

Degrees

Master of Arts in International Relations  
 Doctor of Philosophy

Enrollment semesters

April or September

Scholarship / Grants (Academic Year 2022 Entry)

Master's Program

| Entrance Scholarship                             | Eligibility  | Amount (approximately)   |
|--|--|--|
| SEISEKI-YUSHUSHA Scholarship for 1st Year        | Self-financed students with outstanding results in the admissions screenings                                     | I→500,000yen/1st year<br>II→400,000yen/1st year<br>III→300,000yen/1st year<br>IV→200,000yen/1st year<br>V→100,000yen/1st year<br>*Maximum of 25% of all enrollees with outstanding results in the admissions screenings<br>*No separate application required.<br>*Recipients will receive a notice together with the letter of acceptance. |
| Tuition Reduction Scheme - 100% tuition waiver   | Self-financed international students with outstanding results in the admissions screenings                       | 100% tuition waiver (duration of standard program completion period)   |
| Enrollment Scholarship                           | Eligibility  | Amount (approximately)   |
| Tuition Reduction Scheme - 20% tuition reduction | Self-financed international students   | 20% tuition reduction (duration of standard program completion period)   |
| JASSO Scholarship                                | Self-financed international students living outside Japan at the time of application until the time of admission | 48,000yen per month, 12 months for spring enrollment students; 6 months for fall enrollment students   |
| SEISEKI-YUSHUSHA Scholarship for 2nd Year        | 3rd semester self-financed students who achieve excellence in their grades during 1st year                       | I→200,000JPY<br>II→100,000JPY  |

Doctoral Program

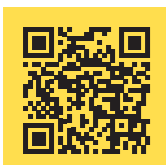
| Entrance Scholarship                             | Eligibility  | Amount (approximately)   |
|--|--|--|
| Tuition Reduction Scheme - 100% tuition waiver   | Self-financed international students with outstanding results in the admissions screenings                     | 100% tuition waiver (duration of standard program completion period)                                 |
| Enrollment Scholarship                           | Eligibility  | Amount (approximately)   |
| Tuition Reduction Scheme - 20% tuition reduction | Self-financed international students   | 20% tuition reduction (duration of standard program completion period)                               |
| JASSO Scholarship                                | Self-financed international students living outside Japan during the period between application and enrollment | 48,000JPY per month, 12 months for spring enrollment students; 6 months for fall enrollment students |
| KENKYU-SHOREI Scholarship                        | Self-financed students who achieve excellence in their field of research                                       | SHOREI S, A, B (check the GSIR website for more details.)  |

Access to RU

Kansai International Airport in Osaka  
 →1hr. 15min.  
 by JR Limited Express "Haruka"

Kyoto Station  
 →30min.  
 by taxi / 45min. by bus

Tokyo Station  
 →2hr. 10min.  
 by JR Shinkansen (bullet train)



Please check the website for details regarding faculty research, DMDP partner universities, interviews with current students, admission requirements, financial aid, courses, and more.

立命館大学大学院 国際関係研究科

[www.ritsumeai.ac.jp/gsir/eng/](http://www.ritsumeai.ac.jp/gsir/eng/)

# RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

A Message from the Dean  
**Grooming Productive Members of a Global Society**

Dean  
 Graduate School of International Relations  
 Ritsumeikan University

Ryoji Nakagawa



Ritsumeikan University's Graduate School of International Relations was established in 1992. Building on the fundamentals of the College of International Relations which was established in 1988, we have cultivated top-level, specialized professionals with interdisciplinary perspectives across a wide range of fields. And, working with major overseas academic institutions, we have, among other things, created a dual degree program where students may simultaneously earn two degrees. In addition, we are the only regular member of APSIA, the Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs, in Japan.

The Graduate School of International Relations has put in place a systematic curriculum and instructional programs in both Japanese and English, and our instructors come from a diverse range of countries. The school also plays host to an abundance of lectures and more from influential people from around the world. In addition, in recent years, our number of international students from not only Asia but Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America, as well as Europe and the United States, has seen a significant rise, making this an important place where students are able to overcome the lines separating countries and regions to engage in mutual learning.

The paths taken by alumni of our graduate program extend in a myriad of directions. Our graduates have moved on to positions with the United Nations, the World Bank, and other international organizations; the Japanese government sector; JICA and other public agencies; government and public offices in their home countries; mass media; trading companies and other private institutions; NGOs and other society groups; and as instructors and researchers at universities and more.

