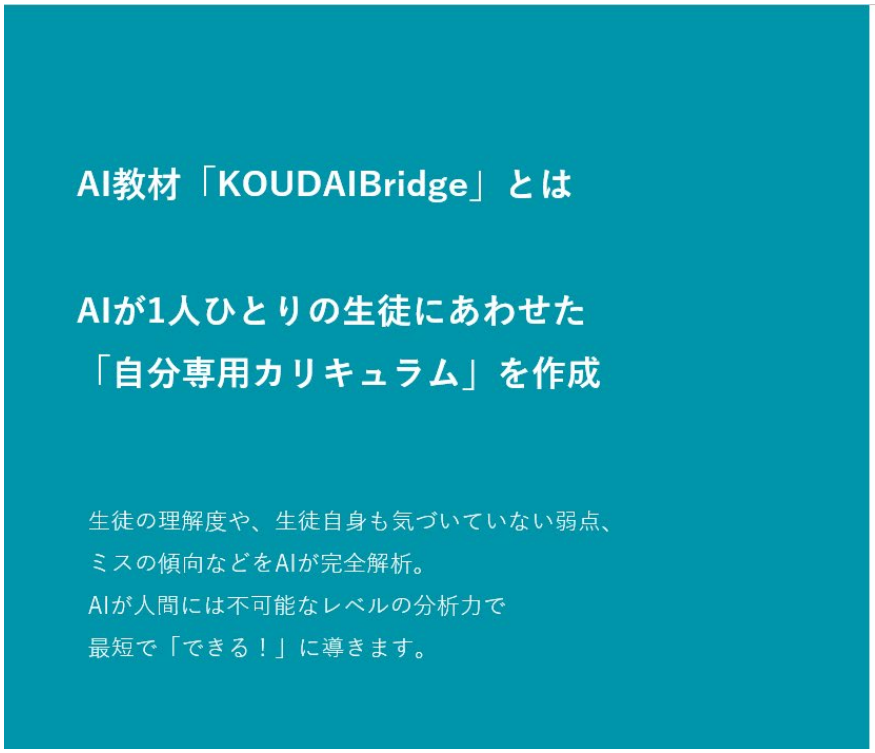
Math Assignment: AI-Based Learning Materials 〈KOUDAIBridge〉

Provided by atama plus Inc.

As part of the pre-enrollment assignments, students are required to complete a mathematics learning task. For this assignment, we will use **KOUDAI Bridge**, an AI-based learning platform.

KOUDAI Bridge is a learning system that uses AI to assess each student's level of understanding and provides a personalized curriculum focused on areas where additional learning is needed. The learning units have been designated by each college based on the knowledge and skills considered important for incoming students.

We understand that this may be a busy time as you prepare for university life; however, we encourage you to actively engage with the assigned learning materials in preparation for your studies at APU.





Assignment Details

■Learning Objectives

Complete all learning units designated by your college. (The designated learning units vary depending on the college to which you will be admitted.)

■Key Points for Completing the Course

Each college places emphasis on different areas of mathematics. Therefore, the learning units assigned through this mathematics task vary depending on the college to which you will be admitted.

Regardless of college, all assigned units cover the fundamental mathematical knowledge and skills required for coursework after enrollment. Before starting the mathematics assignment, please read the **"Mathematics"** section under **"What Abilities Are Expected of APU Students?"** in this booklet and then proceed with the assigned learning activities.

■Application Procedure, Deadline, Fees, and Other Information

<table>
<tr><td>Application Procedure</td><td>Please apply through the application form. (For details, please refer to the "Application Process" section below.)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Application Period</td><td>November 4, 2026 (Wed) - March 19, 2027 (Fri)
Early application is strongly recommended to allow sufficient time for planned and continuous learning.
Please note that changes to your application details and refunds cannot be made after the application form has been submitted. Be sure to carefully review all information before submitting your application.
Applications will only be accepted during the designated application period.
Due to maintenance of the application system, the application form may be temporarily unavailable. If this occurs, please try again at a later time.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Learning Period</td><td>From the date you receive your KOUDAI Bridge account (on or after November 4, 2026 (Wed)) until 11:59 p.m. on March 31, 2027 (Wed).
After your payment has been confirmed, your account information (ID, temporary password, login URL, user manual, etc.) will be sent to you by email.
The required learning units will be pre-assigned based on your college.
Please note that a KOUDAI Bridge account cannot be issued if there are any problems or incomplete information in your application or payment. Be sure to complete all required procedures accurately.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Tuition Fee</td><td>JPY 8,250 (tax included)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Payment Method</td><td>Credit Card, Apple Pay, Google Pay, or Convenience Store Payment
*The payer does not need to be the prospective student. Payment may be made by a parent, guardian, or another person on the student's behalf.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Notes</td><td>■An internet-connected computer, tablet, or smartphone is required.

