

## LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS

# Promotion of International Education and Research

Kyoto University actively endeavors to apply the knowledge and technologies generated by its research to educational activities and regional services which will benefit society.

### EDUCATION PROJECT

## KyotoUx to commence on April 10, 2014.

Interactive online classes and MOOCs from Kyoto, Japan.



The screenshot shows the edX website interface. At the top, there are navigation links: 'HOW IT WORKS', 'COURSES', 'SCHOOLS', and 'REGISTER NOW'. A 'log in' button is in the top right. Below the navigation is a banner image of a building with the text '京都大学 KYOTO UNIVERSITY KyotoUx'. A 'Back to schools' link is on the left. The main content area features a course card for '001x: The Chemistry of Life' with a 'learn more' button. The course card includes the text: 'Learn how to generate ideas at the interface between chemistry and biology.' and 'STARTS: 10 Apr 2014 INSTRUCTORS: Motonari Uesugi: KyotoUx'.

Edx is a non-profit online learning initiative by the leading global institutions of the xConsortium. It offers innovative online courses that implement new teaching methods on an open source platform, including massive open online courses (MOOCs) and blended learning programs that combine interactive online courses at the partner universities and in-person courses at the home university, to any student regardless of age, status, or income level.

Kyoto University has become the first Japanese university to be a part of EdX. Kyoto University launched its OpenCourseWare (OCW) project in 2005 to deliver online courses, and was invited to join EdX because of the outstanding quality and quantity of the materials on offer.

The first edX course by Kyoto University is The Chemistry of Life taught by Prof. Motonari Uesugi of the Institute for Integrated Cell-Material Sciences and Institute for Chemical Research. The course will commence on April 10, 2014. The Chemistry of Life is a general education course for first and second year students at Kyoto University that aims to develop the students' ability to generate new ideas by bringing together knowledge from

the fields of chemistry and biology. The course is open to everyone and may be accessed from the link below. If you are interested, why not give it a try! Registration for a course is still available.

**The Chemistry of Life:** [www.edx.org/course/kyotoux/kyotoux-001x-chemistry-life-858](http://www.edx.org/course/kyotoux/kyotoux-001x-chemistry-life-858)

**KyotoUx (external link):** [www.edx.org/school/kyotoux](http://www.edx.org/school/kyotoux)

**OpenCourseWare (OCW):** [ocw.kyoto-u.ac.jp/](http://ocw.kyoto-u.ac.jp/)

**Dr. Naoko Tosa (left)**

*Professor, Academic Center for Computing and Media Studies*

**WEB** [www.tosa.media.kyoto-u.ac.jp](http://www.tosa.media.kyoto-u.ac.jp) [www.naokotosa.comc.jp](http://www.naokotosa.comc.jp)

**Dr. Toru Iiyoshi (right)**

*Director & Professor, Center for the Promotion of Excellence in Higher Education*

**WEB** [www.educause.edu/members/toru-iiyoshi](http://www.educause.edu/members/toru-iiyoshi)

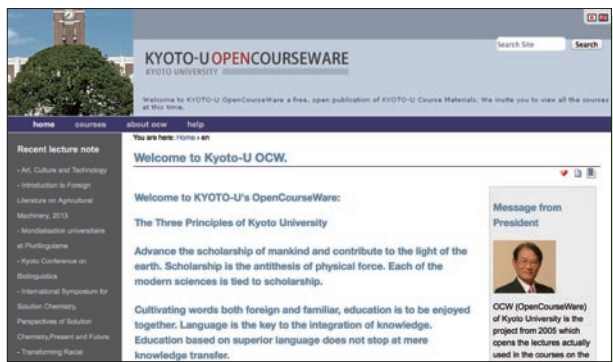
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzaLqeGwCPE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzaLqeGwCPE) (He is talking about EdX at TEDxYouth@Kyoto)



## EDUCATION PROJECT

## Kyoto University OpenCourseWare

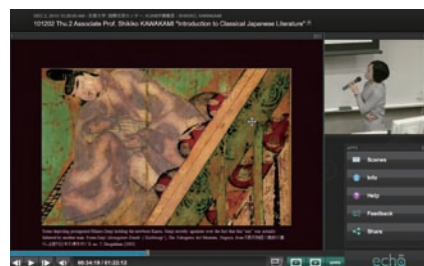
*KU course materials and lectures are available on the web.*



The Kyoto University OpenCourseWare (OCW) project was initiated in 2005 to make selected Kyoto University course materials available on the Web. By publishing the course materials and lectures online the initiative seeks to make the benefits of Kyoto University's education more widely available: not only to the university's students, faculty, and staff, but also to students at other universities, researchers in the academic community, high school students aspiring to enter Kyoto University, and adults seeking further education. The OCW also

plays an important role in increasing the international visibility of Kyoto University and proactively disseminating information on Japanese culture and tradition. With the aim of enhancing human knowledge assets and making them available around the world, the Kyoto University OCW will promote international exchange and expand the scope of university's communication with countries around the world.

**WEB** [ocw.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en](http://ocw.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en)



## ENHANCEMENT OF RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

## Kyoto University Launches New MEXT Research Promotion Program

The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) has launched a new program to financially support major Japanese research universities and institutes in further strengthening their promotion of research activities. Kyoto University was selected for the initiative based on its proposal for two types of program—classified as the “Menu A” and “Menu B” programs—which share the common theme of “strengthening research power through trans-boundary approaches.”

The Menu A program consists of plans to recruit university research administrators (URAs), and Kyoto University is aiming to invigorate its URA system by employing twenty new URA staff members in early 2014. The Menu B program comprises various research promotion initiatives such as the Supporting Program for Interaction-based Initiative Team Studies (SPIRITS), the Super John Mung Program, which supports the international development of university faculty and staff, and the Hyakkasōmei Project, which seeks to create a platform for scholars to gather and freely discuss contemporary academic and intellectual issues.

Kyoto University's Research Administration Office (KURA) is in charge of coordinating and managing the program in collaboration with a number of administrative sectors within the university.



**WEB** [research.kyoto-u.ac.jp](http://research.kyoto-u.ac.jp)