In addition to international politics, the Graduate School of International Relations incorporates a wide range of research topics into its program, including the cultivation of developing nations, religion, space technology development, international trade and investment, social security, the environment, and even international comparisons of anime and idols. Naturally, academic methods must be taken into account, but there are countless approaches to tackling challenges.

However, graduate-level education is not something that is simply handed out. More so than with undergraduate education, postgraduate success comes from possessing a high level of proactive problem awareness and unwavering perseverance. Only with that kind of independent ability to take action is one able to make effective use of the research environment.

If you are a person with a desire to conduct research that will invigorate your sense of values, then pay a call on Ritsumeikan University's Graduate School of International Relations.

A History of  
 Ritsumeikan University

The history of Ritsumeikan dates back to 1869 when Prince Kinmochi Saionji, an eminent international statesman of modern Japan, founded "Ritsumeikan" as a private academy on the site of the Kyoto Imperial Palace. In 1900, Kojuro Nakagawa, former secretary of Prince Saionji, established Kyoto Hosei School, an evening law school that was open to working people. This school formally adopted the name Ritsumeikan in 1913 and was finally given the status of a university in 1922.

The word *ritsumei* comes from a passage in the Jinxin chapter of the Discourses of Mencius. This passages states that:

"Some die young, as some live long lives. This is decided by fate. Therefore, one's duty consists of cultivating one's mind during this mortal span and thereby establishing one's destiny."

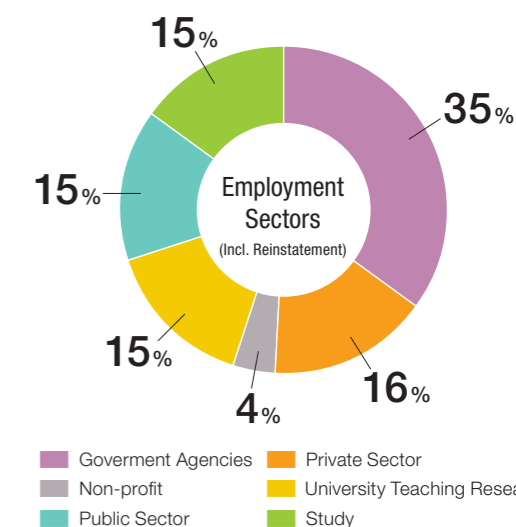


- We offer an unique interdisciplinary program that links politics, economics, media and culture with a global perspective
- We embrace a diverse group of students from over 30 countries
- We are located in Kyoto, voted the world's best city to visit by Travel + Leisure magazine



Student Voice /

The benefits and strengths of being a part of GSIR is the ability to focus on research on topics that you're interested in, as well as having a lot of opportunities to have classes on a range of topics with lecturers both from academia and the professional sector.



More than  
**30 yrs**  
 HISTORY

Over  
**1,200**  
 ALUMNI

ALUMNI IN  
**51**  
 COUNTRIES

The Only Official Member of  
**APSIA**  
 IN JAPAN  
ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

A Super Global University  
**SGU**  
 One of the most selective global Universities in Japan

Two M.A.s in two years  
**DMDP**  
Dual Master's Degree Program

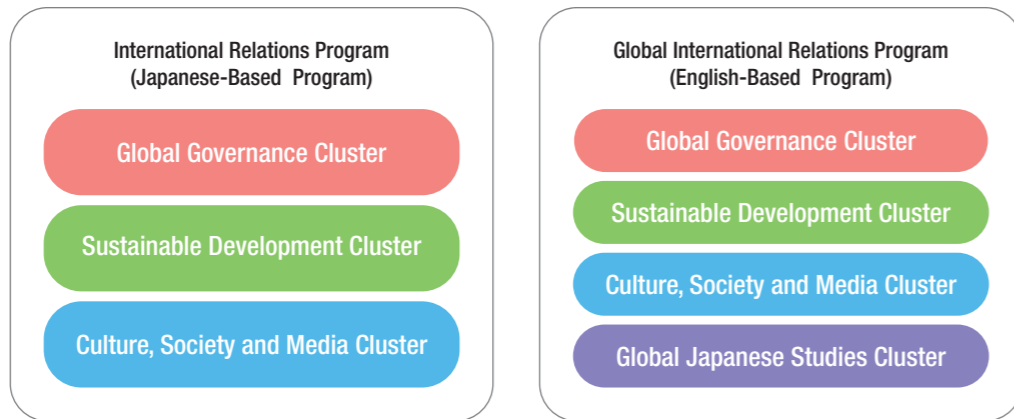
# Master's Programs

We are living in a connected world which faces a growing number of global issues; these are issues that no single state can cope with alone. The global pandemic, climate change, refugees and migration, terrorism, and natural disaster are all global issues that require dialogue and close cooperation between various national and international actors. Our Master of International Relations degree is designed to train future leaders, who are equipped with the skills and expertise to address pressing global challenges which cut across politics, economic development, culture, and society.

