

MG MEIJI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

International Student Program Guide



INTERNATIONAL CENTER

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ACADEMICS

Meiji Gakuin University

- Faculty of Letters**
Department of English
Department of French Literature
Department of Art Studies
- Faculty of Economics**
Department of Economics
Department of Business Administration
Department of International Business
- Faculty of Sociology and Social Work**
Department of Sociology
Department of Social Work
- Faculty of Law**
Department of Juridical Studies
Department of Current Legal Studies
Department of Global Legal Studies
Department of Political Science
- Faculty of International Studies**
Department of International Studies
Department of Global and Transcultural Studies
- Faculty of Psychology**
Department of Psychology
Department of Education and Child Development
- Center for Liberal Arts**
- Graduate School**
Graduate School of Arts and Letters
Graduate School of Economics
Graduate School of Sociology
Graduate School of Law
Graduate School of International Studies
Graduate School of Psychology
Graduate School of Business and Law



James Curtis
Hepburn
(1815-1911)
Founder of
Meiji Gakuin University

J. C. Hepburn

“DO FOR OTHERS WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO FOR YOU.”
NEW TESTAMENT PASSAGE (MATTHEW 7:12)

Meiji Gakuin University (MGU) is one of the oldest Christian institutions in Japan. Its beginnings stretch back to the mid-nineteenth century, when Japan emerged from a long period of feudalism and self-imposed isolation and was forced to encounter modern Western civilization.

Meiji Gakuin's founder, Dr. James Curtis Hepburn, arrived in Yokohama as a medical missionary with his wife Clara in 1859. Hepburn, a noted physician in New York, opened a clinic in Japan and provided free medical care to thousands. In 1863, he and Clara started an English school named the Hepburn School, which was the forerunner of Meiji Gakuin. Hepburn also studied Japanese, edited the first proper Japanese-English / English-Japanese dictionary, devised the Hepburn system of Romanization, and also translated the Bible into Japanese.

MGU has always valued its founding spirit of Christian-based moral education, with “Do for Others” as its educational philosophy. We endeavor to honor this noble creed, providing research and education that passes this spirit down through the generations.

Today, MGU is a fully-accredited, selective liberal arts university with six faculties and 16 departments, with a strong focus on international engagement. Approximately 12,000 students take classes at the university's two campuses, one in downtown Tokyo in the Shirokane area and the other a suburban campus in Yokohama's Totsuka Ward.


