

Field of Study	Public Administration/ Public Policy
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1	University	University of Tsukuba (National)
	Graduate School	Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
	URL of University	http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/english/
	URL of Graduate School	http://www.chiiki.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/
	Program name	Master's Program in International Area Studies
	Degrees	Master of Arts in International Studies
	Credit and years needed for graduation	30credits, 1year

2 . Features of University

The University of Tsukuba, since its opening as a Normal School over 135 years ago, possesses a rich history and tradition. With the momentum created through the relocation of its predecessor, the Tokyo University of Education, to the Tsukuba area, the University of Tsukuba was established in October 1973 based on a new concept in education. Our university aims to be an "open university" in every perspective. With the basic principle of taking initiatives to realize the creation of a "flexible education and research structure" that was not possible in the past as well as a "new university system" that meets the needs of the next generation, the University of Tsukuba has become a forerunner in university reform in Japan. In this way, our university aspires to be an ideal university, continuously meeting new challenges and valuing the spirit of developing new areas. One distinctive characteristic which is particularly appealing to students and faculty and serves as the basis for their campus life is that our university is well endowed with an abundant natural environment. Our campus, with its quiet suburban setting removed from the bustle of metropolitan Tokyo, offers an advantageous environment in which our students and faculty are freely encouraged to develop their strengths in discussion, and expression. Our broad campus which serves as a gathering place for diverse students from every country of the world, as well as students from all over Japan, is a further characteristic of our university. The University of Tsukuba has developed into a university possessing a rich international flavor as well as great esteem for diverse values. In addition, as a comprehensive university with an unparalleled broad range of academic fields, we are actively expanding interdisciplinary and integrative approaches to education and research while further deepening expertise in specialized fields. Together with the wide dissemination of research results, we have achieved a respected reputation as a base for international research and education.

3 . Features of Graduate School

The basic aim of the Master's Program in International Area Studies is to provide a comprehensive academic understanding of the major regions in our rapidly changing world. The concept of area studies varies from one institution to another. Our program provides a comprehensive and interdisciplinary approach to the major regions of the world, emphasizing the process of historical

development, natural environment, social structures and culture. The instruction and research program is designed to give both specialized knowledge and professional training. Students are expected to acquire a good command of a selected analytical discipline as a basis of their research, but at the same time obtain understandings of other related disciplines and subjects to comprehensively and critically analyze the issues.

We are eager to accept many foreign students, and have various academic exchange agreements with universities around the world. Currently, over half of the enrolled students are foreign students. This helps the students to gain a broad and international perspective. The faculty is also international, and they come from about ten different countries. In addition to the JDS Program, we have three special English programs for Central Asian countries: Japanese Studies; Education and Cultural Policy; and Public Policy and Diplomacy in Central Asia.

4 . Features of the Program

The JDS Program is established as a special one-year Master's Program within the Masters Program in International Area Studies. (Regular Masters Program is a two-year program.) About 70 subjects are offered (in English) in the areas of international relations, area studies (history, politics, economics, culture studies, etc), development studies and other related disciplines. If it is considered valuable for the students' research themes, additional subjects offered in other Graduate Programs may be also selected. JDS fellows will be helped to develop their respective research topics that are policy relevant and clearly defined so they can complete their Master's theses within one year of research. Given the availability of faculty who are specialized in many different international area studies, a perspective of comparative analysis may be adopted in the theses. Each student will have one main advisor and two sub-advisors selected according to their respective research topics. In addition, a weekly JDS seminar (Special Seminar in Area Studies), which is attended by all JDS fellows and advising professors gives the students opportunities to present their research progress and receive advice and recommendations on a regular basis. The students are encouraged to adopt empirical research methods, such as field work and primary data collection.

Upon entering the program, the JDS fellows will first attend a general orientation and a summer school in Hokkaido. There, interdisciplinary courses are offered as an introduction to the program. In addition, another field visit (Okinawa or other areas in Japan) is conducted during the year. Throughout the academic year, various special seminars by invited outside lecturers are held. The JDS fellows work closely with their advising professors. While an independent attitude to advance their respective research is required, JDS fellows will also have ample opportunities to seek advices and instructions from the faculty. Additionally, each JDS fellow will have assigned a tutor (from among senior graduate students), who can help the fellows with their school life.

5 . Necessary Curriculum to Obtain to the Degrees

Within the curriculum of the Masters Program in International Area Studies, the JDS Program offers the following four categories of subjects:

1. Common Basic subjects
2. Common Specialized Subjects (Interdisciplinary Subjects)
3. Area Studies Subjects

4. Language and Cultural Studies Subjects

For detailed information of these subjects, please refer to the list below.

