The city: The Japanese city of Hiroshima (Japanese: 広島市 Hiroshima-shi) is the capital of Hiroshima Prefecture, and is the largest city in the Chūgoku region of western Honshū, the largest of Japan's islands. The story of Hiroshima begins in 1589. This was the first year that Terumoto Mori, grandson of Motonari Mori and lord of most of the Chugoku Region, began building a new castle and town on the Ota-gawa River delta. However, Hiroshima is more known throughout the world as the first city in history subjected to nuclear warfare when it was bombed by the United States of America during World War II. The story of Hiroshima must be passed on forever in an effort to achieve lasting peace and assure this tragedy is never repeated. To this end, virtually all tourists in Hiroshima make a point of visiting the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, built in 1955 to preserve and convey to future generations the horrific effects of the atom bomb. Alongside this examination of recent history, this rich city also boasts a large number of art museums and public galleries, a zoo, botanical garden, and many other educational facilities.

The University: Hiroshima Jogakuin University was founded in 1886 as a small Christian school for women by Rev. T. Sunamoto, in cooperation with Rev. J. W. and W. R. Lambuth, representative of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Today Hiroshima Jogakuin University is an institution of higher learning for women. The school consists of the Faculty of Literature, the Faculty of Human Life Science and the Graduate School. The total enrollment – including international students – is approximately 1870. The five key principles upon which HJU is founded are Christianity, Feminism, the promotion of the city of Hiroshima, Peace and Cosmopolitanism.

Programs available to UTM students: UTM students may study at Hiroshima Jogakuin University and take Japanese classes. This program is rather small and courses are designed to meet our students’ needs. Also, students may take some classes in the English department (e.g. writing) to improve their Japanese (as these classes are typically taught in Japanese). Students may choose to study for either one term or two. Students may begin their studies in either the spring term (early April through end of July) or fall term (September through February). Scholarships and financial aid are available. For more information on studying at Hiroshima Jogakuin University, please contact Kyoko Hammonds, Lecturer of Japanese, 427A Humanities, ext. 7484 [kyhammond@utm.edu] or Sandra Baker, Director, International Programs, 144A Gooch Hall, ext. 7352 [sbaker@utm.edu].