

Ritsumeikan University (Private)

Graduate School of Policy Science

Program name

Policy Science

◆ Degrees:

Master of Arts in Policy Science



◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

◆ Address:

2-150 Iwakura-cho, Ibaraki,
Osaka 567-8570 JAPAN

Features of University <http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/>

General Information: ***As of May 1, 2022**

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:	36,825
	(Undergraduate: 33,094, Graduate Students: 3,731)
Full-time International Students:	2,824 students from 72 countries and regions
	<i>*As of May 1, 2023</i> (Undergraduate Students: 1,726; Graduate Students: 1,098)

Total Number of Faculty Members (excluding part-time instructors)	1,395
Total Number of Alumni:	419,610
Total Number of Administrative Staff (The Ritsumeikan Trust):	1,393
	(Full-time staff: 720, Contract Staff: 673)
Partner Universities & Institutions :	463 universities and institutions from 68 countries & regions
Number of Campuses :	4 (2 in Kyoto; 1 in Kusatsu, Shiga; 1 in Ibaraki, Osaka)
Number of Colleges:	16
Number of Graduate Schools:	21
Number of Overseas Offices :	6 (New Delhi, London, Seoul, Beijing, Shanghai, Jakarta, Bangkok, Vancouver, Taipei, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh)

Ritsumeikan began as a private academy established 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 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, our Kinugasa and Suzaku campuses in Kyoto, as well as our Biwako Kusatsu Campus in Shiga, and our Osaka Ibaraki Campus in Osaka where the Graduate School of Policy Science is located, combined are home to about 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.

Achievements:

Ritsumeikan University is one of 37 institutions selected to be part of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's (MEXT) "Top Global University Project." The "Top Global University Project" is a government initiative offering financial support to public and private universities focused on comprehensive internationalization and becoming world-class research and education institutions. With our selection for this prestigious project, Ritsumeikan University will continue to serve as a model for globalization in education.

Features of Graduate School <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsp/s/eng/>

Ritsumeikan University's Graduate School of Policy Science (GSPS) was established in 1997 with a view to develop student's essential research skills to correctly understand the policy issues that we face today, work out optimal solutions, and upgrade their practical competence. Policy science is a discipline that explores solutions to various policy issues that affect us while pursuing the innovation of social science itself. Through policy science study, the GSPS aims to train both new types of researchers with practical skills and competent policy practitioners. One of the main characteristics that GRPS has is the fact that many students from abroad study there. Since 2007, the graduate school has accepted transfer students from the Indonesia Linkage Master's Degree Program of the Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia. During the pre-pandemic 2019-2020 academic year, the

number of international students enrolled averaged 67 including JICA and MEXT funded scholars. Among the enrolled students, 72% were international students and 32% were enrolled in English-based programs. Since graduation these students have gone on to play important roles in, for example, academia, business, and government.

Features of the Program <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsps/eng/education/feature2014/>

The founding principal of the Graduate School of Policy Science was the synthesis of experience and academic knowledge, and this principle has been carried forward to the present. Courses are organized in three clusters: (1) Public Policy; (2) Environment and Development; and (3) Social Management. As well, research guidance courses ("Research Project") are conducted under a collective research guidance system with multiple faculty members from different fields put in charge. The purpose of this system is to make multifaceted inquiries and thinking skills, as well as advanced synthesis of various studies, the pillars of graduate school education in light of the complex and comprehensive nature of policy issues.

The details of our program are as follow.

I. Principle and purpose

The purpose of the Graduate School of Policy Science is to provide a curriculum capable of instilling students with the knowledge required to discover and solve the policy issues of our modern society, and through the practical aspects and synthesis of diverse subjects, to foster the graduates with the skills and knowledge required by the needs of the society.

The Graduate School of Policy Science aims to respond to the needs of society through the practical synthesis of diverse fields of academic study. By serving as a place for knowledge creation and human resource development, the Graduate School of Policy Science promotes the identification of policy issues in contemporary society, and aims to realize their solution.

II. Educational and talent fostering goals

In order to accomplish the purpose mentioned above, the Master's Program at the Graduate School of Policy Science is designed to foster the essential research skills necessary to correctly understand the policy issues we confront in our modern society and create solutions for them, and raise the practical business capability of the students to a higher level. Furthermore, through the research in the field of policy science, the goal of the curriculum is to foster highly talented persons fully capable of engaging the social issues we face today.