To obtain a "Master of Arts in International Studies" degree, students are required to satisfy the following requirements:

Minimum of 30 credits, including:

- Minimum 5 credits from "Common Basic" Subjects;
- Minimum 8 credits from "Common Specialized" and/or "Language and Cultural Studies" Subjects;
- Minimum 12 credits from "Area Studies" Subjects;

Submission of a master's thesis (or a Special Research Paper)

Each student will be assigned three academic advisors (one main advisor and two sub-advisors) who will supervise and advice on the preparation of master's thesis and other academic activities. Students meet in a weekly joint seminar attended by their advisors. This seminar is a good opportunity for the JDS fellows to present their research plan and progress of their thesis preparation to obtain advices from a wider audience.

Since 2007 academic year, the JDS Program started to conduct "Summer School" and "Study Tour" in locations outside Tsukuba (Hokkaido and Hiroshima for 2010). This provides opportunities for students to expand their understanding of the geographical and cultural diversity of Japan and also to learn from different types of academic activities, which may include field work and site visits of various local facilities and academic exchange with students of other universities in Japan.

Below, the subjects offered in English during 2010-2011 academic year are listed:

Research Workshop

Seminar on Special Topics

1. Common Basic Subjects

Research Workshop

Seminar on Special Topics

2. Common Specialized Subjects

International Relations

International Politics

History of International Relations

Comparative Culture

Comparative Literature

Comparative Politics

Comparative Economics

Comparative Education

Cultural Anthropology

Public Policy

Economic Development

International Sociology

Cross Cultural Management

International Culture

Cultural Policy

Educational Policy

3. Area Studies Subjects

Seminar on American Studies

American Politics

Seminar on Canadian Studies

Culture and Society in Canada

Special Lectures in Canadian Studies

Introduction to Latin American Studies

Economics of Latin America

Seminars in Latin American Studies

European Literature

European Culture and Society

Special Lectures in European Studies

Seminar on Central Asian Studies

Politics in Middle East and Central Asian Studies

Introduction to Southeast Asian Studies

Seminars on Southeast Asian Studies

Politics of Southeast Asia

Economics of Southeast Asia

Special Lectures in Southeast Asian Studies

Politics of Japan

Reading Materials for Japanese Language Research

4. Language and Cultural Studies Subjects

Spanish Language and Culture

Italian Language and Culture

French Language and Culture

German Language and Culture

Russian Language and Culture

Chinese Language and Culture

Korean Language and Culture

Modern Hebrew Language and Culture

Arabic Language and Culture

Latin Language and Culture

Classical Greek Language and Culture

Japanese Language and Culture

In addition to the subjects above, any other subjects that are offered in other Graduate Programs outside of the Masters Program in International Area Studies can be selected, provided they are approved by the students' main advisor. While there is no limit to the number of such outside subjects, only maximum of 6 credits can be counted as part of the required 30 credits.

6 . Academic Schedule**Academic Calendar for JDS Students (2011-2012 Academic Year)**

Entrance Ceremony	August 29
Program Orientation	August 8
Summer School	August 25-31

Fall Term	August 1 ~ November 30
Fall Classes Start	September 12
(Fall Break	November 26 ~ November 30)
Winter Term	December 1 ~ March 31, 2012
(Winter Break	December 26 ~ January 7, 2012)
(Spring Break	March 8 ~ April 7)
Spring Term	April 1 ~ July 31
Thesis Submission	May 18 & 19 (Reference)
Thesis Defense	Late May to Early June
Graduation	July 25 (2012)

7 . Facilities

No student dormitory is available for JDS fellows on campus, and fellows need to live in privately-owned rental apartments. After entry into Japan, JICE staff will assist the fellows with all the necessary procedures for renting apartments. On campus, students will have a full access to all the library facilities and Internet-connected computer rooms. Each fellow will also receive an individual copy card, which allows the student to make a set number of document copies in the Program photocopy room. JDS fellows will also be assigned an individual desk in the study room on campus.

University campus has various cafeterias, mini-shops, book stores, post office, a travel agency office, the foreign language center with language laboratory, the university medical clinic and International Student Center. A full range of exercise facilities on campus can also be utilized.

8 . List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS fellows

Faculty Members (2010-2011 Academic Year) and Specialization (REFERENCE)

Core Faculty Members for the JDS Program

*means who can supervise master's theses

Shigeo Osonoi	Latin American Politics (Dean, Masters Program in International Area Studies)
Mari Minowa*	Development Economics, Economics of Latin America (JDS Program Coordinator)
Carol Faucher*	Cultural Anthropology
Bukh Alexander*	International Relations between Russia and Japan
Kenichi Kashiwagi	Development Economics, Middle East and North Africa
Harald Kleinschmidt*	History of European International Relations, Regional Integration
Nathan Quimpo*	Development Studies, Southeast Asian Politics
Motoko Shuto*	International Relations, Politics of Southeast Asia
Leslie Tkach-Kawasaki*	Political Communication, New Media and Politics

Advising committee for each fellow will be determined after the second JDS seminar around mid September.

