

Ginkgo House (1. Photo 2. Invitation to Ginkgo House)



Ginkgo All members



1st Floor



2nd Floor



3rd Floor



Social room

(1st Floor)

Congratulations on your enrollment!

We are really excited to have you as part of our ICU family. From the beautiful colors of autumn leaves to the cherry blossoms of April mornings, what we want to share with you from this university is almost countless. We hope you will take advantage of all the academic and extracurricular opportunities that ICU got to offer.

Everyone in ICU is a family, but what we have at Ginkgo House is definitely something more than that. First floor Ginkgo house is filled with different types of personalities and we are all unique in our own ways. But our brotherhood would not be the same with even one person out of the picture. And we are extending our invitation to you to be part of our brotherhood.

There really isn't a single bland day in Ginkgo House. We are always doing something together, and someone is always cracking up at something. Some people would practice their dances in the middle of the night, and some will make delicious food for you (and desserts!) just when you realize you forgot to get some groceries the day before. The TV will constantly be on with the occasional spontaneous movie nights and game nights. And if you hear some people arguing at the top of their lungs, don't worry! It's just Super Smash Bros. Well, not "just" smash... we take it very seriously. Got to study? Need some career/academic/life advice? We've all been in your shoes, and we will always be there for you to help. There will always be somebody that will go to eat ramen with you, or even random Seven-Eleven runs between those hard studying during finals week. Oh, I almost forgot. Love sports? Play with us in the Okada soccer cup! Don't worry about experience! Most of us are beginners too, and we're all just there to have fun together. These are just a few of the many things we want to share with you.

But most importantly, Ginkgo house is filled with people who just want to get to know you and be closer brothers with you. Ginkgo house is an awesome place that respects and recognizes each other's differences and embraces each other's personalities and values.

We hope that we will be able to share these experiences with you! Come to Ginkgo House!

(2nd Floor)

Thank you for checking out the second floor of Ginkgo dorm! Choosing a dorm at ICU is a tough choice as each dorm holds a different color. Your dorm life will become a huge part of your university life so I will try to briefly describe our dorm so that you can make the best decision to enjoy campus life.

Our dorm was built in 2011 and is one of the newer dorms. It is located next to the Gakki (cafeteria), and is the closest dorm to the Honkan (main hall). Because of the easy access the dorm provides, you have plenty of time to sleep in and get ready for your classes. The dorm includes your room which will be shared with your roommate, common showers, a common kitchen, a common laundry and sunroom, study room and a social area with a tv (recorder as well!!!). These facilities are kept neat and tidy by a rotational system we call duty, in which a pair of roommates cleans the kitchen every night. Most of the floor is of common usage within your floormates, however you will be able to have enough privacy in your room, as a cupboard in the middle splits

your room. You may see a foot or two of your roommate peeping from behind the cupboard, but otherwise you can balance your private and social life.

I have never been bored living on this floor since the day I moved in. You will always find people watching TV together in the social room, cooking food together in the kitchen, or pulling all nighters together in the study room to prepare for exams. We are a warm and welcoming group with various interests so you will come to find it very easy to get along with each one of us. We also hold various events (initiation, dorm festival, Christmas caroling, okada cup, kick out) throughout the year that allow us to get to know each other better, by working together and taking part in the events. We get along throughout the different years as we treat each other as an equal unlike the traditional senpai-kouhai relationship Japanese societies tend to have.

We also have the best dorm parents who live at the entrance of the dorm, who help us by managing and cleaning the facilities, and taking photos of our performances and events. They are so friendly that you always see them having conversations with other dorm students. They are the most supportive and caring dorm parents you can ever have.

The second floor of Ginkgo is full of students with various backgrounds and ages. By living with people of different backgrounds, you will be able to gain different perspectives and receive advice about courses, career plans, and in and out of uni extracurricular activities. University may change your lifestyle, friends, interests, thinking process, and future plans in a whole new direction you wouldn't expect. You may be perplexed at first but your dorm mates will be your supporters and walk through your fun and hard times with you during university.

No matter where you end up choosing, you will have unforgettable experiences, meetings and findings, however I can assure you that my choice to be a part of the Ginkgo dorm has been the best decision I made since coming to ICU. We look forward to see you as a part of the Ginkgo family!

Ginkgo 2nd Floor
Momoko Osawa
Mizuki Oshima

(3rd Floor)

Welcome to Ginkgo Dorm 3rd Floor! I'm here to give you a sneak peek at our exhilarating floor!

The 3rd floor consists of around 40 students from not only Japan, but from all around the world such as Germany, Brazil, and the United States. In addition, we make sure that extroverts and introverts are able to live under the same roof comfortably, so there's no need to worry if you feel shy! And if you want to make friends, we have people roaming around the kitchen and social room 24/7 who are mostly all ears! We don't have much of a senpai-kouhai system going on, but upperclassmen are always happy to give advice about school work and teachers (and spoil you sometimes!). We also have people in a variety of clubs such as the Theater Club, Handbell Club, Glee Club, etc. And they are all happy to give you advice about choosing a club (warning: they will try to recruit you!).

Let me tell you a story about myself. I'm an only child with Japanese parents who moved to the

United States about 10 years before I was born, and my mom gave birth to me at a hospital in New York. I'm what you call a second-generation. I've lived all my life in the United States and only went back to Japan once a year during summer vacation. So, Ginkgo Dorm is the first legitimate "Home" I've ever had in Japan. At first, I really didn't want to live in a dorm. I wanted privacy, I didn't want to be surrounded by people 24/7, and I thought that I wouldn't be able to get close with anyone because my Japanese was horrid. I wanted to live alone. But now I can't imagine a life outside Ginkgo Dorm. Once during a hurricane, we couldn't go outside so a bunch of us got together and started to play a game. It was so fun that we couldn't stop, and a lot of us were up till 5AM the next day! Life in dorms have been so fulfilling and I really hope that I can share the experience I've had with you too!

Dorms are truly a wonder! Especially Ginkgo Dorm! If you're planning to live here for the full 4 years, it really does pass by so quickly. One moment you're at the chapel for the matriculation ceremony, the next moment you're there once again for graduation. All the former Ginkgo Dorm students always come back to visit, and every time they do, they always talk about wanting to return to those days they've spent in dorms. If you're an OYR or OTR, living in dorms really does give you a peek at life in Japan more comfortably. You'll be able to experience talking in Japanese within your daily life and also the infamous midnight combini (grocery store) runs. And even if you aren't a first year and you're joining us during your 2nd, 3rd, or even your 4th year, we always make it home for everyone so don't you worry.

We're here with open arms and are happy to welcome people no matter your age and race. We really hope that we can share our Ginkgo Dorm experiences with you!

Ginkgo 3rd Floor HARU©