

2-2. Promoting Human Development

Hiroshima University (National) Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences

◆ Program name

Division of Educational Sciences,
International Education Development Program

◆ Degrees:

- a. Master of International Cooperation Studies
- b. Master of Philosophy
- c. Master of Education

◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

◆ Address:

1-5-1 Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima-shi, Hiroshima,
739-8529, Japan



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

Hiroshima University (HU) was established by combining eight existing institutions in May 1949 under the National School Establishment Law. Later in 1953, the Hiroshima Prefectural Medical College was also added to the new HU. Some of these higher educational institutions already had brilliant traditions and histories of their own. Although these educational institutions suffered a great deal of damage due to the atomic bomb which was dropped on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, they were reconstructed and combined to become the new HU. In addition, Graduate Schools were established in 1953. The new HU has risen from the ruins of war like a phoenix, which is in fact the University's symbol.

HU has a long history of accepting international students. This commenced before World War II. As of May 2024, HU has over 15,000 students including approximately 1,800 international students from about different 95 countries.

Features of Graduate School <https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs>

In the education and research area of humanities and social sciences which is socially required to be re-considered, it is required not only to promote knowledge of exploration studies that have been traditionally conducted in various fields but also to create new social values and methods for solving problems in a rapidly-changing society. To address such a requirement, this graduate school integrates faculties who are engaged in education and research in various graduate schools into one graduate school to establish an education and research organization in which the wall between fields is eliminated. This organization aims to develop human resources who are capable of sharing values with specialists of other fields and being engaged in cooperation for realizing such values by cultivating interest for other fields than their specialties in addition to the existing academic field. To conduct the education and research to achieve the aim described above, this graduate school introduces the degree program system that specifically indicates the image of human resources to be developed, diploma policy, and curriculum policy for the students who want to earn a degree and clearly describes the purpose and method of cooperation with the education course within and outside of the major course. It is expected that students will be allowed to expand their vision and develop their will and capability for communicating with each other beyond the differences in their specialty fields and nationality while studying in the same place as students of various fields that are not limited within the framework of the existing graduate school, students of various degree programs with different characteristics, and foreign and Japanese students who are engaged different issues and have different cultural and religious backgrounds. In response to the introduction of the degree program system, the name of the degree program is indicated in the diploma certification in addition to the major course name and the name of the specialty field to allow students to easily explain their specialties.

Features of the Program

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/program/educationalsciences/InternationalEducationDevelopmentP>

<https://iedp.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/>

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Master's program offers a wide range of courses and seminars of education research in Asia and African regions, in pursuit of its ultimate goal of realizing quality lifelong learning society and sustainable educational development in developing countries. Research areas covered in the program include Education Policy, Education Planning, Programme Evaluation, Human Resource Development for Education, Basic Education, Early Childhood Care and Education, Local Curriculum Development, Global Citizenship Education, Science and Mathematics Education, Higher Education, Inclusive Education, Language Education, and Sports Pedagogy.

The medium of instruction of the program is basically English.

Key Features of Education

(1) Education Programs in English

We believe it is important to develop international professionals capable of writing academic articles and reports, communicating and conversing in English. Therefore, almost all lectures and seminars are provided in English.

(2) Systematic and Interdisciplinary Curriculum

We offer a systematic and interdisciplinary curriculum to produce specialists who can contribute to international development and cooperation in ways that cut across established academic disciplines. We offer integrated education and research programs in economic development, international affairs, cultural dynamics, engineering, biology, peace studies, educational development, regional studies, Asian cultures and interdisciplinary programs to develop global perspectives.

Special Education Programs

We offer special education programs designed to improve the qualifications and skills of students who plan to work in the field of international cooperation. The main features of these programs are as follows.

(1) Global Environmental Leaders Special Education Program

GELs special education program has been implemented to foster young leaders who are capable of identifying problems and formulating strategic solutions at the national or local level through interdisciplinary and international perspectives. The needs for global environmental leader are increasing against recent complex environmental issues. The GELs program has two core courses: International Environmental Cooperation Studies for expanding interdisciplinary view and Practical Seminar on International Cooperation Project for developing communication skills with experts in different field. We also provide several trainings such as summer course where students can acquire practical technology and knowledge so that they can swiftly respond to the needs and trend of international society. Certificate of completion is conferred upon satisfying the requirements of the program.

To date, more than 100 students have joined this program. They are now taking a leading role in government, academia and research institutions and private companies all over the world.

For more details, go to

https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/smart_society/gels

(2) Formation of a Strategic Center for Global Internship Program

From 2010 the "Global Internship Program Office" was placed under the authority of the International Center as a university-wide organization, and we are continuing to promote the Global Internship Program. This program is a practical education program that includes pre- and post-internship training designed to achieve viable outcomes from student internships. The following types of internships are available:

- (1) overseas internships, in which students go to a university or organization outside Japan.
- (2) domestic internships, in which foreign students go to a Japanese company or organization.
- (3) third-country internships, in which students from developing countries go to institutions in other developing countries.
- (4) follow-up research internships, in which students in doctoral programs go back to countries where they have previously worked.

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

To obtain a Master's degree, JDS Fellows need to satisfy the following requirements:

Minimum of 30 credits through program work;

Submission of a master's thesis.

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All students need to decide their own research topic and supervisors (one head-supervisor and two sub-supervisors) at the beginning of the first semester. Under the head-supervisor's advice, students will choose subjects to enroll and start preparations for a master's thesis.

List of subjects offered in 2025 academic year is attached. Students will choose subjects mainly from "International Education Development Program".

