

## 1-2. Agriculture and Rural Development

### ***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 Motooka 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 2,133 and the administrative 2,469  
Student enrollment: Bachelor 11,707, Master 4,046, Doctor 2,589 and Specialized 316

### ***Features of the Graduate School***

[https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/international\\_exchange/international\\_graduate\\_program/](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 1,674 of which 981 are undergraduate and 693 graduate students (as of May, 2023). 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 253 of which the number of full-time academic researchers is 163 including 54 full-professors, 60 associate professors, 49 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.



**Cambodian students' home party**

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 running 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 development of farmland, organization of various facilities, conservation of environment, and management of forest resources. Every year from 2002 to 2006,

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from 2010 to 2013, and from 2022, two to three JDS Fellows from Cambodia have come to our school, 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 Cambodia when they go back home after their graduation.

### -Departments

[https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/graduate\\_school/course/](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/](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/](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 capacity of the various individual fields for international students from developed and developing countries whose aim is to contribute to worldwide sustainable development in overall food, agriculture, and environmental sciences. The Master's program emphasizes the acquirement of 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 over the discussion with your major supervisor.
- (2) In the end of their course work, specifically in the spring term of their second year students are required to present their research results and submit their master 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.



Hour Ix (Cambodia) at his laboratory

### 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 Meeting. This provides an opportunity for JICA scholars across



10th JASID Western Japan Research Meeting in 2023, Kyushu University, Fukuoka

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disciplines to share ideas and grasp lesson learnt from their peers who are future leaders of their countries. It took place at Kumamoto University, Kyushu on August 29, 2017, held at Hiroshima University in 2018 and Kyushu University hosted the academic meeting in 2019.

### 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, our faculty organizes an international conference called AFELISA (International Symposium on Agriculture, Food, Environmental and Life Science in Asia) with three Korean Universities. You have a chance to present your research work at the international conference.

### 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, 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 Japan 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 Aso Volcano areas 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 inspire your further research. Follow-up seminars were held in Viet Nam in 2023, Laos in 2018, Myanmar in 2019.

### 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 of 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 JDS Project at Kyushu University continue to get updated information of activities as well as that of alumina via JDS Kyushu University homepage.

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

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### ***Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees***

[https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international\\_exchange/curriculum/index.html](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

International Rural Development

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

#### **-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

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### **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://hyoka.ofc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/search/organization/04170000/english.html>

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**

1<sup>st</sup> year Fall, Winter (October – March)

Entrance ceremony (October)

Welcome party

Fall core subjects

International Seminar

Academic English Writing Skills module

1<sup>st</sup> year Spring, Summer (April – September)

Spring core subjects

2<sup>nd</sup> year Fall, Winter (October – March)

International Seminars

Field trip

2<sup>nd</sup> year Spring, Summer (April – September)

Defending your master's thesis

Oral presentation (July)

Graduation ceremony (September)

### **Facilities**

#### **-Student Support**

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.

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

#### **-International Student Association (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 page on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/KUFSA/>

#### **-University Central Library**

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.

<https://www.lib.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/libraries/central>

#### **-Center for Health Sciences & Counseling**

Counseling & Health Center offers physical and psychological care services, the counseling, and guidance of all students and staff members of Kyushu University.

<https://chc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en>



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### **-Accommodation**

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.

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

### ***Message for Applicants***

Presently, I am a lecturer of Faculty of Agro-Industry at the Royal University of Agriculture in Cambodia. Also, I am currently doing a PhD study of agricultural sciences under the support of Japan for 2020-2023.

During my MA time, visiting fields, sharing ideas as well as enjoying student life with my MA friends inspired me to have creativity and very good concentration on my study. Even to date, academic life at Kyushu University still remains inside my heart. I learned many new things from many professional experts and shared my own research results with them. So, I became more self-confident and self-independent in my study, and even my first paper was formally accepted during the Master program in Japan.

After returning, I devoted my time to share knowledge and skills I learnt from Japan, especially to students at RUA. Furthermore, I tried my best to contribute the knowledge related to the effective One-Village-One Product policy to Cambodian farmers through many open-field school trainings.

Eventually, these post-MA experiences eventually connected me to undertake a PhD life today. Hope you enjoy your MA at Kyushu University, too.

