

## **Saitama University (National) Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences**

### ◆ Program name

Japanese and Asian Economy and Management (MEcon Program)

### ◆ Degrees:

Master of Economics

### ◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

### ◆ Address:

255 Shimo-Okubo, Sakura-ku, Saitama-shi, Saitama338-8570 Japan



## **Features of University** <http://en.saitama-u.ac.jp/>

Saitama University is distinctive in that all the schools are located together on the lush green campus in the city of Saitama, just in the northern suburb of Tokyo, which takes about only one hour from JR Tokyo Station. This is advantageous in many respects, being conducive to research and learning in integrated fields of humanities and science, academic and student lives, and cultural activities. Over the past 65 years since it was established in 1949 as a small national university comprising only two schools, Saitama University has grown into a middle-sized university with five undergraduate schools and three graduate schools in the academic fields of liberal arts, economics, education, science and engineering.



As a comprehensive institution, Saitama University has set the following goals, in line with its key policies of developing human resources as the mainstay of a civil society and generating knowledge and technology in response to the demands of the day: 1) To fulfill universal role as a seat of knowledge; 2) To strive to solve the challenges facing contemporary society; and 3) To contribute to the global community

## **Features of Graduate School** <http://hss.saitama-u.ac.jp/english/index.html>

Mongolia is now transforming its economic structure to reduce its high dependence on natural resource revenues. The focus of the economic reforms is to enhance governance in the fields of fiscal control and monetary policies for attaining self-sustained growth. In this context, JDS aims to develop human resources with high skills and knowledge for enhancing the governance.

The Department of Japanese and Asian Studies in Saitama University (hereafter, the Department) offers an English-only program (MEcon Program) to provide international students with education covering the theories and practices of economics and management at the Masters-degree level. Under the framework of this MEcon Program, considering the key issues within "Fiscal Control and Monetary Policy" in the Mongolia JDS Project, the Department will provide a program based on the following key concepts for the JDS Fellows.

The first concept is a "Triple-mix of Theories, Empirics and Practices". For designing fiscal and monetary policies, a theoretical grounding is needed for accountability and transparency in policy formulation. At the same time, the policy should be based on empirical evidence, in the sense that the policy design and assessment require quantitative analyses. In addition, the policy-menu often includes the practical details such as tax system and financial scheme. The Department has professors with experience in policy and business as well as with academic research, and also provides JDS Fellows the opportunity to interact with Japanese businessmen and officials. The "Triple-mix" program is, therefore, necessary and feasible in our Department.

The second concept is "All-in-one of Economics, Management, Law, and Public Policies". Policy-making needs the wider scope of knowledge, which is usually beyond one academic science. Economics supports policy-makers in justifying proposed policies by providing theoretical backgrounds and empirical technique, whereas Management

and Law contribute to materializing and implementing policies. The professors of the Department include experts within four majors: "Economic Analysis", "Global Business and Social Development", "Business Innovation", and "Law and Public Policy". The "All-in-one" program is, therefore, necessary and feasible in our Department.

The third concept is the "Custom-made" program. The Department will set up a supervisory team with relevant professors and officials for each JDS Fellow. The team first examines the capacity level and needs of the student, and then presents a curriculum menu specific for the student. The team also conducts monitoring and follow-up on the study progress. In addition, the Department has a lot of foreign professors and professors with overseas experiences. Regarding English learning, the Department can assign the other foreign student as an English tutor for a JDS Fellow with lack of English ability. Providing an appropriate "Custom-made" program is, therefore, necessary and feasible in our Department.

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

### **【Regular Program】**

The Department offers an English-only program (MEcon Program) to provide international students who cannot speak Japanese with education of theories and practices of economics and management at the Master-degree level. The MEcon Program will offer the attached curriculum, focusing on the development issue, "Fiscal Control and Monetary Policy", in the Mongolia JDS Project.



The specific research issues supposed in the JDS Project under "Fiscal Control and Monetary Policy" are, for instance, "Fiscal control & policy and tax system", "Public management" and "Monetary control & policy and development finance". These issues can be covered with the attached curriculum as follows.

#### (i)Fiscal control & policy and tax system

The related courses in this area include: "Public Finance and Socioeconomic Development in Japan", "Economic Policies in Asia", "Public Policies in Japan and Asia", "Economic Development in Asia", "Asian Economy", "Econometric Methods in Macroeconomics" and etc.

#### (ii)Public management

The related courses in this area include: "Public Policies in Japan and Asia", "Human Resource Management in Asia", "Japanese-style Management", "Social Development", "Global Environment and Asia" and etc.

#### (iii)Monetary control & policy and development finance

The related courses in this area include: "Money, Banking and Financial Markets", "Microfinance and Development", "Economic Development in Asia", "Economic Policies in Asia", "Public Finance and Socioeconomic Development in Japan" and etc.

