

Kyushu University (National) ***Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences***

◆ Program name

International Graduate Program

◆ Degrees:

Master of Science

◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

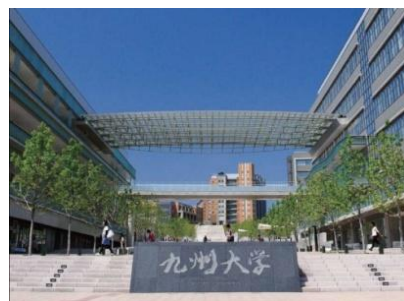
◆ Address:

744 Motoooka Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan



Features of University <https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/>

The Faculty of Agriculture at Kyushu University (formerly Kyushu Imperial University) was established in February 1919 and has since then been remarkably progressed in the academia while making great strides in the fields of agricultural science and technology research and education. The Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences is aimed at conducting researches and education related to the maintenance of a stable supply of food and food-oriented materials indispensable to life, machinery and facility development, the preservation of wildlife and the environment, and the health and welfare of mankind in the world.



The number of teaching staff at the entire University is 2,183 and the administrative 2,487.
Student enrollment: Bachelor 11,687, Master 4,060, Doctor 2,775 and Specialized 291

Features of the Graduate School

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/international_exchange/international_graduate_program/

The Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences consists of 4 departments, each of which comprises 2 to 3 divisions including over 80 laboratories covering various fields of agriculture, forestry, fishery, animal science, and agricultural economics.

The current enrollment of the students is 1,741, of which 1,005 are undergraduate and 736 graduate students (as of May, 2025). Nearly 270 international students, mostly graduate students, have come to study from various countries. Currently, the total number of the faculty members and staff members is 260 of which the number of full-time academic researchers is 169 including 61 full-professors, 55 associate professors, and 53 assistant professors. In addition, a number of institutes in Kyushu University, but independent from the Faculty of Agriculture, have also merged with the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences; namely, the Environmental Control Center for Experiment Biology, the Institute of Tropical Agriculture (in part), and the Innovative Bio-Architecture Center.

The Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University, is proud of its global top level of international education system for agricultural sciences, and the International Graduate Program (IGP) for the Master students has been in service in the Graduate School since 1991. In this Course, all the classes and theses are conducted in English. The JDS Program for the Master's has been with us in the Course since 2001. The faculty consists of specialists in agriculture such as in production, infrastructural



JDS Fellows and Faculty Members

development of farmland, organization of various facilities, conservation of environment, and management of forest resources. At our School, we have had more than 240 JDS Fellows from overseas since the 2001 program, and our professors have been working hard to provide them with affluent academic knowledge and pragmatic experiences, so that the JDS Fellows can contribute for further development of their home countries when they go back home after their graduation.

-Departments

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/graduate_school/course/

Bioresource Sciences, Agro-environmental Sciences, Agricultural & Resource Economics, Bioscience & Biotechnology

-Attached Facilities

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/undergraduate_school/facilities/

University Farm, University Forest, Fishery Research Laboratory, Institute of Biological Control, Institute of Genetic Resources, Aqua-Bioresource Innovation Center, Center for Promotion of International Education and Research, Innovative Bio-Architecture Center, Insect Science and Creative Entomology Center, Center for Advanced Instrumental and Educational Supports, Hikosan Biological Laboratory

-Relating Facilities

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/undergraduate_school/facilities/

Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Environmental Control Center for Experimental Biology, Material Management Center, Plant Frontier Research Center

Features of the Program <http://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/international/graduate/jds/>

1) Common features of the program

IGP aims to build on the capacities of individual fields to support international students from developed and developing countries, with the goal of contributing to worldwide sustainable development across food, agriculture, and environmental sciences. The Master's program emphasizes the acquisition of both synthetic and practical abilities.

IGP is conducted under a 2-semester system, starting in October with the autumn term and followed by the spring term. On completing the courses, students will be awarded a Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree. The common features of the Master's programs are as follows:

- (1) All the thesis works are conducted in English. A research topic for the thesis is determined through a discussion with your major supervisor.
- (2) At the end of their coursework, specifically in the spring term of their second year, students are required to present their research results and submit their Master's theses to the examination committee of the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences. The committee evaluates overall performance, and the students with satisfactory performance are awarded the Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree.

2) A Special program for JDS fellows

In addition to the Master's Program, a special coursework is prepared for JDS Fellows to enhance their knowledge on both academic and cultural experience at Kyushu University. It filled with a number of academic activities that inspire you academically while allowing you to explore Japanese culture and to enjoy campus life during your study.

