

## **Yamaguchi University (National) Graduate School of Economics**

### ◆ Program name

Public Administration Course

### ◆ Degrees:

Master of Economics  
(with Certificate of Completion of Public Administration Course)

### ◆ Credits and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

### ◆ Address:

1677-1 Yoshida, Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi 753-8514 Japan



## **Features of University** <http://www.yamaguchi-u.ac.jp/english.html>

### **A Brief History of Yamaguchi University**

#### ***Third oldest national university in Japan***

Yamaguchi University is the third oldest national university in Japan. The original establishment year is 1815. The year 2015 marked the 200th anniversary of the establishment of Yamaguchi Kodo. It was reorganized to become a national university consisting of five faculties in 1949. Throughout the years, the university has expanded into a university which boasts nine faculties and nine graduate schools.

#### ***Yamaguchi was one of the leading prefectures contributing to the state building during the Japan's modernization***

The university has the strong locational advantages rooted in the history of Japanese modernization process since the late 19th centuries. More specifically, Yamaguchi produced a great number of the state leaders such as the many prime ministers and business leaders, and initiated the state building process and lead the formulation of the Japanese politics and public administration system from the Meiji era up to now. The university has the locational advantage in the current context, that is, a center of the various exchange of people, goods and services, and knowledge and innovation stimulated in the East Asian region, one of the most dynamic growth poles in the world.

### **Access to Yamaguchi University**

Yamaguchi Prefecture can be accessed in 1.5 hours by air from Tokyo, 2 hours by bullet train from Osaka, or 35 minutes by bullet train from Fukuoka. The university has three campuses: Yoshida Campus in Yamaguchi City (the main campus), Kogushi Campus, and Tokiwa Campus in Ube City.

### **Faculties and Schools**

Yamaguchi University has the faculties of Humanities, Education, Economics, Science, Agriculture, Global and Science Studies, and Veterinary Medicine at Yoshida Campus, the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at Kogushi Campus and the Faculty of Engineering at Tokiwa Campus. It also has Graduate Schools of Humanities, Education, Economics, Medicine, Science and Technology for Innovation, Agriculture, East Asian Studies, Innovation and Technology Management, Joint Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine and The United Graduate School of Veterinary Sciences.

### **International Students**

More than 359 international students from 32 countries are studying at Yamaguchi University as of May 1, 2021. Most are students from Asian countries, but they are joined by several students from Africa, Europe and Americas.

### **Tutor Systems**

International students can use the personal tutor system for up to one year. Under this system, Japanese students help international students with their daily lives and studying Japanese language. Each international student will be matched with one supporting Japanese student. There is another tutor system for international students operated by the student volunteer group.

### **Strengthening International Student Support**

In the university's medium-term objectives, the following goals related to the international students have been

established:

- Enhancing guidance for international students
- Providing support systems involving the local community and municipality to secure provision of reasonably priced, good quality accommodation
- Appointing professors to guide international students
- Strengthening follow up after providing academic and daily life support to ensure the main objective of supporting international students is achieved

### **International Student Center (ISC)**

The university's International Student Center provides international students with systematic language instruction, and advice and information on academic and everyday life. The center helps international students with:

- Academic issues
- Issues in daily life (visa issues, personal issues, etc.)
- Financial issues
- Psychological and health issues

Advisory services are available in Japanese and English. In the advisory room, the advisors help with problems which international students may have while living in Japan. They maintain close contact with their counterparts in the Health Administration Center, especially concerning psychological issues. They also act as a liaison with the local community, helping international students get involved in local festivals, community activities and more, so that they can interact with local people and traditions.

### ***Features of Graduate School*** <http://www.econo.yamaguchi-u.ac.jp/en/>

#### **History, Philosophy and Goals**

The Faculty of Economics is the oldest Faculty of Economics in the Japanese universities. With this historical asset, the Graduate School of Economics was founded in 1975, and provides education in 2 majors: Economics, and Business Administration. It shares the ethos of Self-Restoration with its parent institution. With a view to meeting the needs of contemporary society, this ethos espouses a spirit that is not afraid of self-change, while maintaining the strength of purpose founded on a robust core. The Graduate School's own most recent Self-Restoration was manifested in the establishment of the Medical-Welfare Management Program. This program aims to train professionals in the administration of medical and welfare institutions, equipping them with the knowledge and skills required in the workplace, in economics, business administration, accountancy and law.

