Doshisha University,
Graduate School of Global Studies



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Program name
Major in Global Studies

◆ **Degrees:**
Master of Arts in Global Society Studies
Master of Arts in Contemporary Asian Studies
Master of Arts in American Studies

◆ **Credit and years needed for graduation:**
Minimum 30 Credits and Master's Thesis, or 38 Credits and Seminar Paper, at minimum of 2 years

◆ **Address:**
Karasuma-dori, Kamidachiuri-agaru, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto 602-0898, JAPAN

Features of University *https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/index.html*

About Doshisha University

Doshisha University has its roots in Doshisha Eigakko (Academy) founded by Jo Niijima, one of the six great educators of the Meiji Era.
Doshisha University is a university consisting of 14 faculties and 16 graduate schools, which originated from Doshisha Eigakko (Academy) established in Kyoto in 1875.
Inheriting the passion for education of its founder, Jo Niijima, for 150 years, the University has continued to cultivate "those who use their abilities as conscience dictates" based on the founding spirit of "education of conscience" and to send out into society people who are active in various fields, including economics, politics, religion, education, and social services.

Features of the Graduate School *https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/academics/index.html*

The Graduate School of Doshisha University
Doshisha University has been continuously engaged in education and research activities from the Meiji Era to the present in Kyoto, a city where history, tradition, and novelty are fused. With its roots in Doshisha Eigakko (Academy) founded by Jo Niijima, Doshisha University features the founding spirit of "education of conscience." It underlies the educational and research activities of all faculties, graduate schools, institutes, and other organizations comprising Doshisha University and serves as a guide for education, although the academic fields and specialties of each are different.

Undergraduate studies at Doshisha University are offered at 14 faculties and 34 departments with different academic fields. https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/academics/undergrad_list/index.html
Taking advantage of the scale of a university with multiple faculties, the University offers a rich learning environment in which students can freely study subjects from other faculties according to their own interests.

A well-developed, state-of-the-art research environment
https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/academics/graduate_list/index.html
The 16 graduate schools, support advanced and specialized educational and research activities in state-of-the-art research facilities and environments. In addition to acquiring knowledge in the academic field of their major, students are encouraged to take courses outside their own graduate school or department, subjects are offered to provide the practical research skills required of graduate

students and for them to acquire knowledge in adjacent fields.

Features of the Program *https://global-studies.doshisha.ac.jp/gs/en/index.html*

Doshisha University's Graduate School of Global Studies (GSGS)in an independent graduate school launched in April 2010 in response to the pressing urgency of issues such as transnational migration and environment issues. In today's society where people and things are intricately interwined across borders, whatever issue that may arise should not be considered whithin the limited context of any specific area. And "global" does not only mean the geographical expansion. Global issues today involve multiple layers of contexts such as society, economy, culture and philosophy, which have previously been discussed separately. Issues ariging in today's world drastically shake the traditional frameworks of humanities and social sciences.
GSGS approaches these global issues with an emphasis on both the unique features of individual areas of expertise and cross-regional perspective. Rather than pursuing universality and generalization, GSGS focuses on investigating individual cases in search of connections. Therefore, students are expected to demonstrate their enthusiasm toward the object or place of their interest, and the courage to depart from the context in search of connections. GSGS does not concern itself with the academic discipline students pursued in their studies prior to admission, but students are required to clarify their research interests and what issues they wish to address in their graduate studies. Master's and doctoral students belong to one of the following three clusters:

- Global Society Studies Cluster
- Contemporary Asian Studies Cluster
- American Studies Cluster





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Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

https://global-studies.doshisha.ac.jp/gs/en/education/master_course.html

Course List of Master's Program for JDS Fellows Enrolled in and after AY 2024
(courses provided in English)
(as of June 2025)

***Requirement for completing the Master's Degree Program**
https://webdisk.doshisha.ac.jp/public/eSpeQ6-JTIvjI5zfUIvgbKCrCZxZ6mUqvBRe9I4B4Nru
To complete the Master's Degree Program through submission of a Thesis, students are required to complete a minimum total of 30 credits including 6 credits from Required Global Studies Common Courses and 8 credits from the Global Society Studies Cluster's own Required Courses. To complete the Master's Degree Program through submission of a Seminar Paper, students are required to complete a minimum total of 38 credits including 6 credits from Required Global Studies Common Courses and 8 credits from the Global Society Studies Cluster's own Required Courses

