

Kyushu University (National) ***Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences***

◆ Program name

International Graduate Program

◆ Degrees:

Master of Science

◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

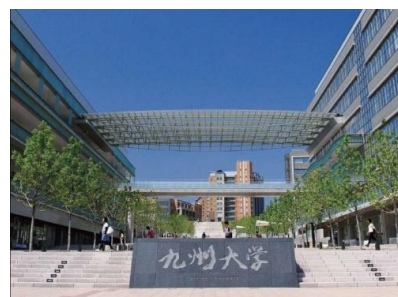
◆ Address:

744 Motooka Nishi-ku, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan



Features of University <https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/>

The Faculty of Agriculture at Kyushu University (formerly Kyushu Imperial University) was established in February 1919 and has since remarkably progressed in academia while making great strides in the fields of agricultural science and technology research and education. The Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences is aimed at conducting research and education related to the maintenance of a stable supply of food and food-oriented materials indispensable to life, machinery and facility development, the preservation of wildlife and the environment, and the health and welfare of mankind in the world.



The number of the teaching staff at the entire University is 2,183, and the administrative staff is 2,487.
Student enrollment: Bachelor 11,687, Master 4,060, Doctor 2,775 and Specialized 291

Features of the Graduate School

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/international_exchange/international_graduate_program/

The Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences consists of 4 departments, each of which comprises 2 to 3 divisions, including over 80 laboratories covering various fields of agriculture, forestry, fishery, animal science, and agricultural economics.

The current enrollment of the students is 1,741, of which 1,005 are undergraduate and 736 graduate students (as of May, 2025). Nearly 270 international students, mostly graduate students, have come to study from various countries. Currently, the total number of faculty members and staff members is 260, of which the number of full-time academic researchers is 169, including 61 full professors, 55 associate professors, and 53 assistant professors. In addition, a number of institutes in Kyushu University, but independent from the Faculty of Agriculture, have also merged with the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences; namely, the Environmental Control Center for Experiment Biology, the Institute of Tropical Agriculture (in part), and the Innovative Bio-Architecture Center.

The Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University, is proud of its global top-level of the international education system for agricultural sciences, and the International Graduate Program (IGP) for Master's students has been running in the Graduate School since 1991. In this Course, all the classes and theses are conducted in English. The JDS Program for the Master's has been with us in the Course since 2001. The faculty consists of specialists in agriculture, such as in production, infrastructural development of farmland, organization of various facilities, conservation of the environment, and



JDS Fellows and Faculty Members

management of forest resources. At our School, we have had more than 200 JDS Fellows from overseas since the 2006 program, and our professors have been working hard to provide them with affluent academic knowledge and pragmatic experiences so that the JDS Fellows can contribute to further development of their home countries when they go back home after their graduation.

-Departments

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/graduate_school/course/

Bioresource Sciences, Agro-environmental Sciences, Agricultural & Resource Economics, Bioscience & Biotechnology

-Attached Facilities

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/undergraduate_school/facilities/

University Farm, University Forest, Fishery Research Laboratory, Institute of Biological Control, Institute of Genetic Resources, Aqua-Bioresource Innovation Center, Center for Promotion of International Education and Research, Innovative Bio-Architecture Center, Insect Science and Creative Entomology Center, Center for Advanced Instrumental and Educational Supports, Hikosan Biological Laboratory

-Relating Facilities

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/undergraduate_school/facilities/

Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Environmental Control Center for Experimental Biology, Material Management Center, Plant Frontier Research Center

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

1) Common features of the program

IGP aims to build on the capacity of the various individual fields for international students from developed and developing countries whose aim is to contribute to worldwide sustainable development in overall food, agriculture, and environmental sciences. The Master's program emphasizes the acquirement of synthetic and practical abilities.

IGP is conducted under a 2 semester system, starting in October with the autumn term and followed by the spring term. On completing the courses, students will be awarded a Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree. The common features of the Master's programs are as follows:

- (1) All the thesis works are conducted in English. A research topic for the thesis is determined over a discussion with your major supervisor.
- (2) In the end of their course work, specifically in the spring term of their second year, students are required to present their research results and submit their Master's theses to the examination committee of the Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences. The committee evaluates overall performance, and the students with satisfactory performance are awarded the Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree.



**Niang Matar (Senegal)
at His Laboratory**

2) A Special program for JDS fellows

In addition to the Master's Program, a special coursework is prepared for JDS Fellows to enhance their knowledge on both academic and cultural experience at Kyushu University. It filled with a number of academic activities that inspire you academically while allowing you to explore Japanese culture and to enjoy campus life during your study.