Founded in
1863


2
Campuses (Shirokane and Yokohama)


6 & 16
Faculties & Departments


Approximately
12,000
students enrolled


80
International Partner Institutions


Approximately
180
international students each year

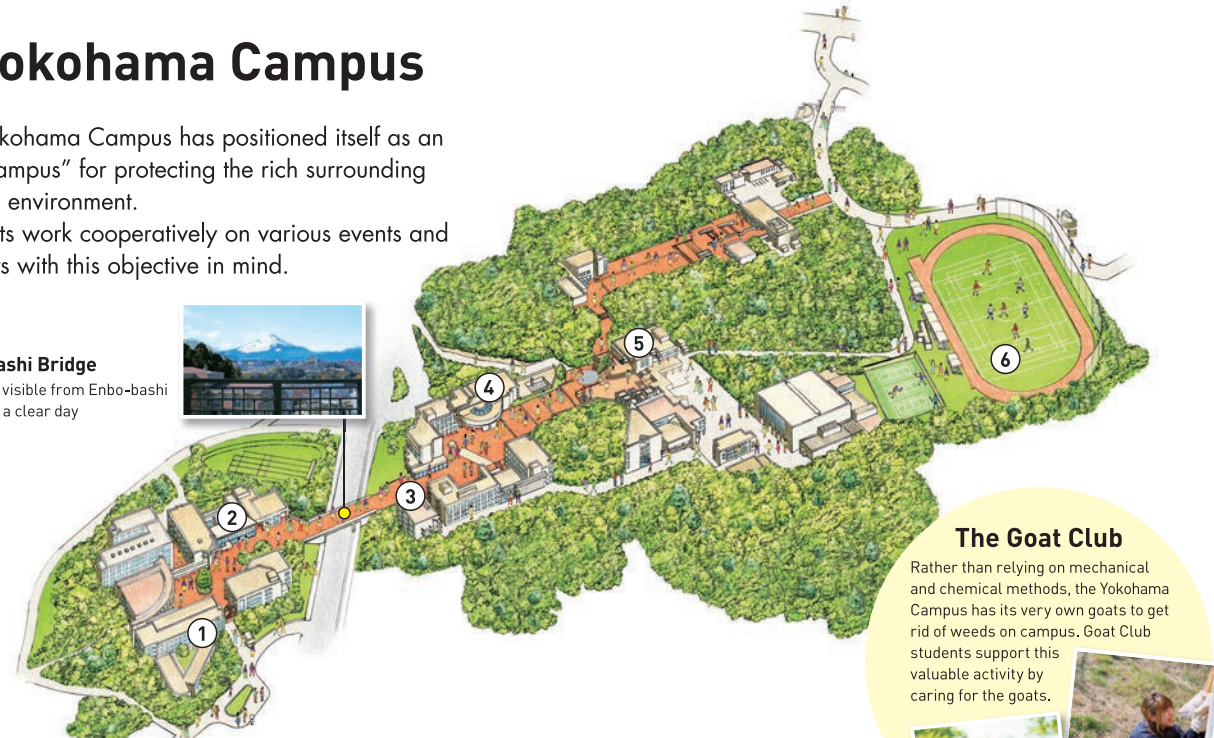
CAMPUS INTRODUCTION

Yokohama Campus

The Yokohama Campus has positioned itself as an “eco-campus” for protecting the rich surrounding natural environment. Students work cooperatively on various events and projects with this objective in mind.

Enbo-bashi Bridge

Mt. Fuji is visible from Enbo-bashi Bridge on a clear day



The Goat Club

Rather than relying on mechanical and chemical methods, the Yokohama Campus has its very own goats to get rid of weeds on campus. Goat Club students support this valuable activity by caring for the goats.



① Japanese Tea Room “Meishosha”



This Japanese tea room is offered for students to communicate various aspects of traditional Japanese culture. The room can also be used for events and club activities such as tea ceremony.

② Clara Lounge



Named after Ms. Clara Hepburn, the wife of Meiji Gakuin's founder Dr. Hepburn, the lounge can be used by individuals, or by groups for meetings. The large windows bathe this multipurpose open space in light.

③ International Center Commons



An event and seminar space for international exchanges, located in front of the International Center.

④ Library



The library has 400,000 books, and there are various kinds of areas for reading and group work. Students can use the library printers and Wi-fi network, as well as borrow laptops from the self-service lockers.

⑤ Cafeteria



There are various dining options, such as the student cafeteria and food trucks that change on a daily basis.