The foremost mission and objective of the School is to produce specialists to identify issues in our increasingly complex and fluid contemporary society, and to seek comprehensive solutions, equipped with competence in the social sciences and the ability to articulate their own views and opinions clearly.

#### **Courses and Fields of Specialization**

Program	Major	Course
Master's Degree	Economics	Public Administration
		Economic and Social Policy
	Business Administration	Medical Care and Welfare Service Management
		Hilly and Mountainous Areas Management
		Taxation

#### **Main Fields of Research**

The ethos of Self-Restoration made its debut on the international stage in 2003 with the launch of the Public Administration (PA) Program, sponsored in part by JICA. The PA program, with its classes conducted entirely in English, is pivotal to the cultivation of global human resources in the School. The PA Program was offered in principle for the benefit of JICA sponsored international students; however, the flexible curriculum allows students from other courses to take up to 14 credits in PA courses. Moreover, from 2010, the course is open to all.

### ***Features of the Program***

Public Administration Course offers various courses that meet the challenges in each country.

#### **Investing in human resource is crucial for the state building**

Based upon the awareness that consideration of the planning and implementation of efficient and effective fiscal and monetary policy, sound public financial management, and strengthening of local government finance are the

most important educational objectives for public administrators in Lao PDR, our graduate school aims to provide graduates with the skills and knowledge to play an important role in enhancing policy management.

**Advantages of studying at Yamaguchi University for the prospectus international students**

To support those high potential future leaders, the university would arrange quality environments for learning and research as follows:

**1) *Quality curriculum and education contents in English to meet the practitioners' on-the-ground needs***

The public administration course is offered entirely in English, thus providing an environment in which to pursue academic research, supported by a strong, judicious supervisory program. In order to obtain the skills required for the creation of a master's thesis in the field of social science, an academic writing course is provided as a compulsory component of the program.

- Economics, Public Economics, Development Economics, International Economics are offered in order that students acquire the knowledge required for economic policy and development.
- Public Finance and Local Government Finance are offered in order that students acquire the knowledge of Finance for public administrators.
- Program Evaluation and Cost benefit Analysis are offered in order that students acquire the knowledge and ability for making and evaluating effective and efficient policy.
- Public Debt Management is offered in order that students acquire the knowledge and ability of public dept management for public administrators.
- Public Administration and Principle of Administrative Law are offered in order that students acquire the knowledge and ability for public administration for public administrators.
- In order to learn the way of writing master's thesis in the field of social science, Academic Writing course is offered as a compulsory course.

**2) *Teaching staff with sufficient understanding on the current situation of developing countries and development challenges in the field of policy making in various Asian developing countries as well as experts in East Asian studies.***

Our Graduate School is equipped with many professors who have much experience of conducting researches and/or working in developing countries and have a good understanding on the development issues from various angles. Such experience is used to its full extent to guide JDS Fellows to find solutions to their specific issues.

**3) *Provision of the development experience of Japan which is a frontrunner country experiencing the "state-of-art" development challenges linked with JICA's Development Study Program (JICA-DSP)***

Japan has already experienced or is now experiencing many development challenges that the developing countries would encounter near future such as environmental problems, energy efficiency, eco-economy and society, digital economy and the aging society. The university would offer learning opportunism of the frontrunning Japanese cases as well as historical legacies relating to the state building taken over since the Meiji modernization process. This thought is completely in line with the **JICA's Development Study Program (JICA-DSP)** of offering learning opportunities of the experiences of Japanese development and development cooperation. Thus, the international students of the university would be benefitted from the JICA program.

**4) *Provision of practical and hands-on guidance and supervision to meet JDS fellows' specific need***

The course is specifically and carefully designed to be implemented systematically and consistently to develop the academic capabilities and experience of JDS Fellows. If a research proposal requires interdisciplinary guidance, multiple professors can be made available for joint instruction specific to the student's needs.