Since 2017, IGP of Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University and International Development and Cooperation (IDEC), Hiroshima University with other development programs in western Japan have formed a partnership in hosting annual JASID Western Japan Research



12th JASID Western Japan Research Meeting in 2025 at Kyushu University

Meeting. This provides an opportunity for JICA scholars across disciplines to share ideas and grasp lesson learnt from their peers who are future leaders of their countries.

I. International Seminar

We invite well-known researchers from all over the world. It is an excellent opportunity to hear about their research and also a good chance to discuss it with them. In addition, you have a chance to present your research work at the international conference. Our faculty organizes an international conference called WIS (Workshop on Interdisciplinary Sciences). The event has featured presentations by faculty members, graduate students, and alumni. Graduate students and alumni of the Graduate School have played major roles in its organization and management, making the workshop an excellent opportunity to develop leadership skills and foster professional and academic networks both within and beyond the university.

II. Research Skills Seminar

Many of the new JDS Fellows are just starting their research. We will help you get started on your research as smoothly as possible. We have several research seminars such on survey methodology, academic writing skills, and presentation practice.

III. International Agricultural Frontier Education Program

We are also a partner program of the JICA Program with Universities for Development Studies (JProUD), and offer two subjects about the Japanese development model on agro-technological innovation and system. The program to offer participants programs to learn both (i) lessons and challenges of the Japan's modernization (in the regional and other countries' context), and (ii) experience including lessons from both success and challenges of Official Development Assistance (ODA) of Japan's government to the world. These programs are managed as part of universities' existing master/doctorate. The above "Partnership" expects participants to be future top leaders in the respective fields/sectors and contribute significantly to development in countries after completion of programs.

IV. Research Trip

Based on the student requests, we organize research trips and visit research centers or farmers. For example, we have visited the marine product and research center, a strawberry farm, rice farmers and an agricultural engineering site. It is an exciting opportunity to get to know and see the leading agriculture or marine production technology as a future technological leader in your home country.

Ex.)

April: Ooki circulation center (biomass energy plant)

May: Planting rice in terraced paddy fields (Ukiha town, Fukuoka)

July: Integrated rice and duck farming (Mr. Takao FURUNO's farm, Keisen town, Fukuoka)

A two-day trip to the Aso Volcano area to learn about agricultural activities.

V. Follow-up Seminar

Another two years of hard work, your supervisors will be your important research co-workers. We organize follow-up seminars in your home countries, where you can have another opportunity to discuss and be inspired for your further research. Follow-up seminars were held in Viet Nam, Cambodia, and Laos in recent years.

VI. Life at Kyushu University

Kyushu University enjoys its international academic atmosphere; more than 10 percent of the students are from overseas. Academic life at Kyushu University is intense as well as warm and welcoming.

VII. Post program activities

Guidance for the journal article submission

Supervisors will continue to guide you and support you in submitting a journal article based on data and analysis conducted during the program.

Network building

The graduate of the JDS Project at Kyushu University continues to get updated information of activities as well as that of alumni via the JDS Kyushu University homepage.

<http://www.agr.kyushu-u.ac.jp/international/graduate/jds/>

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international_exchange/curriculum/index.html

Compulsory subjects consist of 3 subjects or more out of 9 Core subjects (5 credits); 1 subject or more out of 9 Advanced subjects (2 credits); 2 PBL subjects (2 credits); 2 Practicum subjects (4 credits); 2 Specialized Research subjects (12 credits) and other subjects (5 credits)

-Specialized Research Subjects

Master's Thesis Research I

Master's Thesis Research II

-Practicum Subjects

Seminar in a Specified Field I

Seminar in a Specified Field II

Teaching practice

Presentation skills for academic meetings I

Presentation skills for academic meetings II

International presentation skills for academic meetings

Internship

-Core Subjects

Basic Statistics

Advanced Statistics

Biological Resources: Utilization and Conservation

Soil and Water Environment

Advanced International Rural Development Studies

Advanced Technology in Agriculture

Food Science and Food System

Fundamental Research Skills

Rural Survey Research Methods



-PBL Subjects

Agricultural Problem-Based Learning I

Agricultural Problem-Based Learning II

-Advanced Subjects

Agrobiological Science

Cutting Edge Topics in Animal & Aquatic Sciences

Forest and Forestry Sciences

Bioproduction Environmental Sciences

Sustainable Bioresources Science

Advanced Econometrics

Molecular Bioscience I

Advanced Bioresource Technology

Advanced Food Quality Control

-International Frontier Program in Agriculture (Minor program)

English for AgriBio Leaders I

English for AgriBio Leaders II

Development of Asian Agriculture and Technology I

Development of Asian Agriculture and Technology II

Current Topics in Agriculture and Biotechnology

AgriBio Global Exercise I

AgriBio Global Exercise II

AgriBio Global Exercise III

AgriBio Overseas Short-term Program

AgriBio Overseas Program



Seawater Desalination Facility Tour

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

In principle, all professors and associate professors are capable of supervising JDS Fellows. Here is a list of professors and associate professors who are capable of supervising JDS Fellows.