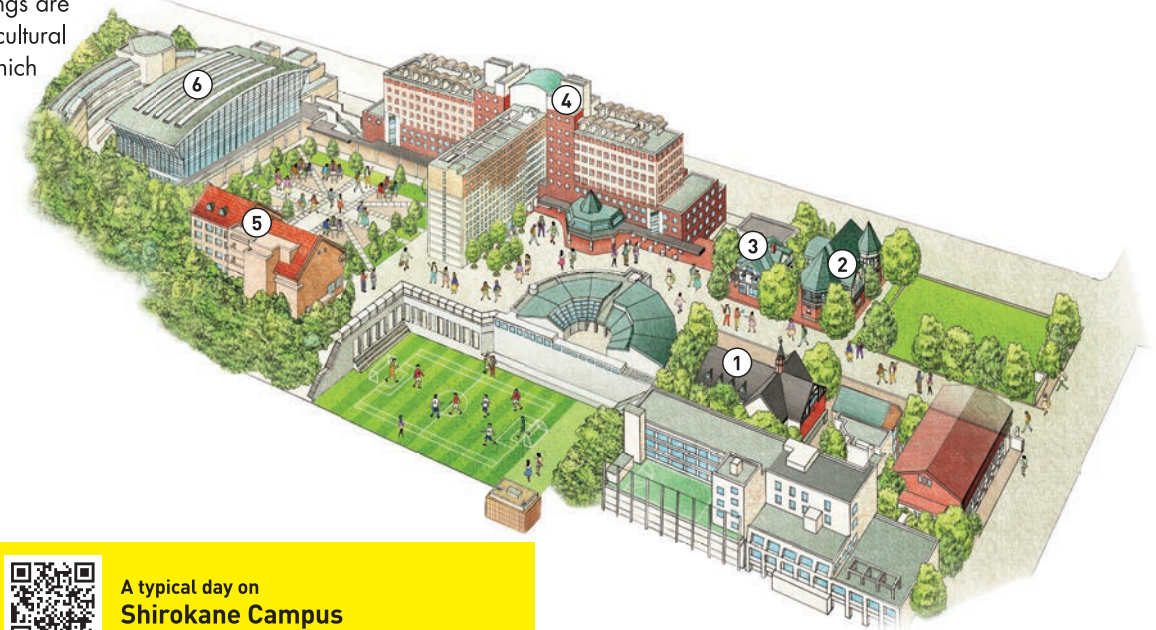
⑥ Hepburn Field



This sports ground is equipped with artificial turf, which has a soft spring that helps prevent injuries.

Shirokane Campus

Located in central Tokyo, the Shirokane Campus prides itself on its 150 years of living history and culture. Three campus buildings are designated as local cultural properties, one of which is also a national cultural property.



① Meiji Gakuin Chapel



This English Gothic-style chapel was built in 1916. The stained-glass window on the chapel's left side has a yellow cross that brings soft light into the interior. The chapel was designated as a cultural asset by Minato City in 1989.

② Meiji Gakuin Memorial Hall



Built in 1890, Memorial Hall was the original campus building and library. Today, it is home to a small chapel and the Historical Museum, etc. The building was designated as a cultural asset by Minato City in 1979.

③ Meiji Gakuin Imbrie House



Built around 1889, this long-established and valuable building is one of the few remaining examples of missionary houses in Japan. It was the residence for Dr. William Imbrie. The building was designated as a National Important Cultural Property in 1998.

④ Library



The library was designed based on the concept of a “study,” with reading areas on the second to seventh floors and stacks in the basement. The library collection is about 800,000 books. There are also quiet areas and group work areas.

⑤ Building 2



This building has 200-seat classrooms and is home to administrative departments, including the International Center, which organizes study abroad programs and provides support for inbound and outbound students.

⑥ Palette Zone Shirokane



The building offers a dining lounge with a cafeteria, an inner courtyard with a café, and activity spaces including the Art Hall, club rooms, sports arenas and a training room.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

Overview

The International Student Program (ISP) is a semester-long program for international students from MGU's exchange partner institutions around the world. ISP offers students not only various courses about Japan, but also ways to personally experience Japan through various activities on and off campus. The ISP program follows MGU's academic calendar of two semesters (Spring and Fall) in one academic year. Students may start their studies in either semester and study for one or two semesters. About 70-90 students from around the world participate this program each semester.

Various courses enable ISP students to:

- Develop and enhance one's Japanese language skills
- Learn about and experience both Japanese traditional culture and its modern, changing face
- Acquire knowledge about Japan and the world
- Meet and get to know Japanese people

International Center

The International Center (IC) is responsible for enriching the university's international community of scholars, students and visitors on both campuses. IC organizes ISP and supports ISP students with practical matters such as applications, dormitory-related matters and course registration.

IC also organizes many international exchange activities with the aim of encouraging ISP students to mingle with MGU students, learn about Japanese society and make the most of their stay at MGU.

Academic Calendar

MGU's academic calendar consists of two-semesters: Spring semester and Fall semester. Students may enter in either semester and participate in ISP for maximum of two semesters.

Spring Semester

- 3 March**
- Orientation
- 4 April**
- Welcome Party **1**
 - Placement Test for Japanese Language Course
 - Start of Classes
 - Course Registration Deadline
- 5 May**
- Course Drop Period
 - Totsuka Festival (Yokohama Campus University Festival)
- 7 July**
- End of Classes
 - Final Exams
 - Summer Break

Fall Semester

- 9 September**
- Orientation
 - Welcome Party **1**
 - Placement Test for Japanese Language Course
 - Start of Classes
- 10 October**
- Course Registration Deadline
 - Course Drop Period
- 11 November**
- Shirokane Festival **2** (Shirokane Campus University Festival)
- 12 December**
- Winter Break
- 1 January**
- End of Classes
 - Final Exams



ISP students join a welcome party as their first meetup event at the beginning of the semester. It is a great start for them and their buddies to deepen their friendships.