Students are encouraged to pursue a deeper understanding of their research theme through regular thesis instruction. An instruction course is offered before coming to Japan so that students can have a smooth start to their research. Special programs are offered to improve students' abilities in mathematics and English. Other ad hoc programs such as discussion with relevant government officials invited from various government sectors are conducted depending on the needs of individual research proposals.

For your information, the theme of the master thesis written by the students graduated from the university in the past are posted the following site.

[http://www.econo.yamaguchi-u.ac.jp/files/master\\_titlelist.pdf](http://www.econo.yamaguchi-u.ac.jp/files/master_titlelist.pdf)

**5) Opportunities of exchange views with other countries' official studying at the university**

Many international students with various nationality and academic and working backgrounds are staying in the university. Thus, those students would be able to exchange various experiences such as policy making and implementation applied to the respective countries among the students, and to expand a wide range of policy spaces to meet the political, economic and social context of its home countries. A good knowledge with wide policy spaces make policy making and implementation more effective in each country.

**6) Opportunities of exchange views with the Japan's central government organizations**

For the effective and practical learning of the public sector management, it is essential for the international students to obtain opportunities of visiting the Japanese central government organizations and exchanging views with the responsible official on the real issues they encounter daily.

From this viewpoint, visiting programs at central government bodies and other relevant Japanese public institutions are also conducted to learn from practical experience in the field. Students make interim thesis presentations in Lao P.D.R to improve the content of their Master's study by inviting questions and comments related to their thesis from fellow officials in their ministry or institution.



Special Lecture at the Ministry of Finance

**7) Opportunities to improve language and math skills in optional courses**

Basic English and math courses are available for the students who would like to develop basic skills. These courses will help them in the regular classes such as 'Academic Writing' and 'Mathematics for Economics'. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, students can take the English course for thesis writing to enhance their master thesis. Japanese language course for beginner is also offered for those would like to learn basic Japanese which helps students in their lives in Japan and makes good relationships between students and people in Japan in their communication.



Special Lecture at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

**Research Guidance Policy of the Public Administration Course**

The research guidance policy of the Public Administration Course at the Graduate School of Economics is as follows:

- 1) A research supervisor for each student will be appointed prior to their arrival in Yamaguchi based on the research proposal, so that students may start work immediately after their arrival. The main supervisor guides the students intensively throughout the research program, providing practical, and face-to-face research advice. Thesis instruction is conducted in a multidisciplinary manner by appointing one main supervisor and two sub-supervisors for each student.
- 2) In addition to conventional instruction by our faculty we use wide variety of teaching methods in lectures and seminars such as: presentation by students using power point, question and answer session, and group discussion, using examples in Japan and developing countries. The variety of teaching methods facilitates a deeper understanding of the contents of our lectures, enhances the students' knowledge of issues related to their research theme and develops their presentation skills.
- 3) A short visit of about one week to the central government organizations is conducted yearly, based on the research needs of each student. This experience allows students to acquire a practical understanding of

effective public administration and serves as a basis for comparative study of various aspects of public administration. Past years have included visits to Bank of Japan, Tokyo Stock Exchange, National Tax College, Ministry of land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Ministry of Foreign affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Local Tax Agency and Japan Tourism Agency.

- 4) A short visit to a local city will be arranged after submitting the master's thesis to investigate the industrial development of the local city. Students take a lecture on an industrial policy being implemented in the local government and visit several places related to agricultural industry, manufacturing industry, service industry and sixth sector industry.

## Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

### Public Administration Course, Graduate School of Economics

- Course Program (Reference) -

Course Title	Instructor	Credit	2021	2022		2023
			1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester
Preparatory Courses (Compulsory)			1 <sup>st</sup> Year		2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	
Academic Writing	T. Takemoto	1	○		○	
Economic Statistics	K. Fukuyo	2	○		○	
Economics	M. Yamada	2	○		○	
Core Courses (Compulsory Elective)			1 <sup>st</sup> Year		2 <sup>nd</sup> Year	
*Public Administration	K. Nishiyama	2	○		○	
Development Economics	K. Hamashima	2	○		○	
International Economics	K. Yamamoto	2		○		
Principles of Administrative Law	M. Hattori	2			○	
Program Evaluation	T. Umada	2		○		○
Public Economics	S. Teraji	2	○		○	
Public Finance	H. Kojima	2	○			○
Elective Courses			1 <sup>st</sup> or 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year			
Academic English	T. Takemoto	1		○		○
Mathematics for Economics	L. Yuan	1	○		○	
Research Methodology	T. Umada M. Hattori	1		○		○
*Advanced Public Administration Studies IA	I. Tomimoto	2				○
*Advanced Public Administration Studies IB	I. Tomimoto	2	○			
*Advanced Public Administration Studies IIA	I. Tomimoto	2		○	○	
*Advanced Public Administration Studies IIB	I. Tomimoto	2			○	
*Industrial Policy	K. A. Akkemik	2	○		○	
*International Cooperation Studies	K. Amatsu	2		○		○
*Social Policy Studies	I. Tomimoto	2			○	
Advanced Data Analysis	T. Nishio	2	○		○	
Cost-Benefit Analysis	S. Yamashita	2		○		

Cultural Psychology of Administration	T. Takemoto	2	○		○	
Economic Policy	M. Nakama	2		○		
Environmental Policy	L. Chen	2		○		
International Framework for Environmental Protection	M. Maruyama	2	○		○	
Local Government Finance	M. Nakama	2				○
Media and Society	M. Loehr	2		○		○
Monetary Economics	T. Hyodo	2				○
Public Debt Management	T. Sakano	2		○		○
Public Policy	T. Umada I. Tomimoto	2			○	
Quantitative development Policy Analysis	K. A. Akkemik	2		○		○
Regional Economics	H. Saito	2		○		
Southeast Asian Economy	K. Amatsu	2	○		○	
Strategic management	T. Hirano	2		○		
Tourism Policy	M. Asamizu	2		○		○
Yardstick Competition Among Government	H. Yoneoka	2	○		○	

[ \* ] = These courses are provided as JICA Development Studies Program.

#### ○1st Year

##### **Preparatory Courses (Compulsory)**

**Objectives:** To acquire the basic skills required in the study of public administration management such as thesis writing skills, economics and economic statistics.

(Quarter or Semester: 1 or 2 credits per course, a total of 5 credits required)

No.	Course Title
1	**Academic Writing
2	Economic Statistics
3	Economics

##### **Core Courses (Compulsory elective)**

**Objectives:** To acquire fundamental knowledge and skills required in the implementation of public administration such as public economics, public administration, program evaluation and others.

(Semester: 2 credits per course, a minimum of 8 credits required)

No.	Course Title	No.	Course Title
1	*Public Administration	5	Program Evaluation
2	Development Economics	6	Public Economics
3	International Economics	7	Public Finance
4	Principles of Administrative law		

#### ○1st and 2nd Year

##### **Elective Courses**

**Objectives:** To study advanced topics related to public administration and other subjects to allow the acquisition of the theories and specified knowledge required in the implementation of efficient public administration.

(Semester: 1 or 2 credits per course, a minimum of 3 credits required)

No.	Course Title	No.	Course Title
1	**Academic English	15	Environmental Policy
2	**Mathematics for Economics	16	International Framework for Environmental Protection
3	**Research Methodology	17	Local Government Finance
4	*Advanced Public Administration Studies IA	18	Media and Society
5	*Advanced Public Administration Studies IB	19	Monetary Economics
6	*Advanced Public Administration Studies IIA	20	Public Debt Management

7	*Advanced Public Administration Studies IIB	21	Public Policy
8	*Industrial Policy	22	Quantitative Development Data Analysis
9	*International Cooperation Studies	23	Regional Economics
10	*Social Policy Studies	24	Southeast Asian Economy
11	Advanced Data Analysis	25	Strategic Management
12	Cost Benefit Analysis	26	Tourism Policy
13	Cultural Psychology of Administration	27	Yardstick Competition Among Government
14	Economic Policy		

[ \* ] = These courses are provided as JICA Development Studies Program.

