

ASEAN IN TODAY'S WORLD (ASTW) 2026



11 Days

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Introduction about AsTW

Established in 2009 by Kyushu University's International Student Center (ISC), the ASEAN in Today's World (AsTW) program is a short-term study abroad initiative. It focuses exclusively on the ASEAN region, which has significantly increased its political and economic influence on the global stage. The program's main goal is to develop capable human resources to serve as future Asian ambassadors, actively participating in global affairs. Recognizing the need for individuals who can bridge the gap between Asia and the world, the ISC conceptualized and implemented this program.



AsTW hosted at Vietnam National University, Hanoi in 2015

Since its inception, AsTW has collaborated with prestigious universities in ASEAN countries as host institutions. By 2026, six esteemed universities in ASEAN and Japan—Universiti Malaya, Mahidol University, Ateneo de Manila University, Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Universitas Gadjah Mada, and Kyushu University—have joined forces for the program. Supported by the ASEAN Secretariat and the ASEAN University Network (AUN), these institutions aim to nurture global leaders with a deep understanding of ASEAN's dynamics.

For 2026, the ASEAN in Today's World 2026 program will be co-hosted by Vietnam National University, Hanoi. The primary venue will be the VNU 144 Xuan Thuy campus. This collaborative effort reflects a collective commitment to fostering cross-cultural exchange, understanding, and cooperation within the ASEAN region and beyond. Through AsTW, participants not only gain academic insights but also develop invaluable cultural and diplomatic skills essential for navigating today's interconnected world.

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Program Structure

• Part 1: Online Course (1 Credit)

Provider	Topic	Format	Deadline
Kyushu University	Introduction to ASEAN (Expected)	A self-paced, on-demand course.	February 14–28 Course must be completed and assignments must be submitted before the in-person program begins.

• Part 2: In-person (2 Credits)

Theme: Shaping ASEAN's Future towards Sustainable Development.

Period: March 2 (Monday) – March 12 (Thursday), 2026.

Venue: Vietnam National University, Hanoi (VNU).

Content: The course will consist of fifteen 1.5-hour-long classes. Lectures will be delivered by professors from Kyushu University (4 classes) and VNU (remaining classes), as well as a special 3-hour lecture from the ASEAN Secretariat.

Activities: The program is designed to be highly interactive, combining academic lectures with practical activities:

Orientation & Campus Tour	The program will begin with an orientation and a tour of the VNU 144 Xuan Thuy campus.
Team Building & Group Discussions	Students will participate in team-building activities and group discussions in preparation for their final presentations.
Cultural & Field Trips	The schedule includes several excursions, such as a Ha Noi half-day tour (Hoan Kiem Lake, Ngoc Son Temple, Old Quarters), a visit to Bat Trang Pottery Village, and a night tour at the Temple of Literature.
Full-day Excursion	A day-long trip on Saturday is planned to the Thai Hai Ecotourism Village and Duong Lam Ancient Village.
Final Presentation	Students will deliver final presentations, which are included in the total class time.

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Tentative schedule

WEEK 1							
Time	Mon (02)	Tue (03)	Wed (04)	Thu (05)	Fri (06)	Sat (07)	
07.30-09.00	- Kyushu delegates + Students's arrival (may include Sunday March 1st if necessary) - Preparation	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus (Hoa Lac)	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus	- Moving to Thai Hai Ecotourism Village	
09.00-10.30		Lecture by ASEAN Secretariat	VNU 1	KU 1	VNU 3	Enjoy activities at Thai Hai Ecotourism Village (Lunch included)	
10.30-10.45		Break	Break	Break	Break		
10.45-12.15		Lecture by ASEAN Secretariat	VNU 2	KU 2	VNU 4		
12.15-13.30		Lunch break					
13.30-15.00			Orientation by VNU	Ha Noi half-day tour (Hoan Kiem Lake, Ngoc Son Temple, Ha Noi Old Quarters)	Meeting with VNU VIBERS on Design Thinking for Sustainable Development	VNU 5	Enjoy activities at Thai Hai Ecotourism Village
15.00-15.15			Break		Break	Break	Move to Duong Lam Ancient Village
15.15-16.45			Campus tour (144 Xuan Thuy)		Meeting with VNU VIBERS on Design Thinking for Sustainable Development	VNU 6	
16.45-18.00		- Moving to VNU campus	Team building	Free dinner	Moving to hotel	Moving to hotel	Discover Duong Lam Ancient Village
18.00-18.45		Opening ceremony	Moving to hotel				
18.45-20.30	Welcome party	Free	Explore a Night tour at the Temple of Literature	Free dinner & Group discussion for final presentation	Free	Enjoy "Night at Ancient village" with cultural and traditional activities	
20.30-21.00	Moving to hotel					Moving to hotel	