III. Admission policy

The Graduate School of Policy Science welcomes the students with the following qualifications for its educational and human resource development goals mentioned above.

- 1) Have a broad interest in social issues
- 2) Willing to pursue the solutions to these issues
- 3) Possess a flexible mindset and wide range perspective to innovate existing disciplines through a multi-faceted approach
- 4) Exceed in thinking logically

IV. Organization and implementation policies of educational program

To achieve the above-mentioned talent fostering goals, which are to foster the essential research skills necessary to correctly understand the policy issues we confront in our modern society and create solutions for them and raise the practical capability of the students to a higher level, we have built a curriculum with below categories.

Research Project (RP): Several professors from different fields of academic research organize joint research teams. Every student is required to attend to one of the RP units and proceeds project-type research under the guidance of the professors of the RP. Following three clusters (PUBLIC POLICY CLUSTER, ENVIRONMENT AND

DEVELOPMENT CLUSTER, and SOCIAL MANAGEMENT CLUSTER) have been set according to the feature of research theme and approach.

Policy Science Research Subjects: It is necessary to “integrate elements of academic knowledge” to understand and solve actual policy issues which is the purpose of policy science research. Below are the categories of the knowledges which are to be generalized for above purpose. We offer several courses under the categories.

- 1) Public Policy Courses
- 2) Sustainable Development Courses
- 3) Social Management Courses
- 4) Common Courses
- 5) Foreign Language Courses
- 6) Co-creating Regional Development Courses

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

To complete the Master’s Program at the Graduate School of Policy Science, students must:

- 1) Acquire at least 30 credits in total.
- 2) Acquire a minimum of 6 credits including “Research Project IV A” for 3 courses among “Research Project I A”, “Research Project II A”, “Research Project III A”, and “Research Project IV A”. For “Research Projects” graduate students must:
 - (1) Receive the necessary research guidance by a supervising lecturer.
 - (2) Submit “Research Papers”, summarizing research under taken during the corresponding semester. However, submit “Master’s thesis” for “Research Project IV A”.
- 3) Present oral research reports at the Policy Science Workshops held in the 2nd and 4th semesters.
 - (1) 2nd semester: 20 minutes per report (15 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for Questions and Answers)
 - (2) 4th semester: 30 minutes per report (20 minutes for presentation, 10 minutes for Questions and Answers)
- 4) Attain a passing mark for evaluation and oral examination to acquire credits for “Research Project IV A”.

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

An academic advisor will be determined under communication/screening with faculty advisors, based on the student’s research topic before enrollment. Academic advising staff will help support this selection process.

No.	Name	Title / Position	Specialization Areas
1	AZUMA Yoshifumi	Professor	Area studies, Cultural anthropology, Economic statistics
2	IIDA Miki	Professor	Cultural studies, American literature
3	ISHIKAWA Ibuki	Professor	Business Administration (Strategic Management, Organization theory)
4	ISHIHARA Kazuhiko	Professor	Urban planning, Living environment planning

5	INABA Mitsuyuki	Professor	Cognitive Science, Human interface and interaction, Intelligent Informatics, Web informatics, Service informatics, Library and information science/ Humanistic social informatics, Learning support system, Educational Technology
6	UEHARA Takuro	Professor	Ecological Economic Systems, Sustainability, Resilience, Ecology/Environment, Environmental Dynamic Analysis
7	OTSUKA Yoko	Professor	Sociology, Social welfare and social work studies
8	ODA Hisaya	Professor	South Asian Studies, Economic Policy, Development Economics
9	KATSUMURA Makoto	Professor	Politics
10	KANEKAE Hidehiko	Professor	Environmental policy and social systems, Cultural assets study and museology, Social systems engineering/ Safety system, Natural disaster / Disaster prevention science, Economic Policy, Town planning/ Architectural planning, Rural environmental engineering/Planning, Others
11	KAMIKUBO Masato	Professor	Politics, International relations
12	KAMIKO Akio	Professor	Public Law, Politics
13	KISHI Michio	Professor	Economic Policy, Public finance/Public economy
14	KIDO Hideki	Professor	Government, Comparative Politics, Intergovernmental Relations
15	KOSUGI Takanobu	Professor	Modeling and technologies for environmental conservation and remediation, Environmental policy and social systems, Energy engineering
16	TSAY Shioh-Ching	Professor	Public law, Fundamental law
17	SAKANISHI AKIKO	Professor	Regional Economics, Urban Economics, Labor Economics, Economic Policy
18	SAKURAI Masanari	Professor	Sociology, Social welfare and social work studies
19	SATO Mitsuru	Professor	Politics
20	SHIGEMORI Tamihiko	Professor	Political Thought
22	TAKAMURA Gakuto	Professor	Land Use Regulation and Property Rights for Sustainable Development of Rural and Urban Areas in the World, Urban and Rural Sociology, Sociology of Law
23	TABAYASHI Yo	Professor	English Language and Literature

