# Letter of motivation

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| At the age of 17 I got the possibility to go to Japan for one month with a sport exchange program offered by my sports club. I lived with a Japanese host family and was overwhelmed by their kindness and the beauty of Japan and its culture. It really fascinated me back then and is still doing so. The circumstance that I had some communication problems with my host family due to the fact that they barley spoke any English was really motivating me and after coming home I learnt Japanese for 2 years almost every day and visited them again afterwards. They were really surprised, and I finally could communicate with them without bigger problems. It was a big achievement for me, but I was still not satisfied, so I kept studying. I have been learning Japanese for over 6 years now. About 4 years I learnt almost every day. Without any longer stay in Japan I was able to pass the highest Japanese language proficiency test, the N1 (approximately C1) in December 2016. With the semester abroad, I hope I can push my Japanese knowledge to a level where I can use it in my later professional or academic career. I hope that will help me to get a broader academic view on economical topics than I could get otherwise. Furthermore, it is an opportunity for me to speak with Japanese students to get a deeper understanding of Japan’s economy and research. Regarding the academical reasons why I think Japan is a great choice for a student of business administration with focus on finance. Tokyo is the capital of the third-largest economy in the world and a major financial center. The city is the headquarters of many of the world’s largest investment banks and insurance companies. It is also the hub for the country’s telecommunication, electronic, broadcasting and publishing industries. It goes without saying that the Tokyo University is the best and most prestigious Universities in Japan.  With the “USTEP G” program of the Tokyo University I will be able to visit both Japanese and English lectures. At the University of Munich, I specialized in finance, but the range of offered lectures is limited. By complementing the offered lectures with lectures offered by the Tokyo University I will be able to receive a better education in finance by professional and academic means. I will not only deepen my knowledge in finance but will also receive important input for my master thesis which I plan to write in the field of finance research, especially I am interested in firm’s capital structure after a long depression and low interest rate politics. Japan is the most interesting real-life example with consecutive 20 years of regression that followed the burst of the asset price bubble 1991 which is still a relevant topic for Japanese politics until now. During my study at the technical university of Munich in the winter term 2014/2015 I volunteered for the „Buddy-Program“ and assisted a Japanese exchange student with several issues and showed him the German student life. I am regularly participating in the „Language-Cafe“ offered by the TU and I am developing a Japanese learning platform designed for native German speakers together with my twin brother which will be published end of this year. During the sports exchange program mentioned earlier I also tried Kendo for the first time. Last semester I learned that there is a Kendo class offered in Munich. Therefore, I am doing Kendo (Japanese fencing) for 8 months now. My grades in the Bachelor program of the LMU were very good and I belonged at least to the best 10%. I will have no problems to finish my master’s degree within the regular study time. I would be more than happy if I could get the opportunity to develop myself academically, language wise and personally with a semester abroad at the Tokyo University. |