(URL: https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/system/files/256434/e25_14_2025_M.pdf)

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs/staff/InternationalEducationDevelopmentP>

https://iedp.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/teacher_en/

Students need to decide their own research topic and supervisors (one head-supervisor and two sub-supervisors) at the beginning of the first semester. Under the head-supervisor's advice, students will choose subjects to enroll and start preparations for their master's thesis.

【International Education Development Program】

Position	Name	Research Theme
Professor	SAITO, Kazuhiko	International Development through Sport Education, International Comparison of Sport Education
Professor	SATO, Nobuharu	Ethno- linguistic studies on the Mongolian languages of Gansu and Qinghai Provinces, China
Professor	SHIMIZU, Kinya	Science education, principles of science curriculum, and development and analysis of lessons in other subjects
Professor	△BABA, Takuya	Research on mathematics education development in international perspective, and development and analysis of lessons in other subjects
Professor	△YOSHIDA, Kazuhiro	Practical researches on Promoting International Cooperation in Educational Development
Professor	NAKAYA, Ayami	Global Citizenship Education, Peace Education, Local Curriculum Development, Comparative and International Education
Professor	KUSAKABE, Tatsuya	Comparative study of relationship between social, economic structure fluctuation and education in developing countries
Associate Professor	OBA, Jun	Theories and practices of higher education structure and policy as well as international comparison Introduction to Japanese Higher Education
Associate Professor	SAKURAI, Riho	Comparative and Int'l Education, Intercultural cohesion, D&I, Foreign-technical interns & Specified skilled workers, Inclusive education
Associate Professor	TANIGUCHI, Kyoko	Studies on Educational Planning and Education Policy in Low- and Middle-income Countries (Africa and Asia)
Associate Professor	FUJIKI, Daisuke	Learning science, cognitive psychology, knowledge construction, psychology of language

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Position	Name	Research Theme
Associate Professor	MAKI, Takayoshi	Studies on Human Resource Development for Education (teacher education) in Asian countries, Comparative Education
Associate Professor	KIM, Yangson	Studies of higher education from the perspectives of comparative, international, and development education
Associate Professor	TAKITA, Fuyuko	Intercultural Communication Theory, Intercultural Understanding, Cross-Cultural Negotiation, English Education
Associate Professor	SAKATA, Nozomi	Comparative and International Education, Pedagogy and Learning, Education Policy Analysis, Sub-Saharan Africa, Low- and Middle-Income Countries
Associate Professor	CHANG Chih hao	Shadow Education, Second Language Acquisition (SLA) , Bilingual Education, Professional Learning Communities (PLC) , International Internships
Associate Professor	WANG Tingjia	Technology-enhanced education, Climate change education, Pedagogy, Curriculum development, Teacher education

△ mark indicates a professor who is scheduled to retire within the standard completion period for those who are enrolled in October 2025 and April 2026.

Note that “List of Members” is subject to change due to personnel changes. In this case, you will be informed via the HP of Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Academic Schedule

(Reference)

Fall Semester (October 1 - March 31) <In case of the schedule in AY2025>

October 1	Entrance Ceremony, Orientation
October 2 - February 6	Classes
Early October	International Student Orientation (University-wide)
Mid October	Deadline of Class Registration
November 5	University Anniversary Day
December 26 - January 5	Winter Vacation
February 7 - March 31	End-of- Academic-Year Holidays

Spring Semester (April 1 - September 30) <In case of the schedule in AY2025>

April 1 - April 7	Spring Vacation
April 8 - August 1	Classes
Mid April	Deadline of Class Registration
End of July	Thesis Submission
Early August	Thesis Defense
August 2 - September 30	Summer Vacation
September 19	Graduation Ceremony

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Facilities <https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/centers>

Residence

We provide apartments for international students at a reasonable rent. Students can get support in English from Hiroshima University Co-op when they apply for the apartments, have troubles and so on.

Also, a public apartment called "Sun Square Higashi-Hiroshima" is available to international students.

Library

Our library has nearly a collection of 30,000 titles of books and journals. Our collection is mainly focused on economics of development, education development, international relations and Asia regional culture development. "World Bank Information Kiosk" is placed for the purpose of introducing active discussions in academic area about the policy and actions of the World Bank. Students can access to "World Development Indicators Online" in our library. Flag ship publications, project reports, brochures and publications from the World Bank Tokyo Office are also available.

JDS fellows have full access to 5 other libraries on campus which has approximately 3,300,000 materials in its collection. Holding a huge collection of books and electronic journals, with a total combined area of 26,000 square meters, Hiroshima University Library System comprised of 5 libraries is one of the largest in the country.

Other facilities

Within the campus, we have welfare facilities such as various cafeterias, a travel agency office, stores, book shops and a barber shop. Hiroshima University also has a post office and a university health service center on the campus. The International Center provides mental counseling service to international students in English.

Message for Applicants

We provide with broad interdisciplinary courses and develop high problem solving skills on the practical problem. Firstly, the faculty members have been involved many international cooperation projects for educational development. It allows for us to accumulate a lot of experiences and knowledge and to identify the practical needs of the developing countries. Some professors have been involved for the mathematics and science education project in Bangladesh since 2004. Since 2008, three of the faculty members were involved another science education project (STEPSAM 2) for Cambodia as consultants. In some other science and mathematics projects, such as SMASSE in Kenya, several professors were worked as consultants. Professors from Center for the Study of International Cooperation in Education (CICE) are also conducting some cooperation projects and research projects. Therefore, we have a lot of experiences and knowledge to how to develop the education in developing countries.

The educational development course has been accepted many students from upper secondary school, teacher training college, and ministries. The successful applicants are as follows:

- 1) High English language proficiency
- 2) Clear reason for study in Hiroshima, or Japan. (We strongly suggest previous investigation about research theme in our program, and the applicants can explain why they cannot study in any other places).
- 3) Logical and empirical thinking.