Since 2017, IGP of Graduate School of Bioresource and Bioenvironmental Sciences, Kyushu University and International Development and Cooperation (IDEC), Hiroshima University with other development programs in western Japan have formed a partnership in hosting annual JASID Western Japan Research Meeting. This provides an opportunity for JICA scholars across disciplines to share ideas and grasp lesson learnt from their peers who are future leaders of their



**14th JASID Western Japan Research
Meeting in 2025 at Kyushu University**

countries. It took place at Kumamoto University, Kyushu on August 29, 2017, held at Hiroshima University in 2018 and Kyushu University hosted the academic meeting in 2019, 2023, and 2025.

I. International Seminar

We invite well-known researchers from all over the world. It is an excellent opportunity to hear about their research and also a good chance to discuss it with them. In addition, our faculty organizes an international conference called AFELISA (International Symposium on Agriculture, Food, Environmental and Life Science in Asia) with three Korean Universities. You have a chance to present your research work at the international conference.

II. Research Skills Seminar

Many of the new JDS Fellows are just starting their research. We will help you get started on your research as smoothly as possible. We have several research seminars such on survey methodology, writing skills, and presentation practice.

III. International Agricultural Frontier Education Program

We are also a partner program of the JICA Program with Universities for Development Studies (JProUD), and offer two subjects about Japan development model on agro-technological innovation and system. The program to offer participants programs to learn both (i) lessons and challenges of the Japan's modernization (in the regional and other countries' context), and (ii) experience including lessons from both success and challenges of Official Development Assistance (ODA) of Japan's government to the world. These programs are managed as part of universities' existing master/doctorate. The above "Partnership" expects participants to be future top leaders in the respective fields/sectors and contribute significantly to development in countries, after completion of programs.

IV. Research Trip

Based on the student requests, we organize research trips and visit research centers or farmers. For example we have visited the marine product and research center, a strawberry farm, rice farmers and an agricultural engineering site. It is an exciting opportunity to get to know and see the leading agriculture or marine production technology as a future technological leader in your home country.

Ex.)

April: Ooki circulation center (biomass energy plant)

May: Planting rice in terraced paddy fields (Ukiha town, Fukuoka)

July: Integrated rice and duck farming (Mr. Takao FURUNO's farm, Keisen town, Fukuoka)

A two-day trip to Aso Volcano areas to learn about agricultural activities.

V. Follow-up Seminar

Another two years of hard work, your supervisors will be your important research co-workers. We organize follow-up seminars in your home countries, where you can have another opportunity to discuss and inspire your further research. Follow-up seminars were held in Laos in 2024, Viet Nam in 2023, and Myanmar in 2019.

VI. Life at Kyushu University

Kyushu University enjoys its international academic atmosphere; more than 10 per cent of the students are from overseas. Academic life at Kyushu University is intense as well as warm and welcoming.

VII. Post program activities

Guidance of the journal article submission

Supervisors will continue to guide you and support you in submitting a journal article based on data and analysis conducted during the program.

Network building

The graduate of the JDS Project at Kyushu University continues to get updated information of activities as well as that of alumina via the JDS Kyushu University homepage.

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

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/international_exchange/curriculum/index.html

Compulsory subjects consist of 3 subjects or more out of 9 Core subjects (5 credits); 1 subject or more out of 9 Advanced subjects (2 credits); 2 PBL subjects (2 credits); 2 Practicum subjects (4 credits); 2 Specialized Research subjects (12 credits) and other subjects (5 credits)

-Specialized Research Subjects

Master's Thesis Research I

Master's Thesis Research II

-Practicum Subjects

Seminar in a Specified Field I

Seminar in a Specified Field II

Teaching practice

Presentation skills for academic meetings I

Presentation skills for academic meetings II

International presentation skills for academic meetings

Internship

-Core Subjects

Basic Statistics

Advanced Statistics

Biological Resources: Utilization and Conservation

Soil and Water Environment

Advanced International Rural Development Studies

Advanced Technology in Agriculture

Food Science and Food System

Fundamental Research Skills

Rural Survey Research Methods

-PBL Subjects

Agricultural Problem-Based Learning I

Agricultural Problem-Based Learning II

-Advanced Subjects

Agrobiological Science

Cutting Edge Topics in Animal & Aquatic Sciences

Forest and Forestry Sciences

Bioproduction Environmental Sciences

Sustainable Bioresources Science

Advanced Econometrics

Molecular Bioscience I

Advanced Bioresource Technology

Advanced Food Quality

-International Frontier Program in Agriculture (Minor program)

English for AgriBio Leaders I

English for AgriBio Leaders II

Development of Asian Agriculture and Technology I

Development of Asian Agriculture and Technology II

Current Topics in Agriculture and Biotechnology

AgriBio Global Exercise I

AgriBio Global Exercise II

AgriBio Global Exercise III

AgriBio Overseas Short-term Program

AgriBio Overseas Program

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

In principle, all professors and associate professors are capable of supervising JDS Fellows.