The Shirokane Festival has been held for more than 50 years. Students work together each year to create a festival with enjoyable student club food stalls, events, and other activities.

Courses

MGU offers a wide variety of courses for ISP students, including Japanese language courses at each student's level of proficiency and Japan-related studies to further broaden knowledge of the country and its culture. Students may select courses that match their needs to build an individualized study package.

- Japanese Language Courses

These courses are designed to develop and enhance ISP students' Japanese language skills. Taking the following two courses together helps students develop every aspect of their Japanese language proficiency. IC strongly recommends ISP students take Japanese language courses.

Classes are divided into three to five levels from beginner to advanced based on the results of the placement test taken prior to the course.

•Intensive Japanese Course (90 min × 4/week)

Level: 1-5 assigned by placement test

ISP students will learn basic Japanese language

•Practical Japanese Course (90 min × 2/week)

Level: 1-3 assigned by placement test

ISP students will enhance their Japanese skills through practice

- Global Studies Courses

Offered by the Faculty of International Studies, which includes multi-disciplinary courses in global culture and society, political science, economics, and arts at the Yokohama campus

- Practical Courses in Japanese Culture

Courses focused on Japanese traditional culture such as Kabuki or Tea Ceremony

- Courses in Japanese Studies

Courses designed for international students for learning about Japanese culture and society, political science, economics, and arts.

- Elective courses conducted in English

- Elective courses conducted in Japanese (sufficient Japanese language proficiency is required)

Notes

- Students must take a minimum of 12 credits per semester to maintain their student visa, and are allowed to take a maximum of 24 credits per semester.
- Students can register for courses at both campuses. However Japanese Language Courses can be taken only at the student's main campus.
- Japanese Language Proficiency Test N1 holders can register for any regular class with the instructor's permission.

• Model Timetable - Yokohama Campus

	MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI	
Period	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit
1	Practical Japanese	1	Intensive Japanese	1					Intensive Japanese	1
2	Practical Japanese	1	Global History	2	Intensive Japanese	1	International Journalism	2		
3										
4	Modern East Asian History	4					Modern East Asian History	4	Chinese Economy	2
5										
Yokohama Campus Classes focus on Japanese social, economic and cultural issues, and global issues. These classes are provided by the Department of Global and Transcultural Studies and are taught in English.										

• Model Timetable - Shirokane Campus

	MON		TUE		WED		THU		FRI	
Period	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit	Subject	Credit
1	Global Business	2	Intensive Japanese	1	Practical Japanese	1			Intensive Japanese	1
2			Intensive Japanese	1	Practical Japanese	1				
3	Intensive Japanese	1					Japanese Society	2		
4							United Nations University Lectures 1	2	Japanese Arts & Culture	2
5										
Shirokane Campus Classes focus on Japanese social, economic and cultural issues designed for ISP students.										



For more details

<https://www.meijigakuin.ac.jp/en/about/international/ic/exchange/isp.html#section4>

Activities and the Buddies

The International Center (IC) offers various types of international exchange activities for international students to learn about and experience Japan in greater depth. The Buddies also help support international students in their studies and in other aspects of life in Japan.

Japanese Cultural Experiences

IC offers ISP students cultural activities such as dressing in kimono, tea ceremony, textile dyeing, and a Samurai sword fighting experience as an introduction to Japanese culture. Many international students participate in this popular event every year.



Day-Trip Bus Tours with MGU Students

Day-trip bus tours are designed to encourage interaction between ISP and MGU students, and offer traditional and seasonal experiences. Some example destinations are Mt. Fuji, Hakone and Kawagoe. Participants enjoy events unique to each destination, such as seasonal fruit picking, a Ninja experience or rice cracker grilling.



Short-Term Homestay Program

The Home-Stay Program provides an opportunity to experience the actual living style of Japanese families. ISP students participate in either a one-day visit or a one-night visit. Each host family plans activities such as cooking, playing with children, going out for leisure facilities together, etc. to get to know each other.