## Courses offered in Japanese / Courses offered in English

GSIR offers Japanese-based and English-based programs.

\* Admitted students are affiliated only with their program and not with any particular cluster.  
 \* Students may take courses from any cluster.  
 \* Not all courses are offered every year. Please confirm the exact information at the orientation after enrollment.



**Global Governance Cluster**

Designed to give students the opportunity to learn a variety of theoretical and practical approaches to understanding international politics, comparative politics, international laws, and peace and security studies. Students will learn about international policymaking and will be expected to develop their own policy visions aimed at promoting global peace and prosperity.

**Sustainable Development Cluster**

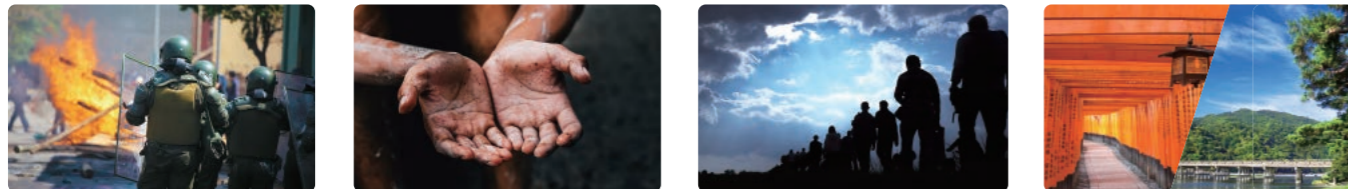
Designed to assist students in gaining a well-rounded academic knowledge which draws from disciplines such as international cooperation, economic theories, and economics. Students also develop practical skills in policy development and evaluation, which will assist them in contributing to sustainable development and prosperity in the developed and developing parts of the world.

**Culture, Society, and Media Cluster**

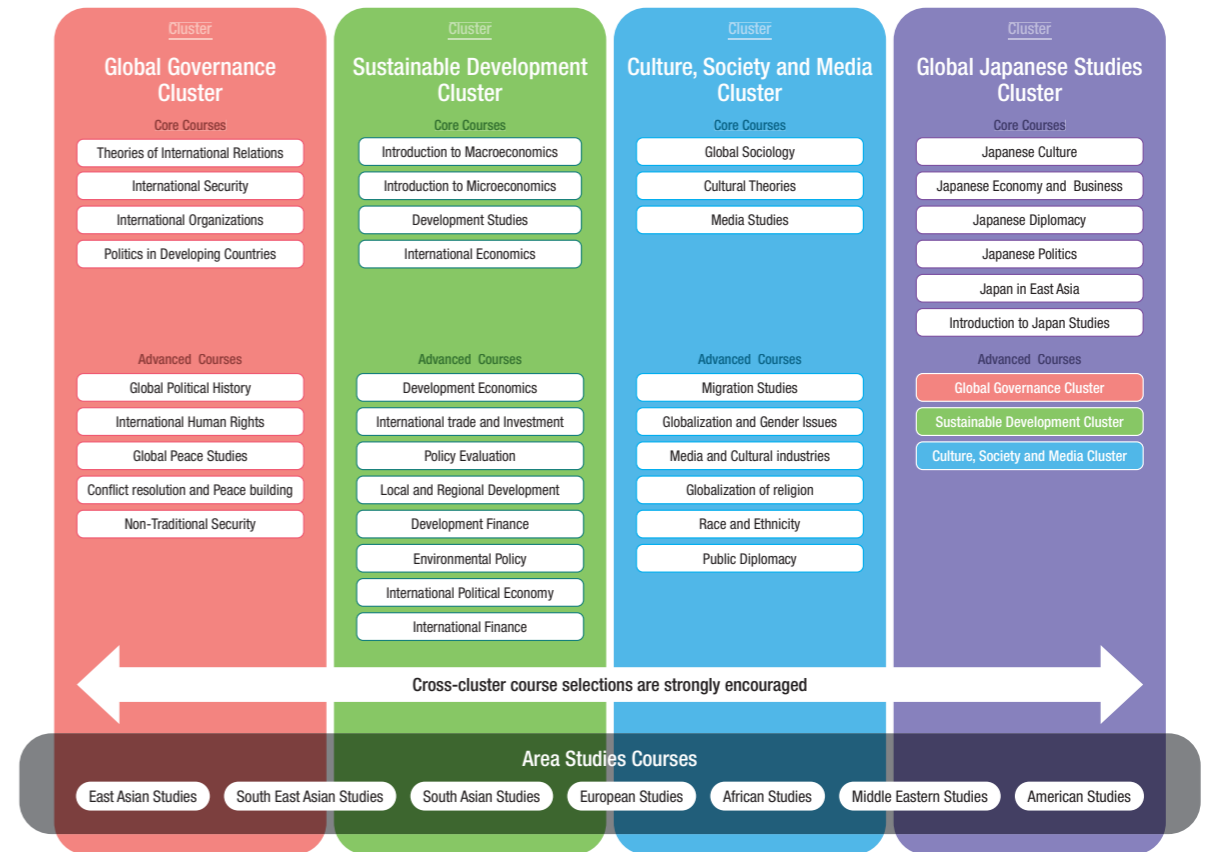
Designed to provide students with a theoretical understanding of cultural and social studies and key concepts in media and cultural studies. Students gain a well-balanced and systematic knowledge of a wide range of global cultural and social issues concerning ethnicity, race, migration, as well as popular culture and media and cultural industries, and public diplomacy.