#### (iv)Seminars and supervised thesis writing

Each JDS Fellow will also joins a seminar for two years, in which the main supervisor will tutor thesis writing for the Master degree, focusing on a specific theme that student chooses in agreement with their supervisor. Each student will also be assigned a secondary supervisor in addition to the main supervisor. This means that a student will be supervised by two members of the teaching staff.

### **【Special Program】**

#### (i)The Follow-up Seminar for JDS Returned Fellows in Mongolia

The Department will organize a “Follow-up Seminar for JDS Returned Fellows” in Mongolia. In this seminar, supervising professors, other related professors and JDS Mongolian Fellows from Saitama University can follow up the research activities, and promote joint research in related policy issues. It will contribute to reinforcing academic networks between Mongolian governments and Saitama University.

(ii) Japanese Language Courses

The Department will also provide access to Japanese Language courses for JDS Fellows. This will help contribute to deepening their interactions with Japanese businessmen and officials, and the possible internship activities during their stay in Japan, thereby strengthening Mongolia -Japan human networks.

***Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degree***

<http://www.eco.saitama-u.ac.jp/grad/en/curriculum/index.html>

**The List of Curriculum for JDS Fellows**

The credits and years needed for graduation are 30 credits for 2 years.

- English Courses: Students should choose 9 Courses (18 Credits) or more from the following courses (one course awards two credits)

Course
<b>【Classes on Japanese and Asian Economy and Society】</b>
Money, Banking and Financial Market
Japanese Economy
Public Finance and Socioeconomic Development in Japan
Asian Economy
International Trade in Japan and Asia
International Economic Theory
Microfinance and Development
Economic Development in Asia
Economic Policies in Japan and Asia
Economic Strategies in Japan and Asia
Public Policies in Japan and Asia
Advanced Econometrics
Advanced Theory of Public Policies
<b>【Classes on Japanese and Asian Management】</b>
Global Business Strategy
Global Business in Japan and Asia
Comparative Studies of Management
Japanese Enterprises in Asia
Human Resource Management in Japan and Asia
Japanese-style Management
Marketing in Japan and Asia
Supply Chain Management
Diffusion Studies
Global Environment and Asia
Urban Planning in Japan and Asia
International Marketing
Advanced Research in Japanese Society

- Seminars and Supervised Thesis Writing: Students will obtain six credits in each year (awarded 12 credits in total for the two years: one seminar class awards two credits)

## List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

- The main and secondary supervisors will be determined by curriculum committee, reflecting the student's choice to the maximum extent, right after the admission in October. The following is the tentative list of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows.

Teaching Staff	Teaching Staff
Takeshi Osada	Money, Banking and Financial Markets
Masayuki Takahashi	Public Finance and Socioeconomic Development in Japan
Masaharu Nagashima	Economic Development in Asia
Hidekatsu Asada	Economic Strategies in Japan and Asia
Shinobu Nakagawa	Japanese Economy

## Academic Schedule

Reference: The case of the students for admission in 2019

Admission: October, 2019

Research Proposal: June, 2021

Thesis-submission: July, 2021

Final Examination: July – August, 2021

Graduation: September, 2021

**Facilities** <http://en.saitama-u.ac.jp/studentlife/facilities/>

Saitama University has the “International House,” a residential facility for international students. The applications for the International House are accepted in July (moving in October). For those wishing to move in International House, please forward application to the Office of Faculty which you belong to. Since the number of rooms is limited, you may not be able to move in, even though you submit the application. Allowed residence period is maximum one year.

## Message for Applicants

Recognizing that the focus of the economic reforms in Mongolia is to enhance governance in the fields of fiscal control and monetary policies for attaining self-sustained growth, the MEcon Program of our Graduate School in Saitama University offers an appropriate program for the JDS development issue, “Fiscal Control and Monetary Policy”. It includes the curriculum covering such essential issues as “Fiscal control & policy and tax system”, “Public management” and “Monetary control & policy and development finance”. The expected outcomes of the MEcon Program are: 1) to obtain balanced knowledge and skills based on theories, empirics and practices in economic policies under the “Triple-mix” program; 2) to obtain overall knowledge of Economics, Management, Law, and Public Policies under the “All-in-one” program; and 3) to develop abilities following the students’ capacity under “Custom-made” program.



Our emphasis is that our Graduate School has accepted Japanese employees from first-class Japanese companies and government offices to study at the Masters and Doctorate levels. Based on our experience, we have recognized that the actual interactions between these Japanese working students and international students can provide valuable opportunities for international students to understand and learn about the actual conditions in Japanese companies and central government offices. In addition, Saitama University has had intimate relationship with Saitama Employers Association, Saitama Association of Corporate Executives, and Saitama Prefectural Government. Based on these relationships, we can arrange observation tours of Japanese companies/governmental offices.