Buddies

IC matches ISP students with MGU “Buddy” students to enhance the study abroad experience both on and off campus. Buddies are willing to support international students and will be among your first friends on the MGU campus.



Welcome Party and Campus Tour
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jCveraZlN0>

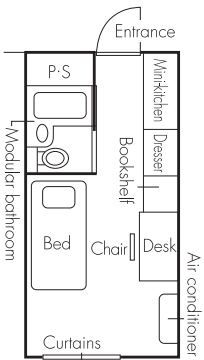


Dormitory

MGU maintains two dormitories in Totsuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, and Okusawa, Tokyo for ISP students. Each dormitory has different aspects as noted below. Living with other ISP students offers great opportunities to get to know each other.

MISH for Yokohama-ISP Students

A co-ed dormitory for international students located a five-minute walk from JR Totsuka Station. This dormitory aims to encourage international exchange and communication between different cultures.



Type	Off-campus, co-ed dormitory with live-in dorm managers
Residents	ISP students + MGU regular course students
Access	15 minutes by bus to the Yokohama Campus
Rent	60,000 yen/month (including meal plan* and all utility costs)
Deposit	25,000 yen (returned in cash upon vacating the room, minus any fees for repair/cleaning above and beyond normal everyday use)

*Breakfast and dinner on weekdays and Saturdays/No meals on Sundays and Japanese national holidays
*No-meal plan may be offered for 50,000 yen/month for students who have special needs (requirements) in food served.

Building: Ferroconcrete (six floors) / **Rooms:** 154 / **Room size:** 16.20m² / **Furnishings:** Modular bathroom, mini-kitchen with two induction elements, two-door refrigerator/freezer, bed, chair, desk, air conditioning unit, curtains, dresser, bookshelf / **Common facilities:** Laundry room, dining room, bicycle parking, auto-lock entry, mailboxes, delivery boxes, large group bath (switches between men and women)



MG Okusawa House for Shirokane-ISP Students

Located in a quiet residential district in central Tokyo, this dormitory offers an environment fit for academic pursuit and easy access to both the Shirokane and Yokohama campuses.



Type	Off campus, co-ed dormitory with live-in dorm managers
Residents	ISP students only
Access	15 minutes by train to the Shirokane Campus
Rent	50,000 yen/month (no meal plan available)
Deposit	25,000 yen (returned in cash upon vacating the room, minus any fees for repair/cleaning above and beyond normal everyday use)

Building: Ferroconcrete, 3 floors above ground, 1 floor below ground / **Rooms:** 38 / **Room size:** 11.7m² (rooms 108, 208, 308 only: 11.55m²) / **Furnishings:** Bed, chair, desk, air conditioning unit, curtains / **Common facilities:** Showers, toilets, kitchen, laundry area, dining room, computer room



Admission

If you are interested in studying at MGU, please read the following information. For further details regarding the application procedure, please contact the International / Study Abroad Office at your home institution.

Process and Requirements

Nomination Deadline (from Partner Institutions to MGU)

For Spring Semester: mid-October
For Fall Semester: mid-March

*The exact date varies from year to year.

Application Process

Students from partner universities or the ACUCA Student Mobility Scheme should follow the steps below:

1. Contact the International / Study Abroad Office at the home institution.
2. Apply to home institution.
3. Nomination (home institution to MGU).
4. Instruction for online application will be emailed in mid-October for the Spring Semester and mid-March for the Fall Semester (MGU to nominated student).
5. Online application and upload of application documents (nominated student to MGU).

*Interested students from non-partner universities should first contact us by email (mgicr@mguad.meijigakuin.ac.jp) regarding the application procedure.

Application Deadline (from Student to MGU)

For Spring Semester: early November
For Fall Semester: early April

*The exact date varies from year to year.

GPA Requirements

Applicants must have a GPA of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale.

Language Requirements

The applicants must meet either the 1) ENGLISH or 2) JAPANESE requirement described below:

- 1) ENGLISH: TOEFL iBT of 68, TOEFL ITP/PBT of 520, IELTS of 6.0 or University of Cambridge First Certificate in English with no less than a grade of B.
- 2) JAPANESE: Has studied the Japanese language for a minimum of one year at the university-level prior to arriving in Japan.

