

Kobe University (National) Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies

◆ **Program name**

Special Course for Development Policy

◆ **Degrees:**

- a. Master of Political Science
- b. Master of International Studies

◆ **Credit and years needed for graduation:**

Minimum 30 credits, 2 years

◆ **Address:**

2-1 Rokkodai, Nada-ku, Kobe, Hyogo
657-8501 Japan



Features of University <http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/>

Kobe University's inception can be traced back to March 1902 with the establishment of Kobe Higher Commercial School. In April 1929, the School was renamed Kobe University of Commerce, and in October 1944, it became Kobe University of Economics. In May 1949, Kobe University of Economics and other colleges and schools in Kobe were brought together to form Kobe University. Currently, Kobe University comprises ten faculties, 15 graduate schools, one research institute, and many research centers. It is known as a comprehensive university both at home and abroad for its frequent academic and research exchanges with overseas universities and research institutions. It also hosts over 1,400 international students from 90+ countries and regions. As a result, many of our global alumni are active in a vast array of fields in Japan and their own countries.

Kobe University has always been committed to creating knowledge in a broad range of fields from Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences to Bio-Medical Sciences. The intellectual curiosity and the inquiring mind of each faculty member have continually advanced the research-level since the foundation. In education, faculty and administrative staff members have united their efforts to collaborate on ways to prepare a better learning environment from the student's viewpoint. In our quest for academic excellence, many of our research areas have gained considerable recognition worldwide as the "core research areas" of Kobe University, and the number is increasing on an ongoing basis. Most of them are on the path of becoming a "center of excellence." Kobe University extends an invitation to all students, researchers, public and private sectors, as well as to all persons and organizations interested in studying at or collaborating with the University.

Features of Graduate School <http://www.gsics.kobe-u.ac.jp/index.html>

The Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (GSICS) was established in 1992 and offers four academic programs: International Studies, Development and Economics, International Law / Law and Development, and Politics and Area Studies, providing many courses taught in English. Currently, international students from over twenty-five countries account for nearly fifty percent of our students.

The faculty members of GSICS are experts in international cooperation, development economics, international law, political science, international relations, and education development from Japan and abroad. We offer a flexible curriculum in which students can acquire a wide range of skills and knowledge. In addition to our courses, we also offer joint courses with other graduate schools specializing in economics, law, business administration, education, health, medicine, engineering, and urban studies. Accordingly, our academic programs are genuinely multidisciplinary.

One of our aims is to train graduate students who are interested in pursuing international careers. Academic activities at GSICS, therefore, encourage our students to acquire expertise and multidisciplinary knowledge. As one of these activities, GSICS often convenes international conferences and symposia and invites leading specialists

worldwide to deliver special lectures and seminars. We also encourage our students to participate in internships and placements in domestic and international organizations, and recognize the importance of these activities by awarding credits for them, as well as partially subsidizing students' travel costs. Many students have taken part in internships with international and bilateral organizations including OECD, UNICEF, Asia Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, UNESCO, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). We welcome international students who wish to join our vibrant academic community.

Features of the Program http://www.gsics.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/programs/master_course.html

To make our unique multidisciplinary academic environment available to international students, particularly JDS Fellows, GSICS has developed a Master's program in English, namely the Special Course for Development Policy, in which all courses are taught in English.

While its curriculum is multidisciplinary, this program also emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach. It thus provides a series of interdisciplinary seminars encompassing economic development, political development, international law, international relations, and education development. GSICS expects the graduates of this program to become experts and professionals in their fields and contribute to the development of their countries.

In this program, JDS Fellows will receive the following benefits and services:

- English correction service provided by native English lecturers;
- Academic English writing classes;
- Assignment of a tutor who helps students settle into university life and study (including assistance to open a bank account, to register with local authorities);
- Compulsory medical checkup; and
- Field trip to some Japanese cities (e.g. Tokyo, Nagoya).

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

The standard duration of study is two years. Students are required to earn at least 30 credits including a total of 8 credits from Special Seminars, complete a master's thesis in English, and pass a final oral exam.

JDS Fellows from Bangladesh who successfully complete the requirements will be granted one of the following degrees: Master of Political Science or Master of International Studies.