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Tentative schedule

WEEK 2						
Time	Mon (09)	Tue (10)	Wed (11)	Thu (12)	Fri (13)	Sat (14)
07.30-09.00	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus	- Breakfast - Moving to VNU campus - Checkout and leave luggages at the hotel	Checkout and departure (if any)	
09.00-10.30	VNU 7	KU 3	Discover Bat Trang Pottery Village	Final presentation		
10.30-10.45	Break	Break				
10.45-12.15	VNU 8	KU 4				
12.15-13.30	Lunch break			Closing ceremony & Farewell lunch		
13.30-15.00	Study visit (TBC)	Group discussion for final presentation	Free		Free	
15.00-15.15						
15.15-16.45						
16.45-18.00		Moving to hotel				
18.00-18.45	Moving to hotel	Free				
18.45-20.30	Free					
20.30-21.00					Move to airport (KU students)	

*The program will be held for 10 days, and will be run in accordance with the above schedule.

March 2

A warm welcome to Ha Noi

03.2026

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Upon arrival at Noi Bai International Airport, Kyushu delegates and students will be transferred by private vehicle to the **Western Ha Noi Hotel** to check in and prepare for the program.

In the late afternoon, the group will move to the VNU campus for the official **Opening Ceremony** at the ULIS-Jonathan KS. Choi Culture Center.

In the evening, a **Welcome Party** will be hosted, providing an opportunity for everyone to get acquainted and receive a briefing on the upcoming itinerary. Following the party, the group will be transferred back to the hotel.





46th ASEAN Summit (Plenary)

Kuala Lumpur, 26 May 2025

ASTW 2026



Tuesday, March 3

Day 2

After breakfast, the group will move to the **VNU campus**. The day begins with **the first academic session**, featuring two lectures delivered by the **ASEAN Secretariat**.

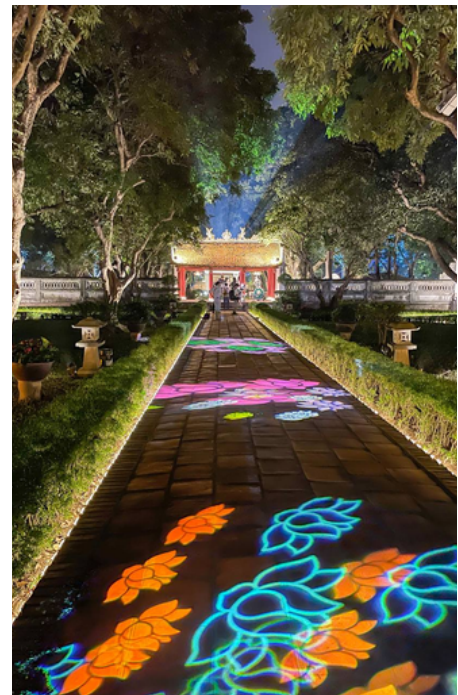
Following lunch, the afternoon is dedicated to the official **Orientation by VNU**. Students will then get acquainted with the university grounds during a **campus tour of the 144 Xuan Thuy campus**.

As the academic day concludes, an interactive **Team Building** session forges new connections among the participants. The evening is then open for a **free dinner**, allowing time for relaxation and reflection before returning to the hotel.

DAY 3

The academic day begins with a morning of deep learning at the VNU campus, featuring **VNU Lectures 1 & 2**.

Following the morning sessions, the journey transitions from modern academia to the timeless allure of the capital. Delegates will embark on a **Hanoi half-day tour**, stepping directly into the city's vibrant history.



Wednesday

March 4

The path leads to the serene **Hoan Kiem Lake** (Lake of the Restored Sword) and the sacred **Ngoc Son Temple**, a sanctuary of tranquility. The exploration continues into the bustling **Hanoi Old Quarters**, a 1,000-year-old labyrinth of 36 ancient streets, each pulsating with unique character and commerce.

After an evening **free for dinner** at your leisure, the day culminates in an unforgettable experience: an exclusive **Night Tour at the Temple of Literature**. As darkness falls, Vietnam's first national university is transformed, its ancient courtyards and stone turtles illuminated, offering a mystical and profound glimpse into the heart of Vietnamese scholarship.



DAY 4

March 5

Thursday

The day's journey ventures to the modern **VNU Hoa Lac campus**. The morning is dedicated to global perspectives, featuring keynote lectures **KU 1 and KU 2** delivered by esteemed faculty from Japan's **Kyushu University**.

After lunch, the focus shifts to creation. Delegates will immerse themselves in an intensive workshop, **Meeting with VNU VIBERS on Design Thinking for Sustainable Development**. The day's inspiration concludes with an evening **Group discussion**, translating new ideas into plans for the **final presentation**.



DAY 5



Friday

March 6

Today is a comprehensive academic marathon, beginning after breakfast with a move to the **VNU campus**. The day is dedicated to a deep scholarly dive, plunging delegates into an intensive series of lectures: **VNU 3** and **VNU 4** in the morning, followed by **VNU 5** and **VNU 6** in the afternoon.