Faculty Members Teaching in the Masters Program in International Area Studies

* mark indicates professors who have lectures in English

Hirobumi Tsushiro	Religious Studies
Takeshi Kimura*	Religious Studies, American Studies
Shigeo Yamada	Assyriology
Shin Yamamoto	History of Contemporary China and Taiwan
Yoko Imaizumi*	Comparative Culture
Chieko Kano	Japanese Language Education
Takako Sakai	Japanese Language Education
Koetsu Sato	Ethics, History of Chinese Thought
Yoko Tanaka*	Economics European Countries
Yutaka Tsujinaka*	Comparative Politics
Aki Tokumaru	Folklore
Makoto Nakada	Comparative Culture
Masaki Ono	Japanese Language Education
Muneo Kaigo*	Comparative Culture
Choe, Jae-Young	Quantitative Study of Comparative Politics
Lian Pan*	Postwar Japanese Foreign Policy
Noriko Hiraishi*	Comparative Literature
Cade Bussnell	Conversation Analysis
Mitsuko Kido	Japanese Language Education
Timur Dadabaev	Central Asian Politics
Darieva Typylma*	Cultural Anthropology
Masako Shibata	Comparative Education Studies
Sunmi Park	History of Cultural Exchanges Modern Korea History
Myeongia Heo	Comparative Research of Japanese and Korean
Junichi Akashi*	Immigration Studies
Asuka Kawano*	Education in Central Asia, Social Education
Hironori Sekizaki	Japanese Language Education, Conversation Analysis
Akira Tezuka	Human Geography
Hiroshi Yamanaka	History of Religion, Sociology of Religion
Koichi Tachikawa	Social History of France
Hideki Chimoto	Social History of Modern Japan
Akira Tsuneki	Archaeology of the West Asia
Yasushi Nakano	Folklore
Hiroshi Maruyama	Socio-Religious History of China
Chitose Sato	American History
Jun Ikeda	Hebrew Studies, Semitic Linguistics
Makoto Ito	German Vocabularies
Noriko Kiyoto	Japanese Literature
Takeshi Sugimoto	Japanese Linguistics
Yuriko Sunakawa	Japanese Linguistics, Teaching Japanese Language

Yoshiko Numata	Japanese Linguistics
Yoichiro Miyamoto	American Literature, Cultural Theory
Manabu Akiyama	Mediterranean Studies, Western Classics Studies
Toshinobu Usuyama	Russian Language
Yuri Kato	Study of Research Papers in Russian
Infa Kim	Korean Linguistics, Korean Language Education
Tomoko Hifumi	Japanese Language Education
Taiji Azegami	Modern German Literature and Culture
Daisaku Ihara	Chinese Linguistics
Hiroshi Yamada	French Linguistics
Risako Ide	Linguistic Anthropology
Hideaki Ohtsuka	Chinese Linguistics
Susumu Kuroda	Nordic Culture
Christian Spang*	Japanese-German Relations, Geopolitics
Kazuo Miyazaki	History of Spain, Spanish Language
Thomas Brisson*	Sociology and Anthropology
Futoshi Kinoshita	Cultural Anthropology, Demographic Studies
Kazuko Kojima	Contemporary Chinese Politics and Society
Yuji Murayama	Human Geography
Masaaki Kureha	Human Geography, Regional Geography of Europe
Takafumi Ohtomo*	International Relation Theory, International Security
Hiroshi Tsuda	History of British Empire, Canadian Studies

9 . Message for Applicants

One of the important characteristics of the JDS Program at the University of Tsukuba is that it is a one-year program for the Master's degree. JDS fellows are expected to complete all the requirements for the degree in one year, while regular Japanese students complete these requirements over two years. Therefore, it is important that fellows are prepared to spend one year of very intensive academic work. While it is challenging, our experience with past cohorts of JDS fellows demonstrates that it is quite feasible to successfully complete the program with the Masters Degree in International Studies at the end. All of the JDS fellows arrive in Tsukuba with several years of experience in working for the government or other public organizations. Therefore, they have fairly clear motivation and understanding of the issues they want to investigate. This certainly helps the fellows to quickly focus their study plan.

For those of you who are considering applying to the JDS Program at the University of Tsukuba, our advice for you is to think very concretely about the important policy issues that are relevant for your country and your respective work areas, which also interest you. It will help you a lot once you start your study, to have as specific and concrete a research topic and research question you have as possible before you arrive in Japan.

While the JDS Program does not particularly intend to train an academic researcher, a strong analytical ability that the fellows acquire during their study in our graduate program should be a

valuable asset to all the graduating fellows whatever their future professional career may be.

Our University is very international, and you will have many chances to meet a lot of students from around the world as well as opportunities to make Japanese friends. The faculty of our program is also international. Professors are open and approachable, and very happy to help the JDS fellows make the best of the time they spend in Tsukuba.

The living environment of Tsukuba is not as hectic as in a big city like Tokyo, and you will enjoy comfortable and relaxed atmosphere of the campus and the surrounding areas. If you are successfully selected to become one of the JDS fellows to come to Tsukuba, you are certain to have a very intensive and productive, as well as quite memorable one year.