**Global Japanese Studies Cluster**

Designed to allow students with a particular interest in Japan to take courses which will not only strengthen their knowledge of Japan and its international relations but also expand their horizons by offering a variety of perspectives including Global Governance, Economics and Sustainable Development, and Culture, Society and Media. This cluster will both provide foundational and advanced knowledge of Japan's international outlook, and how the rest of the world has viewed Japan.



## Global International Relations Program (English-Based Program)



For more information, please visit our website.

## Cross Registration System

We have a unique curriculum that allows students to take courses offered in the other program too.



## Schedule for Two-Year Master's Program in International Relations

| Students starting in                  | M1   |     |      |      |      |   |      |            |      |             |  |      | M2  |     |      |  |      |         |          |      |  |           |                |
|---------------------------------------|--|-----|------|------|------|---|------|------------|------|-------------|--|------|---|-----|------|--|------|---------|----------|------|--|-----------|----------------|
|                                       | Apr.   | May | Jun. | Jul. | Aug. | Sept.   | Oct. | Early Nov. | Dec. | Late Jan.   | Feb.   | Mar. | Apr.  | May | Jun. | Jul.                                       | Aug. | Sept.   | Mid Oct. | Nov. | Dec.   | Late Jan. | Early/Mid Feb. |
| <b>Schedule</b>                       | Enrollment, Advanced Seminar and Course Registration |     |      |      |      | Submission of Progress Report I (M1 Kenkyu Report)        |      |            |      |             | Submission of Progress Report II (M1 Ronbun) |      |   |     |      | Submission of Master's Thesis (Shuron)     |      |         |          |      | Degree Conferment Ceremony/Degree to be Conferred: Master of Arts in International Relations |           |                |
|                                       | Research Advising Plan                               |     |      |      |      | Old Presentation of Thesis Proposal (Shinchoku Hokokukai) |      |            |      |             | Research Advising Plan                       |      |   |     |      | Final Oral Presentation (Saishu Hokokukai) |      |         |          |      | Oral Defence Examination (Koto Shimon)   |           |                |
| <b>Students starting in September</b> | Sept. Oct.   |     |      |      |      |   | Apr. | Early Jun. |      | Mid of Jul. |  |      | Oct.  |     |      |  |      | Mid May |          |      | Mid of Jul.  | Late Jul. | Sept.          |
| <b>Course/Thesis Guidance</b>         | Core, Advanced and Area Studies, Advanced Seminar    |     |      |      |      |   |      |            |      |             |  |      | Core, Advanced and Area Studies, Advanced Seminar   |     |      |  |      |         |          |      |  |           |                |
|                                       | Professional Training/Research Training              |     |      |      |      |   |      |            |      |             |  |      |   |     |      |  |      |         |          |      |  |           |                |
| <b>Recommended Activity/Program</b>   | DMDP (from August to July)                           |     |      |      |      |   |      |            |      |             |  |      | Internship (Overseas/Domestic) (Applicants participate in the internship program for 1-6 months between first year summer break and second year summer break) |     |      |  |      |         |          |      |  |           |                |

## Support for Individual Research (Master's thesis)

Students receive comments and feedback from professors at the regular presentations prior to the submission of their Master's thesis. Student questionnaires show a high degree of satisfaction with our guidance.