The evening's focus shifts from learning to application, with a dedicated **Group discussion for the final presentation**, translating the day's insights into tangible progress.

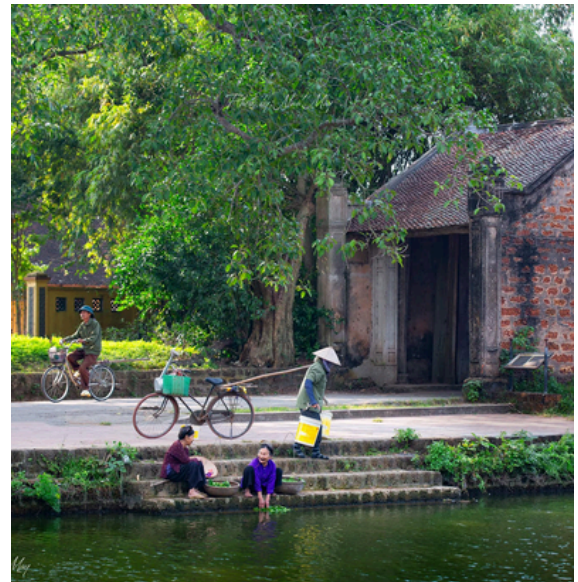
DAY 6

March 7

Saturday



The journey today leaves the city's energy behind, transporting delegates to the tranquil **Thai Hai Ecotourism Village**. Here, participants will immerse themselves in Vietnam's stunning natural landscapes, **enjoying local activities** and a traditional lunch set against a backdrop of serene beauty.



As the afternoon light softens, the path winds further back in time to **Duong Lam Ancient Village**. Delegates will discover centuries-old architecture and walk lanes steeped in legend.

The experience culminates in an unforgettable evening. First, an authentic **Dinner at an ancient house** offers a taste of traditional life. This is followed by "**Night at Ancient village**," a magical immersion into local cultural and traditional activities, offering a profound connection to the region's heritage.





DAY 7

Sunday

March 8



After breakfast, the entire day is designated as a **free day** for all participants.

Following an intensive week of lectures and a full-day excursion, this provides a valuable opportunity for students to rest or explore Hanoi's diverse cultural sites and culinary offerings at their own pace.

No official program activities are scheduled, and all meals (except breakfast) are at the students' own discretion.





DAY 8 **Monday**, March 9



Following breakfast, the journey returns to the **VNU campus** for the second week of academic immersion. The morning is dedicated to advanced topics, plunging delegates into the intensive curriculum of **VNU 7** and **VNU 8**.

Following the lunch break, the afternoon shifts from the classroom to a practical, real-world setting. Students will conduct a **study visit**. This excursion provides a valuable opportunity for participants to see how the concepts of sustainable development and policy are applied in a professional environment. The evening is **free** for students to dine at their leisure.

DAY 9

Tuesday

March 10



The academic journey continues at the **VNU campus**, beginning with a morning dedicated to advanced international perspectives. Delegates will immerse themselves in the final lectures from Kyushu University, **KU 3** and **KU 4**.

Following the lunch break, the focus shifts entirely from theory to application.

The afternoon is dedicated to an intensive **Group discussion for the final presentation**. This is a critical session where ideas are forged, strategies are refined, and the teams' final projects begin to take shape.

As the productive day concludes, the delegation moves to the hotel, leaving the evening **free** for dining at leisure and personal reflection.



DAY 10 **March 11**

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Wednesday

Following breakfast, the journey transitions from academic halls to the living heart of Vietnamese tradition. The delegation will embark on an immersive morning excursion to **Bat Trang Pottery Village**, a legendary craft center steeped in centuries of history.

Here, participants will witness master artisans at their wheels, explore the ancient kilns, and touch the soul of a craft that has defined the region's culture.

Following the morning's exploration and lunch, the entire afternoon and evening are designated as **free time**, allowing students to rest, prepare for their final presentations, or independently explore Hanoi.





DAY 11 **March 12**

The final day dawns, bringing the delegation to the **VNU campus** for the culmination of their academic journey. The morning is dedicated to the **Final Presentations**, where each group will showcase the innovative solutions and profound insights developed over the intensive program.



Following the presentations, the atmosphere shifts to one of celebration for the formal **Closing Ceremony**. This culminating event, honoring the delegates' hard work, transitions seamlessly into a warm Farewell Lunch, marking a final moment of shared connection.

Thursday



After the farewell party, the students will leave for the airport or manage their own schedules (if any). An airport transfer will be arranged in the evening for the Kyushu University's participants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

APPLICATIONS FROM NON-ASTW CONSORTIUM MEMBER UNIVERSITIES

-  Cooperation and Development Department,
Vietnam National University, Hanoi
-  astw2026@vnu.edu.vn

APPLICATIONS FROM ASTW CONSORTIUM MEMBER UNIVERSITIES

-  International Student Exchange Division
Kyushu University, Japan
-  astw-program@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp