

Sub-Program/Component	Advancement of Governance / Economics
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1	University	Ritsumeikan University (Private)
	Graduate School	Graduate School of Economics
	URL of University	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/eng/
	URL of Graduate School	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/eng/html/admissions/program_en/graduate/master/mped/home/
	Program Name	Master's Program in Economic Development
	Degrees	Master of Economics
	Credit and Years needed for Graduation	30 Credits 2 Years

2. Features of University

General Information:

Year of Establishment:	1900
Founding Spirit:	Freedom and Innovation
Educational Philosophy:	Peace and Democracy
Educational Goal:	The learning and development of individual talents in order to nurture just and ethical global citizens.
Enrollment:	36,576 (Undergraduate: 33,120, Graduate Students: 3,456)
International Students:	1,113 students from 38 countries and regions (Undergraduate Students:678, Graduate Students:435)
Total Number of Faculty Members (excluding part-time instructors):	1,129
Total Number of Alumni:	318,481
Total Number of Administrative Staff (The Ritsumeikan Trust):	1,167 (Full-time staff: 629, Contract Staff: 538)
Partner Universities & Institutions:	393 universities and institutions from 61 countries and regions
Number of Campuses:	3 (2 in Kyoto, 1 in Kusatsu)
Number of Colleges:	13
Number of Graduate Schools:	16
Number of Overseas Offices:	8 (Canada, China, Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, Norway, Taiwan, and Vietnam)

Ritsumeikan's history begins with its establishment as a private academy in 1869 by Prince Kinmochi Saionji, an eminent international statesman of modern Japan and advocate of Freedom and Internationalism. In 1900, Saionji's protégé Kojuro Nakagawa retained Saionji's spirit and

established the Kyoto Hosei School, an evening law school that was open to working people. With Saionji's blessing, the name of this school was changed to Ritsumeikan Private University in 1913. At present, the Kinugasa and Suzaku campuses in Kyoto, as well as at the Biwako Kusatsu Campus (hereinafter referred to as "BKC") in Shiga prefecture combined are home to more than 36,000 students learning under the core educational philosophy of *Peace and Democracy*. In order to nurture just and ethical global citizens, Ritsumeikan is working to foster creativity and the development of individual talents on a solid foundation of academic achievement.

Research Advancement: Recognizing that contemporary issues extend beyond existing fields of research, Ritsumeikan University is actively engaged in producing world-class research and fostering researchers who have the skills to succeed on the world stage. Through multidisciplinary cooperation, a number of RU research projects have been selected as part of the Global COE and 21st Century COE programs, and we work daily to strengthen our network of researchers both in Japan and overseas.

Achievements: 7 approaches adopted by the Monbukagakusho's (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)) Support Program for Improving Graduate School Good Practice, 4 fields adopted for "The 21st Century COE Program", and 3 centers adopted by "The Global COE Program"

3. Features of Graduate School

Since its establishment in 1950, the Graduate School of Economics at Ritsumeikan University has produced many outstanding graduates who have entered the business world, central and local governments, and various research organizations. Located near Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan, the campus offers a beautiful natural environment along with the highest level of facilities and equipment. The faculty of Economic has nurtured as much as 50,000 students with independence and ability in business. We feel proud that we kept a prominent position among a lot of graduate schools and faculties of economics in Japan in terms of quality of education and research.

4. Features of the Program

The school has offered the program for international students in English since 2001. These have proved popular with international students who enjoy taking courses in English in a Japanese academic environment, while working with their academic advisors on the writing and submission of their theses. The Master's Program in Economic Development (MPED) starting from September 2002 is a course in fundamental economic theory such as Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Econometrics and applied economics, conforming to international standards and taught entirely in English. This course accepts students with strong interest in Japan and the Asian regional development from developing and developed countries, and will foster researchers - who have acquired specialized knowledge along with a strong sense of reality - and highly specialized professionals who can lead the international community. The aim of this program is to nurture talented individuals with wide-ranging discernment who can become leading figures in international society (in whichever field).

Graduates of this program will acquire:

1. Economic analysis skills and knowledge at an international standard level;

2. Specialized and wide-ranging insight and abilities concerning growth strategies for developing countries and transitional economies;
3. Communication skills required for international conferences, international organizations and international cooperation;
4. Deep understanding and insight into Japan and East Asia's socioeconomic situation.
 - Engage in national government and state-enterprise planning, policymaking, economic analysis, and international relations.
 - Be involved in the coordination of regional economic development through local government, NGOs and related international organizations.
 - Be involved with economic research and education at universities and research organizations; make economic strategy proposals and foster leaders of the next generation.

5. Necessary Curriculum to Obtain to the Degrees

- Core courses (Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics), international economics and development economics courses are for every student to build common knowledge on growth strategies of transitional economies.
- We instruct the students to take courses related to their research theme and to research a related research plan. We divide students into the areas of macroeconomics/quantitative analysis, trade/investment, public policy, and finance, and train about 4 experts in each area.
- We provide instruction not only on economics, but also on the experience of the Japanese and East Asian economies. We equip students with actual growth strategies of transitional economy through seminar with international students and fieldwork activities.
- Through Individual instruction we ensure students implement their research and completion their master's thesis

6. Academic Schedule

9/25	Fall Entrance Ceremony
9/26	Second Semester Begins, Second Semester Classes Begin
12/27	Winter Break Begins
1/5	Winter Break Ends
1/6	Second Semester Classes Recommence
1/31	Second Semester Classes End
2/1	Spring Break Begins
3/20	Graduation Ceremony (Master's Students) Suzaku
3/21	Graduation Ceremony (Master's Students) Kinugasa
3/22	Graduation Ceremony (Master's Students) BKC
3/31	Second Semester Ends, Spring Break Ends
<Reference: 2011>	
4/1	First Semester Begins
4/1-4/6	Graduate Student Orientation
4/4	Spring Entrance Ceremony
4/7	First Semester Classes Begin
8/3	First Semester Classes End
8/3	Summer Break Begins, Summer Intensive Courses Begin
9/23	Graduation Ceremony (Master's Students)
9/25	Summer Intensive Courses End, First Semester Ends,

7. Facilities

Student Dormitories: No rooms available

*It is possible for the university cooperative's real estate agency to provide students with single room accommodation.

*We are currently in the works of upgrading our provision of international accommodation in order to have 350 rooms available by 2011 and a total of 1,000 rooms available by 2020. As a concept, these will enable international students and Japanese students to occupy the same facilities so that they may interact on a daily basis.

Library Services: BKC is home to two academic information facilities. Academic literature related to science and engineering is found in the media center, whereas information related to economics and business administration is found in the media library. Both of these facilities are available to students regardless of the research departments to which they belong.

*Ritsumeikan University, as a whole, has a collection of 2,821,790 books. (Japanese: 1,949,257, Foreign language: 872,533)

*Students may also borrow materials from libraries on other campuses using our electronic library services system.

Multi-Media Room : Open from 8:30 – 22:00, and with 3 locations on campus, these computer rooms have over 450 computers put in place to assist students with their independent study. We provide this environment to facilitate the learning and review of class materials, the creation of reports, class registration, E-mail, and other educational research activities. Moreover, there are on-site staff who work to assist computer users during operating hours.

Health Center : Located on campus, the health center promotes the health of students through a combination of general health support services and a medical office that specializes in internal medicine. To ensure their good health, all students must take part in a yearly health check that assesses their overall health condition and, depending on the result, follows up with additional tests as necessary. Students with any persevering health issues are put under watch and given follow up medical guidance until graduation.

Counseling : In addition to professional counseling 5 times a week in Japanese, we also offer counseling services in English 4 days a week.

Training Room : In order to support students from a health perspective, our campus has a training room with the equipment necessary for a healthy workout. Here, we have trainers residing nearby and students can use the gym facilities free of charge.

Restaurant / Cafeteria : On-campus we have a combination of several restaurants and cafeterias located on-campus that are designed to provide a variety of meals and double as communication spaces where students can interact with each other as well as with their professors.

Religious and Dietary Considerations : Among 6 dining locations on BKC campus exist cafeterias that provide halal food and vegetarian options in an effort to better provide a campus that is prepared to meet the dietary needs of its international population. Moreover, we also provide a room that students can use for prayer.

International Exchange Lounge and International Center : We have set up the lounge as an open area for international exchange where international students can interact with Japanese students and among themselves. Located adjacent to the International Center, the lounge allows students to quickly access information about student support and events targeted at international students and international exchange. Moreover, there are a variety of learning materials and media such as language textbooks and English language newspapers in addition to and a TV that can broadcast world news. Currently in the international center at BKC we have 1 foreign professor, and 19 full-time staff (1 native English speaker and 1 Chinese native speaker).

8. List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS fellows

Supervisor for each student would be determined based on their submitted research plan in the 2nd semester (around May).

AGATSUMA, Nobuhiko, IZAWA, Hiroshi, SHIMADA, Koji, XIAO-PING, Zheng, FURUKAWA, Akira, MATSUBARA, Toyohiko, SAKATA, Kei, TERAWAKI, Taku, QIN, Jie, HIRAGUCHI, Ryoji, HORI, Kazumi, INABA, Kazuo, OKAWA, Masayuki, KAJIYAMA, Naoki, KOIKE, Yoichi, MATSUNO, Shuji, SHIMAMURA, Yasuharu, LEE, KANGKOOK,