## Sample Course Plans

Student A was interested in:

### The impact of cultural and economic factors on conflict resolution in Africa

Thinking that the role of international politics is crucial in conflict resolution in Africa, 'A' mainly took courses related to the theories of International Politics and conflict resolution in the Global Governance cluster, while taking other courses such as Race and Ethnicity, or International Economics from the other clusters to develop a comprehensive analytical angle.

| 1st semester                                     | 2nd semester                           | 3rd semester                    | 4th semester                   |
|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Advanced Seminar                                 | Advanced Seminar                       | Advanced Seminar                | Advanced Seminar               |
| Theories of International Relations              | Conflict resolution and Peace building | International Organizations     | Local and Regional Development |
| African Studies                                  | International Security                 | Non-Traditional Security        |                                |
| Professional Training; International Cooperation | Quantitative Research Methodology      | International Political Economy |                                |
| Academic Writing(E) I                            | Academic Writing(E) II                 | Race and Ethnicity              |                                |

Student B was interested in:

### Bilateral diplomacy with renewable energy

With an ambition to become a professional practitioner of renewable energy diplomacy, along with Japanese and statistics courses, 'B' mainly took courses dealing with the environment along with economics-related courses from the Sustainable Development cluster; this prepared her to be ready for work in the field.

| 1st semester                   | 2nd semester                      | 3rd semester                                     | 4th semester     |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|
| Advanced Seminar               | Advanced Seminar                  | Advanced Seminar                                 | Advanced Seminar |
| Introduction to Microeconomics | Introduction to Macroeconomics    | International Economics                          |                  |
| Development Economics          | Environmental Policy              | Policy Evaluation                                |                  |
| Public Diplomacy               | Quantitative Research Methodology | Professional Training; International Cooperation |                  |
| Research Training              | Academic Writing(E) II            | East Asian Studies                               |                  |
| Academic Writing(E) I          |                                   |  |                  |

Student C was interested in:

### Middle Eastern migrants in Europe

Concerned with the effect of media on the issue of migration, 'C' took courses in the Culture, Society and Media cluster. In order to develop a methodological framework for understanding the issue in a multi-dimensional way, he took European Studies, Middle Eastern Studies and International Politics.

| 1st semester                     | 2nd semester                     | 3rd semester               | 4th semester                    |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Advanced Seminar                 | Advanced Seminar                 | Advanced Seminar           | Advanced Seminar                |
| Cultural Theories                | Global Sociology                 | International Human Rights | Globalization and Gender Issues |
| Politics in Developing Countries | Media Studies                    | Globalization of religion  |                                 |
| Migration Studies                | Qualitative Research Methodology | Race and Ethnicity         |                                 |
| Middle Eastern studies           | European Studies                 | Research Training          |                                 |

## Area Studies

GSIR provides a wide range of area studies courses to our MA students. It is perhaps a paradox that globalization requires us to pay more attention to what is happening in local communities; on the one hand, the rise of global issues demands the deepening of global governance, but, on the other, the building of effective global governance requires a deeper understanding of local dynamics at the national and social levels. Ignoring the locality is not only problematic but also dangerous for students of International Relations, who are expected to be drivers of peace and prosperity across the world, hence we highlight Area Studies as a significant component of our IR program.



Area Studies

[English based program]

East Asian Studies, South East Asian Studies, South Asian Studies, European Studies, African Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, American Studies, Special Lecture on Area Studies

## Learning in practice with international students from various cultures and backgrounds

### Professional Training

This program provides an unique opportunity of field trip around Kyoto to learn about challenges and innovations for the local development.

### Research Training

This course is designed to enhance students' research competency. In addition to instructors' research guidance sessions, students can take part in research projects run by faculty members. Participating in such research projects will provide effective opportunities to learn how to pursue research in the field of International Relations as well as how to manage collaborative research, workshops, and symposiums.