The following lectures are in English, and JDS Fellows will receive two credits for each lecture per semester.

- Japanese Politics
- Political Development
- Institutional Design for Public Administration
- Local Government
- Principles of Political Research
- International Relations
- Issues in Peace and Development I
- Issues in Peace and Development II
- Japanese ODA
- Disaster Risk Management
- Microeconomics
- Macroeconomics
- Monetary Theory
- Public Finance

- International Economics
- Mathematics for Social Sciences
- Statistics
- Econometrics
- Growth Theory
- Economic Development Studies
- Socio-Economic Development Theory
- Environmental Economics
- Development Management
- International Development Cooperation
- Human Capital Development
- Social Research Methods for Development
- Special Lecture on Development Economics
- Special Lecture on Development Policy
- Special Lecture on Development Planning
- Special Lecture on Development Management
- Introduction to International Cooperation Law
- Introduction to International Human Rights Law
- Introduction to Law of International Organizations
- Introduction to International Environmental Law
- International Criminal Law
- International Security and International Law
- Law and State Building
- Law and Economic Development
- Law and Social Development
- International Labor Law
- Introduction to Political Analysis
- Post-Disaster Recovery Planning
- Demography
- Medical Anthropology
- Environmental Health
- Special Lecture on International Cooperation Law
- Special Lecture on Transnational Relations
- Special Lecture on Political and Social Development
- Special Lecture on Institution Building
- Academic Writing
- Law of the International Civil Service
- International Field Work
- Internship

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

An academic supervisor will be assigned to each JDS Fellow, and the assignment of supervisors will be determined by the academic staff committee in July. All JDS Fellows will be informed of their supervisors.

| | Name | Position | Research Field |
|---|------------------|---------------------|--|
| ○ | NISHITANI Makiko | Professor | Theories of International Relations, Global Governance, International Norms |
| ○ | AKAHOSHI Sho | Associate Professor | International Institutions, Global Governance, Forced Migration Studies, Human rights and Humanitarianism |
| ○ | OGAWA Keiichi | Professor | Economics of Education, Education Finance, Education Policy and Planning |
| ○ | SAKURAI Aiko | Professor | Disaster Education Research and Implementation, Comprehensive School Safety, International Cooperation for Disaster Risk Reduction |
| ○ | SKAUE Katsuki | Associate Professor | International Educational Development, Economics of Education, Evaluation of Education Policy, Evaluation of Education Policy |
| ○ | TAKAHASHI Shingo | Professor | Labor Economics, Personnel Economics, Applied Econometrics |
| ○ | ITO Takahiro | Associate Professor | Development Microeconomics, Applied Econometrics, Policy Evaluation |
| ○ | UCHIDA Yuichiro | Professor | Development Economics, Economic Development in East Asia, Applied Economics/Econometrics |
| ○ | KODAMA Masahiro | Professor | Development Macroeconomics, Structural Transformation |
| ○ | KAWABATA Koji | Associate Professor | Applied Econometrics, Economic Development, Industrialization |
| ○ | INOUE Takeshi | Associate Professor | Development Finance, Financial Inclusion, International Remittances |
| ○ | SHIBATA Akiho | Professor | International Law |
| ○ | HAYASHI Mika | Professor | International Law |
| ○ | OKADA Yohei | Associate Professor | International Law |
| ○ | YOTSUMOTO Kenji | Professor | Asian Constitutional Law |

