

Letters To The Editor

Reconsider purpose of study

What is the purpose of studying at a university? Ideally, a university is a place to study and deepen knowledge in a field students are interested in. However, it seems that university students in Japan lose their desire to study hard after passing the entrance examination.

Because Japanese think it is important to graduate from a famous university, high school students study very hard to pass entrance examinations.

They then choose a university just to get a good job after graduating and do not think about what they really want to study.

Also, the current system in which students can easily get credits makes it clear to them that they need not study hard.

Indeed, in some universities and in some courses students can often get credits without even attending classes. Some skip classes or, even worse, do not go to school at all.

Students also lose interest in studying in their field when the content of their classes is boring. Furthermore, they have to take compulsory subjects that they are not at all interested in, making it difficult for them to study hard.

What can students do to change their attitude toward learning? First, they should think about what they want to study or should study.

If they choose a university this way, they will not lose their desire to study.

Also, to motivate students to study and to keep their interest, universities must try to give good lectures, reduce compulsory subjects and reduce the size of classes.

Both universities and students should reconsider what the purpose of studying at university is.

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Readers are encouraged to write letters to the editor. No subject is taboo, although letters are edited in view of space limitations and to ensure clarity.

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