■KOUDAI Bridge is intended for use within Japan. Depending on the country or region, access may be restricted or the service may not be available when used overseas.

■The supported operating environments are as follows. (as of July 1, 2026)
<table>
<tr><td>PC</td><td>・Windows11×Latest version of Chrome
・macOS 26,Sequoia(15) × Latest version of Chrome
・Latest version of ChromeOS
×Latest version of Chrome</td></tr>
<tr><td>Tablet</td><td>・iPadOS18,26 × Safari
・Android12～16×Latest version of Chrome</td></tr>
<tr><td>Smartphone</td><td>・iOS18,26 × Safari
・Android12～16 × Latest version of Chrome</td></tr>
</table>
■The latest information on supported operating environments can be found at the URL below.https://corp.atama.plus/wp-content/themes/atama_corp/image/exam_support_environment.pdf</td></tr>
</table>

■ Application Process

1. Application and Payment

① Access the Email Verification Form and submit your application through the application form provided.

- Access the Email Verification Form using the URL or QR code below.
- After submitting your email address through the Email Verification Form, an application form will be sent to the email address you provided.
- Please complete all required fields in the application form and submit it.

Email Verification Form URL:https://link.atama.plus/apu_w8hG4kF9xY/

*Please review the following information before completing the application form.

●**Information required in the application form:**

Student's full name, Phonetic spelling of name (furigana), Email address, School year/grade, Examination number (8 digits), Name of the college you will enroll in, Admission method, Whether you have completed the **UNITE Program**.

①After submitting the application form, please complete your payment by following the instructions provided in the "Payment Instructions" email sent to the email address you registered.

*The person making the payment does not need to be the prospective student.

*Available payment methods are:

- Credit Card
- Apple Pay
- Google Pay
- Convenience Store Payment (Japan only)

2. Important Information for Applicants

・Once your application has been submitted, **changes to the application details and refunds cannot be made**. Please carefully review all information before submission.

・Due to security settings, emails from atama plus Inc. containing your ID, password, and other account information may not be delivered to **@icloud.com** email addresses. We recommend using a different email address.

We recommend using a different email address whenever possible.

・If you use a **@gmail.com** email address, please make sure not to mistakenly enter

@gmai.com (missing the letter “l”).

・Please configure your email settings to allow messages from the following domains and email address:

- **@atamaplus.co.jp**
- **contact_adm@atama.plus**

3. Start Learning

After your payment has been completed, the account information required to access **KOUDAI Bridge** will be sent to the email address provided in your application. Please check your email and begin your studies upon receiving the information.

*If you do not receive the email, please contact us using the form provided in the **Contact Information** section.

*The designated learning units will be pre-assigned.

*Please note that a **KOUDAI Bridge** account cannot be issued if there are any problems or incomplete information in your application or payment. Be sure to complete all required procedures accurately.

■ Contact Information

◆**For inquiries regarding applications, payments, or KOUDAI Bridge**

Please contact us via the **atama plus Inquiry Form**.

https://forms.gle/R1VJHKZsWeP3r7oo7

◆For inquiries regarding the Pre-Enrollment Education Program, please contact the University directly.

Recommended Materials for Admitted Students（Recommended Reading･Films）

On this page, you will find the recommended teaching materials for each college, as well as reading and films which are related to your studies after entering the university.
During the period leading up to your enrollment, you will accumulate knowledge and diverse ways of thinking through the recommended materials, readings and films. Let’s make the most of them during your studies at APU.