*Applicants from partner universities in countries where the official language is English are exempted from the language requirement.

Fee and Costs

Program Fee

Students from partner universities: Exempted

*Students from non-partner universities: 340,000 yen/semester

*As a proof of funding, international students must provide a financial statement equivalent to 400,000 yen for one semester of study or 800,000 yen for two semesters of study.

National Health Insurance

Around 14,400 yen/year
Participants to ISP must join the Japanese National Health Insurance Scheme, which automatically covers 70% of most medical/dental expenses incurred in Japan.

*The above figure is a general estimate for a foreign student living in Tokyo.

*The annual Insurance fee differs according to an individual's income and resident area.

Accommodation

- MISH for Yokohama ISP students
60,000 yen/month (including mandatory meal plan)
- MG Okusawa House for Shirokane ISP students
50,000 yen/month (no meal plan available)

A one-time deposit of 25,000 yen is also required. The deposit is returned in cash upon vacating the room, minus any fees for repair/cleaning above and beyond normal everyday use. The rent includes all utility costs (electricity, gas, water, internet).

Partner Institutions

The International Student Program currently welcomes exchange students from partner institutions located in Asia, Europe, North America, Africa, and Oceania. MGU receives students from the following institutions:

*List of partner institutions with a bilateral student exchange agreement as of March, 2021


North America	Europe	Asia
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● City University of New York, Hunter College● Felician University● Hope College● Robert Morris University● San Francisco State University● Simon Fraser University● Texas State University-San Marcos● University of California● University of Central Arkansas● University of Hawai'i Maui College● University of Kentucky● University of New Mexico● University of North Dakota● University of Prince Edward Island● University of Regina● University of Rochester● Washington College	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Alice Salomon Hochschule Berlin, University of Applied Sciences● Institut d'Etudes Politiques, d'Aix-en-Provence● Maastricht University● Oxford Brookes University● Romanian-American University● Södertörn University● Universidad de Alcalá● Universidad de Málaga● Universidad San Jorge● Universität Hamburg● Universität Trier● Université de Bourgogne● Université Nice Sophia Antipolis● Université Rennes 2● University of East Anglia● University of Manchester● University of National and World Economy● Vilnius University● Zagreb School of Economics and Management● Zuyd University of Applied Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia● Capital Normal University● Dongbei University of Finance and Economics● National Chengchi University● National Economics University● Soochow University● Soong Sil University● Thammasat University● The University of Da Nang● University of the Philippines, Diliman● University of Seoul● Yonsei University

Africa

- The American University in Cairo

Oceania

- Monash University
- Swinburne University of Technology
- Victoria University of Wellington




I want to work with people whose communication is one of my favorite things to do.

“My best memory will always be my buddies. They make me smile whenever I look at them.”

“Dorm life is really nice, I like the dorm because it has everything I need.”

“Come to Japan. It's a beautiful country!”

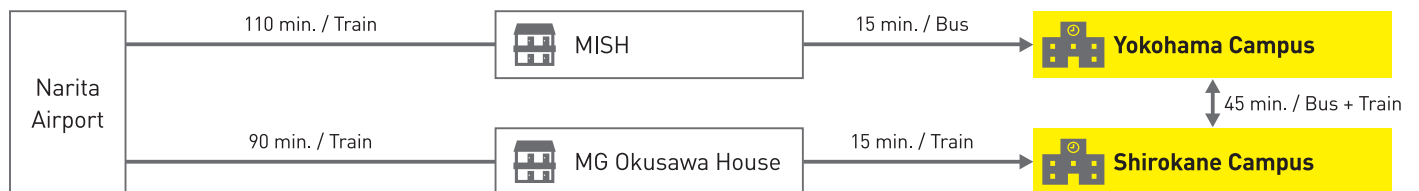


Interview with International Students

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5clRbhhs5bl>



Access



*Haneda Airport is closer to both MGU campuses, but Narita Airport offers more international flights.
 *Travel times are estimates.

MG MEIJI GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

International Center (IC)

Email: mgicr@mguaad.meijigakuin.ac.jp

Web : www.meijigakuin.ac.jp/en/about/international/ic/exchange/isp.html

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