## Our Faculty

GSIR has over 30 research-active faculty members who are able to teach and supervise both in Japanese and English. Students will receive comments and feedback from a team of supervisors throughout the two years process which culminates in their MA dissertation. GSIR has a number of international and bilingual faculty members who join with degrees from top universities around the world. Your advisors are research-active and are engaged in international research across disciplines. We also have faculty members who are former, and some still active, practitioners from diverse areas such as international organizations, Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and large media organizations.



### Introducing Our Professors



**Oyama, Shinji** / Professor

**Cultural Studies, Media studies, Creative/Cultural Industries Studies: Critical Brand Studies**

His research and teaching interests include promotional cultures (branding and advertising), digital media, creative/cultural industries, and cultural globalization in Japanese and East Asia contexts. His theoretical approaches are framed in critical cultural studies perspectives and are also informed by his prior experience of working in a global advertising agency and a couple of Internet start-ups.



**French, Thomas William** / Associate Professor

**Japanese History, Japanese Politics, History of US-Japan Relations, History of UK-Japan Relations**

Having studied and worked in Japan and the UK for many years Professor French's research examines elements of interaction and exchange between Japan and the West. He is a specialist in the history of the Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-1952) and is currently working on a major project on the history of UK-Japan peacetime military links. If you are interested in the modern history of Japan or Japan's relations with the West he could be an ideal supervisor.



**Toriyama, Junko** / Associate Professor

**Gender Studies, Gender Studies on the Middle East, Cultural Anthropology**

Junko Toriyama has been researching how people in the Middle East, especially women, live their daily lives, from the everyday-life perspective. Her research deploys Gender Studies, which problematizes inequality and people's suffering by challenging the established power relation, and Cultural Anthropology, which attempts to comprehensively conceptualize human beings without judging differences.

## DMDP Dual Master's Degree Program

### Obtain Two Master's Degree in Two Years

The DMDP (Dual master's degree Program) allows students to study for one year at Ritsumeikan and one year at one of our partner institutions and be awarded two master's degrees upon completion of their studies. Students pay significantly less in tuition than when they study independently.



**American University**  
U.S | Washington D.C.



**University of East Anglia**  
U.K. | Norwich

## Doctoral Programs: Doctor of Philosophy

Today, the global demand for human resources with advanced knowledge and skills has never been stronger. An increasing number of international organizations, not only universities and other research institutions, are looking for people who have doctoral degrees in relevant fields.

Doctoral students in the GSIR have first and second academic advisors who work as a team to guide them through to completion of a PhD dissertation. Since 2010, as a Ritsumeikan University-wide effort, we have been supporting the career development of doctoral students.

- 1. We have a vibrant research culture where graduate students are involved in organizing research seminars, contributing to international workshops held by the faculty, as well as presenting their own research to the broader intellectual community at GSIR.**
- 2. There are also many opportunities for graduate students to engage regularly in discussion and intellectual exchange with researchers and graduate students from outside Ritsumeikan, locally, nationally, and internationally.**



Research Room



### Synergy with Research Institutes and Centers

The GSIR and faculty members are closely affiliated with research organizations (Institute of International Relations and Area Studies, Center for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, Center for East Asian Peace and Cooperation, Kyoto Museum for World Peace, The Creative Media Research Center, etc.) that serve as the focal point for all of our programs. GSIR's commitment to intellectual excellence and interdisciplinary research have made the graduate school an ideal environment for students to pursue their studies. The mission of the GSIR is to cultivate the talent and ability of a new generation of scholars working at the doctoral level, who in turn will contribute to the global community.

Institute of International Relations and Area Studies  
[www.ritsumeikan.ac.jp/research/iiras/](http://www.ritsumeikan.ac.jp/research/iiras/)

Center for Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies  
[www.cmeis-ritsumeikan.net/](http://www.cmeis-ritsumeikan.net/)

Center for East Asian Peace and Cooperation  
[en.ritsumeikan.ac.jp/research/ceapc/](http://en.ritsumeikan.ac.jp/research/ceapc/)

Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University  
[www.ritsumeikan-wp-museum.jp/](http://www.ritsumeikan-wp-museum.jp/)



Institute of International Relations and Area Studies



Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University

### Being on the front lines of the international on campus

We offer classes with visiting professors who are active in the international community. In addition, we have invited prominent researchers from Japan and abroad to share their valuable insights with students. The GSIR offers many opportunities to be exposed to the front lines of international relations studies.