[ \*\* ] = These are one credit courses.

### Seminars (Required)

(Semester: 2 credits per course, a total of 8 credits required)

No.	Course Title		No.	Course Title	
1	Seminar IA	1 <sup>st</sup> Year	3	Seminar IIA (Thesis Instruction)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year
2	Seminar IB		4	Seminar IIB (Thesis Instruction)	

### o Graduation Requirements

Preparatory Courses	5 credits
Core Courses	8~14 credits
Elective Courses	3~9 credits
Seminars	8 credits
<b>Total</b>	<b>30 credits</b>

### List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

Name	Area of Research
S. Teraji	Microeconomics Incomplete Information
M. Yamada	Economic Growth Theory Business Cycle Theory
J. Nomura	Econometric Analysis Empirical Analysis
H. Kojima	Applied Microeconomics Public Finance
T. Umada	Economic Theory Development Economics Program Evaluation
T. Hyodo	Monetary Economics Monetary Theory
M. Nakama	Economic Effect of Taxation Public Economic Theory
S. Nabeyama	Community Welfare Theory Gender Theory
K. Hamashima	East Asian Social Policy Theory East Asian Political-Labor-Management Relations Theory
H. Saito	Regional Economy Regional Policy
L. Chen	Environmental Economic Theory Theories of Economic Policy
K. Amatsu	International Cooperation Studies International Development
K. Yamamoto	International Development Policy Policy Development Philosophy
K. A. Akkemik	Asian Economic Theory

	Input-Output Table Analysis
M. Hattori	French Administrative Law Administrative Discretion
T. Takemoto	Cultural Psychology Japanese Culture
M. Asamizu	Geography International Relations Theory
K. Nishiyama	Public Administration Public Management
Y. Uchida	Strategic Human Resource Management
T. Hirano	Strategic Management SMEs and Entrepreneurship
T. Nishio	Sports Tourism Hospitality Management

## Academic Schedule

### 1<sup>st</sup> Year

<u>Late September</u>	Entrance Ceremony Orientation at the Graduate School of Economics
<u>October</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester begins
<u>Mid-November</u>	The International Student Gathering
<u>Late December</u>	Winter Break (~beginning of January)
<u>January or February</u>	Study tour to Tokyo
<u>Early February</u>	Spring Break (~beginning of April)
<u>April</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester begins
<u>Early August</u>	Summer Break (~end of September)

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Year

<u>October</u>	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester begins
<u>Mid-November</u>	The International Student Gathering
<u>Late December</u>	Winter Break (~beginning of January)
<u>January or February</u>	Study tour to Tokyo
<u>Early February</u>	Spring Break (~beginning of April)
<u>April</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester begins
<u>End of June</u>	Master's thesis submission due
<u>July</u>	Study tour to Okinawa
<u>Early August</u>	Summer Break (~end of September)
<u>Late September</u>	Commencement Ceremony

## Facilities

### Dormitories

Yamaguchi University has two International Houses as dormitories for international students, the one in Yoshida Campus, the other in Tokiwa Campus. The maximum length to be an occupant of an International House is basically 6 months, but if the International Student Center (ISC) allows the extension of the stay, students can stay longer. When students start to live there, a deposit fee is required. The room is classified into single, couple and family type equipped with refrigerator, washing machine, air-conditioning, bed and study desk. The ISC selects the residents of the International Houses in January for the residents supposed to move in between April and September; in July for the residents supposed to move in between October and May next year. Every year, the number of the students who want to live in the International Houses exceeds that of the rooms we can supply. So ISC casts lots for the residents and considers the students' length of stay in Japan, their status of international students, etc.

### Research Room

Four-storied research building was inaugurated in April 2010 for graduate students. Research rooms are allocated, each room with up to eight students. The study desks and room numbers at Graduate School of Economics are

designated at the time of registration so as to be able to start immediately after the enrollment ceremony. Each room is equipped with air conditioning, washing stand, printer, etc.