24	NISHIMURA Yozo	Professor	Economic statistics, Economic Policy, Money/ Finance
25	HATTORI Toshiyuki	Professor	Financial Statements Analysis, Corporate strategy
26	HICKS Kimberley Anne (Salem)	Professor	Gender, Foreign Language Education, Politics
27	HIRAOKA Kazuhisa	Professor	Public finance/Public economy
28	FUJIWARA Chiemi	Professor	Japanese language education
29	MABUCHI MASARU	Professor	Politics
30	MIYAWAKI Noboru	Professor	Politics, International Law, pedagogy, gamification, Reginal Studies (Russia and Eastern Europe, Mongolia)
31	MORI Hiroyuki	Professor	Public finance, Urban political economy, Public policy
32	MORI Michiya	Professor	Politics
33	YASUE Noriko	Professor	EU Studies, International Relations, Politics
34	YOSHIDA Tomohiko	Professor	Town planning/ Architectural planning, Social systems engineering
35	ARITA Yutaka	Associate Professor	European literature, Foreign language education, History of Europe and America
37	KOJIMA NAOKO	Associate Professor	Foreign language education
38	SAUCEDO SEGAMI Daniel Dante	Associate Professor	Archaeology, Cultural anthropology, Foreign language education
39	SAKURAI Ryo	Associate Professor	Environmental and ecological symbiosis, Design and evaluation of sustainable and environmental conscious system, Environmental policy and social systems, Area studies, Sociology, Social psychology, Education, Ecology/Environment, Rural environmental engineering/Planning
40	SCHROEDER Martin	Associate Professor	Global Value Chains, Industrial Organization, Production Management
41	SHIKI Kimiko	Associate Professor	Urban Studies/Housing Studies, Town planning/ Architectural planning, Geography
42	TAKASHINO Nina	Associate Professor	Economic policy, Agricultural and food economics, Gender studies

43	TOYODA Yusuke	Associate Professor	Social systems engineering/ Safety system, Natural disaster / Disaster prevention science, Area studies, Education
44	NAKANO Katsuyuki	Associate Professor	Environmental impact assessment, Design and evaluation of sustainable and environmental conscious system, Environmental policy and social systems
45	FUJII Tadasuke	Associate Professor	Politics
46	FUNAHASHI Toyoko	Associate Professor	Commerce
47	MORI Takatomo	Associate Professor	Intelligent Informatics, Sensitivity Informatics/Soft Computing, Perception Information Processing/Intelligent Robotics

Academic Schedule

*For Reference Only

Semester	Date Mont/Day		Targeted students	Event & things to-do
AY2023 Fall Semester	9	22	New Enrollees	Orientation for New Students
	9	25	New Enrollees	Matriculation Ceremony
	9	26	All	Start of Classes, Fall Semester
	12	26	All	Start of Winter Break
	1	8	All	End of Winter Break
	1	9	All	Classes Recommence, Fall Semester
	1	22	All	End of Classes, Fall Semester
	1	31	All	Start of Spring Break
	3	31	All	End of Fall Semester, End of Spring Break
AY2023 Spring Semester	4	1	All	Start of Spring Semester
	4	6	All	Start of Classes, Spring Semester
	7	26	All	End of Classes, Spring Semester
	8	2	All	Start of Summer Break
	9	23	Those Graduating	Commencement Ceremony (Masters/Professional)
	9	25	All	End of Summer Break, End of Spring Semester

Facilities

Housing: Incoming students can enjoy the experience of shared dorm life in our international student dormitory, the OIC International House, a new dorm opened in 2018 located near campus. The dorm is comprised of shared units, where each unit consists of 6 private bedrooms, a shared living room/dining room/kitchen, shared bathrooms and so on. Each unit comes fully furnished. The experience of co-living together with 5 other students is unique, where strong bonds of friendship are forged through shared study and life experiences together, and something which many students come to cherish after moving out and graduation.