2019

- Our students met with delegates from Israel and Palestine to share their view on peace in Middle East.
- Visiting Professor Acharya Amitav from American University (Former Chairperson of the board, International Studies Association)
- Dr. Denis Mukwege, Gynecologist, human rights activist and Nobel Peace laureate from East Congo
- H.E. Mrs. Adela Raz, Afghanistan ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations
- Visiting Professor Kopper Ákos from Eötvös Loránd University (Head of Department of International Relations and European Studies), Budapest (Hungary)
- Former UN Under-Secretary-General Mr. Yasushi Akashi on UN Policymaking

2018

- Professor Kent Calder (Director of the Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies at Johns Hopkins' School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, D.C)
- Mr. Takeo Akiba (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Japan)30th Anniversary of the College of International Relations: Event and Symposium

## Career

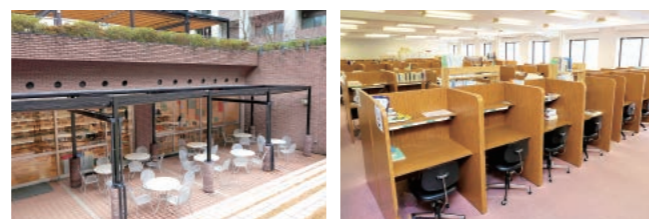
We support students to gain careers in various sectors, including governments, international organizations, civil society organizations, and business.

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Civil Servant</b></p> <p>Specialist personnel of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs<br/>Ministry of Defense<br/>Ministry of Justice<br/>National government employee Level 2<br/>Shiga Prefectural Board of Education</p>   | <p>Yachiyo Engineering Co., Ltd.<br/>NJS CO.,LTD.<br/>AALTO INTERNATIONAL JAPAN</p>   | <p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>Japan Finance Corporation (JFC)<br/>MUFG Bank, Ltd.<br/>Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation<br/>Sumitomo Mitsui Card Company, Limited<br/>Aioi Nissay Dowa Insurance Co., Ltd.<br/>SMBC Nikko Securities Inc.<br/>The Bank of Kyoto, Ltd.</p>           |
| <p><b>International Organization</b></p> <p>Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)<br/>Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)<br/>The Japan Foundation<br/>Kyoto City International Foundation<br/>International Hospitality and Conference Service Association<br/>Kansai NGO Council<br/>The Judicial Foundation for International Personnel Management<br/>Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning (JOICFP)<br/>INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S ACTION NETWORK<br/>Japanese Red Cross Society</p> | <p><b>Transportation</b></p> <p>Hapag-Lloyd Japan<br/>TST CORPORATION<br/>Kansai Airport Agency Co., Ltd.</p>   | <p><b>Trading Company</b></p> <p>MITSUI &amp; CO., LTD.<br/>ITOCHU Corporation<br/>Sojitz Corporation<br/>Mitsubishi Corporation</p>   |
| <p><b>Development Consulting Services</b></p> <p>NIPPON KOEI CO., LTD.<br/>PACIFIC CONSULTANTS CO., LTD.<br/>Chiyoda Corporation</p>   | <p><b>Manufacturing</b></p> <p>SCREEN Holdings Co., Ltd<br/>Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd.<br/>KUBOTA Corporation.<br/>KOBELCO CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY CO., LTD.<br/>NITTO DENKO CORPORATION.<br/>Hitachi, Ltd.<br/>Panasonic Corporation<br/>Samsung Japan Corporation<br/>Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Ltd.<br/>Kirin Brewery Company, Limited<br/>KOSÉ Corporation<br/>DAIKIN INDUSTRIES,LTD<br/>Fuji Xerox Co., Ltd.<br/>Mitsubishi Motors Corporation<br/>Johnson &amp; Johnson K.K.<br/>AstraZeneca K.K.<br/>Kawai Musical Instruments Manufacturing Co., Ltd.</p> | <p><b>Services</b></p> <p>IBM Japan, Ltd.<br/>Microsoft Japan Co., Ltd.<br/>Yahoo Japan Corporation<br/>Rakuten, Inc.<br/>House Network Co.,Ltd.<br/>GABA CORPORATION.</p>   |
|  |   | <p><b>Overseas enterprises</b></p> <p>Foreign enterprises (Spain)<br/>Foreign enterprises (Mexico)<br/>Foreign enterprises (Great Britain)<br/>Foreign enterprises (Taiwan)<br/>Foreign enterprises (Republic of Korea)<br/>Foreign enterprises (People's republic of China)</p> |
|  |   | <p><b>Media</b></p> <p>Kyodo News<br/>The Chunichi Shimbun<br/>Japan Broadcasting Corporation<br/>Kodansha Ltd.<br/>The Mainichi Newspapers Co.,Ltd<br/>Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd.<br/>Bloomberg L.P.</p>  |