Here is a list of professors and associate professors who are capable of supervising JDS Fellows.

<https://ag.kyushu-u.ac.jp/english/investigation/project/>

The supervising professors for JDS Fellows are determined in April.

We read their report and discuss which laboratory is suitable for each JDS Fellow and decide on his/her laboratory and supervising professor.

Academic Schedule

1st year Fall, Winter (October – March)

Entrance ceremony (October)

Welcome party

Fall core subjects

International Seminar

Academic English Writing Skills module

1st year Spring, Summer (April – September)

Spring core subjects

2nd year Fall, Winter (October – March)

International Seminars

Field trip

2nd year Spring, Summer (April – September)

Defending your Master's thesis

Oral presentation (July)

Graduation ceremony (September)

Facilities

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

Global Gateways Kyushu University of the International Student Exchange Division supports international students, including CoE application, dormitories admission, resident registration, opening a bank account, and finding an apartment.

-International Student Association (KUFSA) <https://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/kufsa/>

The Kyushu University Foreign Students Association (KUFSA) is an organization that represents all foreign students enrolled at Kyushu University (Kyudai). Through KUFSA, students can take part in excursions, sports, and other fun activities. Join KUFSA's instagram. https://www.instagram.com/kufsa_info/

-University Central Library <https://www.lib.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en>

The University Library consists of five general libraries, of which the largest, the Central Library is located right across the road from the International Student Center in Ito campus. Each floor has comfortable reading spaces and study rooms equipped with various materials, and features a range of services and content to support students' learning.

-Center for Health Sciences & Counseling <https://chc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/>

The Center for Health Sciences and Counseling is a university organization that seeks to maintain and promote the mental and physical health of students, staff, and faculty members at Kyushu University, to ensure that the campus is safe and comfortable for everyone, and to foster self-reliance and growth among students through the provision of counseling services.

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

Students enrolled in this Course may apply for a furnished student dormitory (with a private bathroom and balcony). More detailed housing information can be found on the following website.

Message for Applicants

In this Program, some scientific tours for the JDS Fellows have been offered from time to time during the two-year Master course period for each fellow. The aims of these tours are to promote a greater understanding of policies, circumstances, and technologies in Japanese agriculture. Our program has proven successful and has been acknowledged by the academic and research institutions of our students' home countries. Research in the individual laboratories in our graduate school, as well as opportunities of exploring fields and of presenting their research at international conferences, enrich their experiences. Our educational excellence is also evidenced by the fact that our graduates are highly sought after by academic institutions and industries alike.

Also, Kyushu University provides many opportunities for international students to explore Japan as well as to find lifetime friends through activities such as day excursions and sports. Below is a message from Mr. Niang Matar, a JDS Fellow from Senegal currently enrolled in a Master course.

"My name is Matar NIANG, the first JDS Fellow at Kyushu University from Senegal. I belong to the Laboratory of Systematic Forest and Forest Products Sciences (SFFPS), under the supervision of Professor Kuniyoshi SHIMUZU.

Studying at Kyushu University has been a transformative stage of my academic journey. The university offers advanced research facilities, a stimulating environment, and strong international networks. I chose to study here because I needed access to



Participation in Dontaku Festival

equipment not yet available in my laboratory in Senegal. My goal is not only to master these advanced techniques but also to learn how to maintain and manage such equipment, so I can help strengthen research capacity back home.

Life in Fukuoka has been equally enriching.

The city is modern, safe, and welcoming, with a unique balance of tradition and innovation. The Ito Campus, surrounded by nature, provides both calm and motivation. My daily routine combines structured research with cultural discovery, which has taught me discipline, resilience, and adaptability.

As a JDS scholar, field trips have been highlights of my academic journey. They connect theory with practice and have helped me build strong relationships with fellow scholars through knowledge-sharing and collaboration.

Beyond academics, I am involved in the African Society of Kyushu University (ASKU) and the Kyushu University Foreign Students Association (KUFSA). These platforms promote cultural exchange and solidarity among international students, allowing me to serve as a bridge between Senegal, Japan, and the global community.

Looking ahead, I aspire to apply the skills I have gained to scientific research and sustainable development in Africa. To my juniors, my advice is simple: choose Kyushu University. It provides the environment, resources, and support needed to grow into a global scientist."



ASKU Members Enjoying BBQ Event



KUFSA Member's Trip to Beppu, Oita

Hope his message inspires you to be one of our MA students at Kyushu University.

Thank you for your interest in our programs, and look forward to meeting you at Kyushu University.