<https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/investigation/project/>

The supervising professors for JDS Fellows are determined in April.

We read their report and discuss which laboratory is suitable for each JDS Fellows and decide his/her laboratory and supervising professor.

Academic Schedule

1st year Fall, Winter (October – March)

Entrance ceremony (October)

Welcome party

Fall core subjects

International Seminar

Academic English Writing Skills module

1st year Spring, Summer (April – September)

Spring core subjects

2nd year Fall, Winter (October – March)

International Seminars

Field trip

2nd year Spring, Summer (April – September)

Defending your master's thesis

Oral presentation (July)

Graduation ceremony (September)



Field Study at University Paddy with Prof. Yasui

Facilities

-Student Support <https://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/intlweb/en>

Global Gateways Kyushu University of the International Student Exchange Division supports international students, including CoE application, dormitories admission, resident registration, opening a bank account, and finding an apartment.

-International Student Association (KUFSA) <https://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/kufsa/>

The Kyushu University Foreign Students Association (KUFSA) is an organization that represents all foreign students enrolled at Kyushu University (Kyudai). Through KUFSA, students can take part in excursions, sports, and other fun activities. Join KUFSA's Instagram. https://www.instagram.com/kufsa_info/

-University Central Library <https://www.lib.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en>

The University Library consists of five general libraries, of which the largest, the Central Library is located right across the road from the International Student Center in Ito campus. Each floor has comfortable reading spaces and study rooms equipped with various materials, and features a range of services and content to support students' learning.

-Center for Health Sciences & Counseling <https://chc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/>

The Center for Health Sciences and Counseling is a university organization that seeks to maintain and promote the mental and physical health of students, staff, and faculty members at Kyushu University, to ensure that the campus is safe and comfortable for everyone, and to foster self-reliance and growth among students through the provision of counseling services.

-Accommodation <https://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/intlweb/en/student/housing>

Students enrolled in this course may apply for a furnished student dormitory (with a private bathroom and balcony). More detailed housing information can be found on the following website.

Message for Applicants

In this Program, some scientific tours for the JDS Fellows have been offered from time to time during the two-year Master course period for each fellow. The aims of these tours are to promote a greater understanding of policies, circumstances, and technologies in Japanese agriculture. Our program has proven successful and has been acknowledged by the academic and research institutions of our students' home countries. Research in the individual laboratories in our graduate school, as well as opportunities of exploring fields and of presenting their research at international conferences, enrich their experiences. Our educational excellence is also evidenced by the fact that our graduates are highly sought after by academic institutions and industries alike.

Also, at Kyushu University, students are given opportunities for presenting their research finding at both national and international conferences and publishing articles in academic journals. Also, they enjoy expanding their national network. The following message from a JDS Fellow, Mr. Truong Quoc Cuong from Viet Nam depicts such a story.

"My name is Truong Quoc Cuong. In 2024, I was honored to receive the JDS scholarship to pursue a Master's degree at the Microbial Bioresource Laboratory, Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University. Studying in such a professional and international research environment was both exciting and challenging. I believe the knowledge and experience I gained in Japan will serve as an important foundation for my future scientific career in Vietnam. Besides laboratory research, I participated in international conferences and seminars in biotechnology and microbiology, where I was able to exchange ideas with researchers from different countries. The program also helped me strengthen essential skills such as academic English, public speaking, and scientific writing.

Beyond academics, the JDS program gave me many meaningful cultural experiences. Some of my happiest memories came from traveling across Japan with fellow Vietnamese JDS students. Together, we explored many regions, including Hokkaido, Kanto, Kansai, and Kyushu. I was fortunate to experience Japan's beautiful four seasons, from cherry blossoms in spring to snowy winters in Hokkaido. I also joined the Hakata Dontaku Festival in Fukuoka and visited traditional sake breweries, experiences that helped me better understand Japanese traditions and culture.

Most importantly, living and studying in Japan allowed me to build meaningful friendships with people from many countries. Looking back, I realize that the JDS program not only provided me with academic knowledge and research opportunities, but also helped me grow in resilience, perspective, and aspiration to contribute to Vietnam as well as to the strong relationship between Vietnam and Japan. These experiences and memories will always remain a valuable source of motivation for my future journey."



Treasured Moments with Friends

Hope his message inspires you to be one of our MA students at Kyushu University.

Thank you for your interest in our programs, and look forward to meeting you at Kyushu University.