## Student Life in Kyoto

Ritsumeikan University's Graduate School of International Relations is located on the Kinugasa Campus, where various graduate schools of humanities and social sciences gather. The Kinugasa Campus is located in the northern part of Kyoto City, where the history and culture of the ancient capital Kyoto are alive. Located within cycling distance from the campus are the UNESCO world heritage Buddhist temples such as Kinkaku-ji, Ryōan-ji, and Ninna-ji, as well as famous shrines such as Kitano Tenmangu shrine, which enshrines the "Shinto deity of scholarship", an important deity for students. On the other hand, the Kinugasa Campus attracts students with diverse backgrounds from all over the world who are eager to experience life in Japan and Kyoto. In particular, the Graduate School of International Relations, the first graduate school of international relations established in West Japan in 1992, accommodates an outstandingly internationalized research environment where students can exchange information and views with each other on various international issues such as security, development and environment, and culture and society. Around the campus, students can learn about traditional

Japanese culture through experiences such as tea, pottery and Zen meditation. On the campus, under the guidance of the faculty staff who have rich international experiences, students will encourage each other in doing research on cutting-edge international issues. How could you turn down such wonderful opportunities? We look forward to supporting your graduate studies!



All students are not only allowed to use our Research Room, but the gym on campus with the best cutting edge equipment for free!

### Student's Voices /

Being able to study at a campus in the heart of Kyoto city is a major benefit, as the quality of student life isn't just determined by your classes. The campus itself is also wide, open and beautiful, creating a relaxing and engaging environment for study.

The campus facilities were perfectly adapted to my research needs. It was also interesting to get introduced to different cultures through my fellow international students.

## Campus Location – Kyoto City

Kyoto City, where Ritsumeikan University is located, is a metropolis with a population of about 1.5 million, it combines the old traditions of Japan with the modernity of global society. It is the capital of Kyoto Prefecture and was the capital of Japan, and the home of the Emperor from 794 to 1868. There are countless Buddhist temples, shrines and other historically valuable buildings in the city, making it Japan's leading tourist city. For this reason, Kyoto City is regularly included in the "World's Best Cities" ranking by readers of the major US travel magazine "Travel + Leisure". It was ranked number one in the world in 2014 and 2015. However, Kyoto City is not just about tourism. Many high-tech companies, such as Nintendo, Kyocera and Shimadzu Corporation, are active locally and support the Japanese manufacturing industry. In addition, there are 38 universities and junior colleges in Kyoto City, including Kyoto University, which has produced the most Nobel Prize laureates in Japan. The city has built a foundation for a university-based advanced academic research city based on the 'The City of Universities, Kyoto 21 Plan'. Kyoto City is also an advanced city on environmental matters. It is the birthplace of the Kyoto Protocol, related to the control of global warming and climate change, and the 3rd Session of the Conference of the

Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP3) was held here in December 1997. In addition, in a national ranking related to the United Nations' "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)", which aims for a society where 'no one is left behind', Kyoto City was ranked first in the comprehensive evaluation of 815 cities and wards nationwide in 2018 and 2019. Kyoto City's measures to address global warming such as reducing total energy consumption, as well as its efforts to reduce waste were evaluated highly. Furthermore, in "the Japan Power Cities ranking" – the Mori Memorial Foundation's Institute for Urban Development comprehensively evaluates the characteristics of 72 major cities in Japan (excluding Tokyo) based on 6 criteria – Kyoto City was ranked first in the three consecutive years of 2018, 2019 and 2020. It received high praise in the fields of 'culture and exchange' and 'environment'. As you can see, Kyoto is one of Japan's largest metropolitan cities, with a good balance of economy, society and culture, and the environment, and is attracting attention both at home and abroad as a model case for sustainable urban development.



## Admissions Applying to GSIR

For more information on admissions, please see our website. You are welcome to visit the Administrative Office of Faculty of International Relations to consult with the staff about admissions.