### **Libraries**

Students can browse and borrow 341,032 foreign books at the General Library. Students can also browse 4,186 electronic journals. Additionally, the library of East Asian Study Institute is available at the Faculty of Economics where students can find more than 1,000 series of specialized journals and periodicals. Special collection for JDS students is also available. Professional librarians are on standby to give advice and support to students looking for specific data or academic information needed for research works.

### **Copy Facility**

Students are allowed to take up to 1,200 sheets of copy per year free of copy machines charge by purchasing copy paper by themselves.

### **Other Facilities**

Yoshida Campus has cafeterias, shops, post office, ATMs, etc. There is also a welfare facility called "FAVO" which has a cafeteria, tuck shop, bookshop, travel agency, etc. so that students spend comfortable lives here. At the Health Administration Center, doctors, nurses and counselors provide medical examinations, emergency medical care and routine medical check-ups. They are also available for advice on matters regarding your physical and/or mental health.

## ***Message for Applicants***

### **From University:**

The Public Administration Course at the Graduate School of Economics is awaiting Laotian students. We look forward to using our deep knowledge about Asian developing countries, their historical evolution, and their governing structures.

Students have opportunities to experience Japanese culture and traditional events through interaction with a welcoming volunteer group for the support of international students, such as forming an international student team to participate in the local sports festival.

Yamaguchi is a region richly endowed with nature, and living costs are lower than in metropolitan areas. A rough estimate of living expenses in the Yamaguchi area is shown below. It is relatively less expensive compared with living in a large urban area such as Tokyo.

Category	Approx. Amount per Month
Rent	24,000yen
Food	28,000yen
Utilities (Gas, Electricity, Water)	10,000yen
Communications (Telephone, Internet)	8,000yen
Learning materials	6,500yen
Other (Entertainment, etc.)	6,000yen
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,500yen</b>

Yamaguchi University is recommended to those students who want to engage in research and enjoy Japanese culture and daily life.

### **From JDS Fellows:**

#### **Phongsounthone Somesnook**

My name is Phongsounthone Somesnook; I am the student who came from Laos. Before I came here, I was working for the Central Bank of Laos. I have been researching in the Yamaguchi University since I first came here in 2015s till now. My major is Economics, and it belongs to the Graduate School of Economics, Yamaguchi University (YU).

**\*Environment**

The atmosphere around the Yoshida Campus is safe. Indeed, it is surrounded by many different kinds of trees, especially the Cherry Blossoms (Sakura). Frankly, it was stunning when I first saw Sakura in my first spring. It also has fresh air, breathtaking river, and very enjoyable hot spring (Onsen).

**\*Study***-Typical Lecture*

The Graduate School of Economics, YU has a high quality of education. A professor of each subject provides the knowledge to a student effectively.

*-Seminar with Professor*

I have to say that I have been given a helpful and useful recommendation from my academic advisor (Prof. Dr. Takashi Hyodo).

*-Study Tour*

The Graduate School of Economics, YU has an excellent study tour namely: Tokyo Study Tour, and Okinawa Study Tour.

**\*Daily Life***-Standard of Living*

In the Yoshida Campus, it is convenient to access to the supermarkets, grocery stores, and other facilities.

*-Transportation*

It has no subway in Yamaguchi City, though, it still has a local train to serve the passengers.

**Yangxiong,**

Hello, my name is Yangxiong, the 16th batch of JDS Fellow and the 3rd batch of Lao Student in Yamaguchi University. The geography in Yamaguchi is similar to Xiengkhouang province; there are lots of mountains if you like Xiengkhouang you may like Yamaguchi. The Yamaguchi University is a great university; here you can access the internet everywhere, so you can learn anything as you want rather than the classes. The accommodation is not too far from the university if you live in the dormitory, it takes a few minutes to come to the class, but if you live in the apartment maybe take about 10-15 minutes. It is strongly recommended you to have a bicycle. Usually every year the university has bicycles for borrow (free), but if you do not have a chance, you can buy a new one or ask your senior's. You can use your bike for shopping and travel around Yamaguchi city. So, please enjoy your new life in this great university.