List of Recommended Teaching Materials

■APS（College of Asia Pacific Studies）Recommended Reading and Films for Admitted Students

Readings：「社会学入門-人間と社会の未来」※For Japanese Basis (Introduction to Sociology: The Future of People and Society）／MITA Munesuke
「中東を学ぶ人のために」「The Basics for Learners of Middle East」/末近 浩太/松尾 昌樹編 Kota Suechika and Masaki Matsuo (eds.)
「22 世紀の民主主義ー選挙はアルゴ リズムになり、政治家はネコになる」/成田 悠輔著
「菊と刀」「The chrysanthemum and the sword. 」ルース・ベネディクト著 Ruth Benedict
「21 Lessons: 21 世紀の人類のための 21 の思考」「21 Lessons for the 21st Century」/ユヴァル・ノア・ハラリ著 Yuval Noah Harari
「Animal Farm」/George Orwell
「The Secret History」/Donna Tartt
「Justice: What’s the Right Thing to Do?」/Michael Sandel
「Guns, Germs And Steel」/ Jared Diamond ※For English Basis

Films：「椿三十郎」（Sanjuro)／KUROSAWA Akira（Release 1962 ）※For Japanese Basis
「Nuovo Cinema Paradiso」／Giuseppe Tornatore（Release 1988）
「Persepolis」/Marjane Satrapi（Release 2007）
「Hotel Rwanda」/Terry George（Release 2004）
「Central Station」/Walter Salles（Release 1998）
「Mustang」/ Deniz Gamze Ergüven（Release 2015）
「Tel Aviv on Fire」/Sameh Zoabi（Release 2018）
「Invictus」/Clint Eastwood（Release 2009）
「So Long, My Son」/ Wang Xiaoshuai（Release 2019）
「Slumdog Millionaire」/Danny Boyle（Release 2008）

■APM（College of International Management）Recommended Teaching Materials for Admitted Students

Materials：Topics for APM Pre-Enrollment Assignment as part of Pre-Enrollment Education

〈NOTES〉

※You are not required to submit the following assignments. School of Management, APU: To practice writing reports and improve your logical thinking skills, we recommend formulating your own answers to each “Question.”

※If comprehension is difficult, feel free to use AI or translation sites.

Assignment 1
Read the following article and answer the question below.

Dawn of a new era for China's IP industry By Kimihiro Fukuyama | China Daily | 2025-02-28

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202502/28/WS67c0f5a2a310c240449d7b70.html

Question: Find one company and describe how this company has transitioned its business from the original business to IP business (350-500 words).

Assignment 2
Read the following article and answer the question below.

Asia-Pacific must chart its own course By Kimihiro Fukuyama | China Daily | 2025-04-11

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202504/11/WS67f855f0a3104d9fd381ea6e.html

Question: Please explain the advantages and disadvantages of raising tariffs (350-500 words).

Assignment 3
Read the following article and answer the questions below.

RCEP fostering development in Southeast Asia By Kimihiro Fukuyama | China Daily | Updated: 2024-07-24

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202407/24/WS66a02c18a31095c51c50f863.html

Question: Please elaborate the advantages and disadvantages of free trade agreements (350-500 words).

Films：「頭文字 D THE MOVIE」/Andrew Lau、Alan Mak（2005 年公開）
「日本のいちばん長い日」/原田眞人（2015 年公開）

■ST（College of Sustainability and Tourism）Recommended Reading and Films for Admitted Students

Books：「SDGs—危機の時代の羅針盤」（A compass in times of crisis)／MINAMI Hiroshi・INABA Masaki
「観光学ガイドブック—新しい知的領野への旅立ち」(Guidebook to Tourism Studies-Journey to a New Intellectual Territory)
／OHASHI Shoichi /HASHIMOTO Kazuya /ENDO Hideki/KANDA Koji【Compilation】
Films：「An Inconvenient Truth」／Documentary Film（Release 2006）
「Before the Flood」Documentary Film（Release 2016）



【Contact Information】

Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University

Academic Office Pre-enrollment Education Team

E-mail:apunmk@apu.ac.jp

(Please email us for inquiries.)

Academic Office will be closed: 12/24～1/5

1-1 Jumonjibaru Beppu, Oita 874-8577 Japan

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