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|---|-------------------|---------------------|---|
| ○ | KANEKO Yuka | Professor | Law and Development, Comparative Law in Asia, Law in Disasters |
| ○ | SAITO Yoshihisa | Associate Professor | Social Law in Asia and Transition Economies |
| ○ | MATSUNAMI Jun | Professor | Comparative Study of Deregulation, Privatization and Local Governments |
| ○ | KIMURA Kan | Professor | Korean Nationalism and Historical Disputes in Northeast Asia |
| ○ | KAWAMURA Yusuke | Associate Professor | Politics in the Middle East and North Africa, Social Policy in Authoritarian Countries |
| * | NAKAZAWA Minato | Professor | Global Health, Public Health, Human Ecology and Demography |
| * | KAMEOKA Masanori | Professor | Global Health, Virology |
| * | KONDO Tamiyo | Professor | Housing Policy, Planning for Built Environment, Housing Recovery |
| * | KITANO Shigeto | Professor | International Macroeconomics |
| * | ZHAO Laixun | Professor | International Trade, Foreign Investment, Multinational Labor-Management Relations, Cross-Border Pollution, International Merger |
| * | HAMAGUCHI Nobuaki | Professor | Regional and Spatial Economics, Latin American Economy |
| * | SATO Takahiro | Professor | Indian Economy |
| * | MIYAZAKI Tomomi | Professor | Public Economics, Public Finance |
| * | MINOHARA Tosh | Professor | US-Japan Relations, Diplomacy, International Politics, Intelligence, and Security Studies |

The above information is as of Apr. 2024, and subject to change by Oct. 2024.

○The teaching staff of GSICS

*Professors belonging to other faculties in Kobe University

Academic Schedule

(Reference as of academic year 2024)

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 Oct. | Entrance Ceremony |
| 1 Oct. | Beginning of Fall Semester |
| 28 Dec. ~3 Jan. | Winter Vacation |
| 31 Mar. | End of Fall Semester |
| Early Apr. | Beginning of Spring Semester |
| Mid Aug. ~30 Sep. | Summer Vacation |
| Late Aug. | Final Examination for Master Thesis |
| Late Sep. | Completion Ceremony |
| 30 Sep. | End of Spring Semester |

Facilities

◆Libraries

Kobe University Library consists of a General Library and nine branch libraries. There are about 3.7 million bibliographical materials and approximately 35,200 titles of electronic journals in the collection. The libraries also receive nearly 4,600 different magazines and approximately 31,000 books annually.

Kobe University students, including JDS Fellows, are entitled to use all the libraries.

※Kobe University Libraries;

http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/campus_guide/library.html

Information Science and Technology Center

Information Science and Technology Center operates a computer system for education and research, campus networks etc. There are about 1,300 iMac computers located in the center's branch office, classrooms on Rokkodai, Myodani, Fukae campuses, and all libraries. These are available for general and educational use. Wi-Fi access is also available in almost all buildings on campus.

Medical Center for Student Health

Medical Center for Student Health is open to medical examination, first aid, and consultation of physical and/or mental health problems. So students can use the emergency phone lines on campus to call the Medical Center, 119 (ambulance), or campus security service in case of emergency.

◆Kobe University's dormitory:

■Kobe University International Residence; 109 single rooms, eight married couple rooms, and four family rooms

<http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/housing/accommodation.html>

Registration: January and July if there are vacancies.

Length of tenancy: maximum one year (for single room)

◆Residences managed by private organizations for international students:

■Hyogo International Students House; 159 single rooms and 38 married couple rooms

<http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/housing/dormitory.html>

Registration: every month if there are vacancies

Length of tenancy: TBA

*Note: Rooms are not guaranteed due to the limited number of rooms available in these residences.

Message for Applicants

Kobe GSICS provides a very comprehensive and challenging program for political science to analyze public policies. Graduate students can deepen their understanding by academic theories and skills we offer. It should be noted that GSICS is the graduate school which offers multidisciplinary education. Students can study not only political science but also economics, law and international relations, which make our students unique and their analysis can enhance the complicated reality of the challenges they face.

In the past, we taught several Bangladeshi students and all of them successfully obtained their Master's degrees. There are many international students who come from various countries. Learning from other students' experiences and develop networks with them are also important merits that GSICS students can gain. There are many Japanese students who really want to study challenges in developing countries as GSICS is the graduate school for the study of International Cooperation.

Many international students seeking political science degree do case studies using data collected by themselves. Some students go back to their countries to interview stakeholders and collect documents and other materials.

Other students use online interviews and digitalized data. We also advice students to collect data before coming to Kobe. There are many studies in other countries or in other policy fields which help your research and you can read them in our library or online. The use of ICT become more important than before. Together with other graduate schools in Kobe University, GSICS students can learn the best of Japanese social science study.