Alternatively, students looking for a little more privacy or those who plan to come with family can easily find single or multiple occupancy housing through the on-campus University Cooperative's housing agency, or through any of the private agencies operating in the area surrounding the campus.

Student Dormitory, OIC International House: <http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/lifecareer/dorm/oic/>

OIC Library: In addition to a number of periodicals and fiction and non-fiction works, academic literature related to policy science, technology management, psychology, business administration and management can be found in the OIC Library. The library has a variety of private study booths and seating areas which can be utilized for quiet study, as well as conference areas and rooms where students can engage in lively discussion and debate.

Books and materials include those written in Japanese, but also hundreds of thousands written in English, and in other languages to a lesser extent. Materials can be borrowed not only from this library, but also from the libraries located on our Kinugasa and Biwako Kusatsu Campuses, as well as from the libraries of our sister school Ritsumeikan APU.

Ritsumeikan University Library: <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/lib/>

Medical Service Center: Located on campus, our medical service center promotes the health of our students through a combination of general health support services and a medical office that specializes in internal medicine. English speaking doctors with different specialties, both male and female, are on-call and rotate daily. To ensure students' 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 pertinent health issues are put under watch and given follow up medical guidance until graduation.

Counseling: Professional counseling is available in English and Japanese Monday-Friday at the Student Office.

Training Room: Our on-campus BKC Gym's Training Room is fully equipped with a free weight area, circuit machines and aerobic machines, giving students multiple avenues to put in a great workout. Trainers are constantly on staff to help out, and use of the gym facilities is free of charge for students.

Restaurant / Cafeteria: In addition to the cafeteria, two restaurants, two convenience stores and café (Starbucks) we have on campus, a handful of food truck and "bento" boxed-lunch vendors serve meals on campus each day to satiate the appetites of our hungry students. Foods available span the range from traditional Japanese dishes like fish and miso soup to the more modern like ramen, western dishes, and halal, vegetarian and vegan friendly options. Being an in-city campus, an even greater variety of meals at various price points can easily be had within a five-minute walk off campus.

What's more, for students interested in a hot Japanese style breakfast, the cafeteria offers a 100 Yen breakfast from 8 am each morning when classes are in session. It's an incredible deal and a healthy way to start your day.

Religious and Dietary Considerations: Halal-friendly meals and vegetarian dishes are served at several of the on-campus food vendors to help allow equal access to quick, affordable and healthy meals for students of all backgrounds. The on-campus convenience store also provides some vegetarian and halal snacks for students on the go. Separately, a room is available which students may use for prayer.

International Center and Beyond Borders Plaza: The International Center provides support for Ritsumeikan's large international student body including organizing orientation for new students, promoting exchange activities,

and managing scholarships. Assistance is available in English and Japanese. Located adjacent to the International Center is the Beyond Borders Plaza – a global student commons where students can study, relax, take language courses or hold their own events. The plaza is stocked with books, magazines, newspapers in a variety of languages, and other fun learning and study materials.

Other Support: A special course for JDS students called the JICA/JDS English Program is offered to improve students' applied English ability at the graduate level. Additionally, the university strongly encourages JDS students to enroll in the JICA/JDS Support for Daily Conversation in Japanese, which is held so that students may more smoothly adapt to life in Japan by learning basic conversation skills and the Japanese alphabets of hiragana/katakana. Finally, company visits and tours are a regular part of the program.

Message for Applicants

Policy Science is a discipline that analyzes various problems facing modern society from multiple perspectives and attempts to find solutions. Students studying at GRPS can develop the ability to grasp problems from both theoretical and empirical perspectives, and to consider prescriptions as well. With a large number of international students, the graduate school offers students the opportunity to study in a global environment.

The campus, opened in 2015, is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and is located in Ibaraki, halfway between Osaka and Kyoto, with excellent transportation access, making it the perfect location to live and work.

We look forward to meeting you all here in Ibaraki, Osaka.