***Special Intensive Courses**
In addition to the existing curriculum mentioned in this section, the School provides intensive non-degree classes to supplement the course in order to meet the demand of the JDS program students' specific interests of the time (by guest lecturers and Doshisha faculty staff). For example, the following subjects, among others have been covered in the past years:

- "Legal, Socio-economic Institutionalization of the Bureaucracy in the Countries of Transition to Market Economy"
- "Democratic Governance and Development"

- “Transparency and Accountability of Government in Developing Countries”
- “Revitalization of Japanese Local Governance”
- “Japan’s Path to Democratization”
- “Countermeasures of Corruption in Developing Countries”

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List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

https://global-studies.doshisha.ac.jp/gs/en/faculty_members/list/index.html

Main advisors will be tentatively selected based on applicants’ research plans.

Name	 **Eiji OYAMADA**
Research Areas	Development and Governance in Developing and Emerging Countries
Message to Students	My studies focus on analyzing development issues from the perspective of developing countries mainly ASEAN countries and countries in transition, and then going in depth to further analyze the role of the government from various angles such as graft and corruption, transparency and accountability of the government, etc. In pursuing these studies with me, students will be taught and guided by sharing my experience and expertise acquired from the United Nations, World Bank (Indonesia, East Timor, Palestine, Japan)、NGOs and the governments of developing countries, as well as teaching governance and development issues for the past 10 years at universities in the Philippines (University of the Philippines), Indonesia (Gadjha Mada University, University of Paramadina) and Hong Kong (Hong Kong University). Through living and working with people in developing countries, I have encountered the actual circumstances in governmental structures, regulations, development of the countries depending on strategies, and the attitude of the citizens being influenced in making choices. Students are encouraged to visit developing countries and to interact with the local people and various organizations to study and analyze development issues in depth.
Name	 **Kozue AKIBAYASHI**
Research Areas	Gender and Peace

Message to Students	My research/activism theme has been on the issues of militarism, militarization and demilitarization, and decolonization, analyzing them from a gender perspective. Gender analysis of peace and security has gained visibility by the decades of works of scholars and activists, and now it is one of the most important fields of research that is essential in addressing such issue as gender-based and sexual violence in conflicts or conflict-affected areas. A gender perspective, through looking at the power configuration of femininities and masculinities in our daily lives provides us with an eye-opening insight to making links between our everyday activities and international peace and security problems.
Name	 **Fuminori MINAMIKAWA**
Research Areas	Sociology, Race and Ethnicity, Migration Studies
Message to Students	When I was a graduate student, I majored in sociology of immigration and multicultural society while joining in a seminar which specialized in American history. Through the learning from both fields, I had obtained a research method by which I pursue sociological interests with historical inquiries. I am still going back and forth between both fields and learning viewpoints and methodology respectively. Although “interdisciplinary” is often seen as “incompleteness” as an academic field, I am eager to challenge the subject of my research by enjoying the benefits of “incompleteness” between the disciplines. You will have wonderful opportunities to learn across disciplines, methods, periods, and regions in the Graduate School of Global Studies. Please don’t be afraid to be “incomplete.” I hope you will enjoy discussing with students and scholars in different fields and find the best way to seek your research interests.
Name	 **Seiko MIMAKI**
Research Areas	American Politics and Diplomacy, International Relations (IR)

Message to Students	American society has witnessed the rise of a new generation, called Generation Z (Gen Z), people born in the mid-1990s. This generation grew up with the incoherence of spending billions of dollars to pursue victory in the “war on terror” overseas while doing nothing to redress social disparities and racial discrimination at home. They are no longer believe in an “exceptional America” or a “strong America.” They have watched the United States gradually lose influence on the world stage and fail to live up to its own ideals on civil liberties, equality, and accountability to the public. Though they have a gloomy view of their current life and near future, these young people are actively engaged in social movements, hoping for a better future. Gen Z is strongly associated with activism, and works on removing all kinds of violence including racism, gun violence, police brutality, structural inequality, and irreversible damage to the earth’s environment caused by human activities. Externally, Gen Z can put partisan politics aside to come together in support of the United Nations. Most of them are willing to support international organizations like the UN in order to tackle global challenges. Through understanding the struggles of American youth and how they have been changing American society and politics, we can enrich our visions for the future of our own society. I am sincerely looking forward to sharing enjoyment of learning with you.
Name	 **Hisae NAKANISHI**
Research Areas	Middle East Area Studies, Peacebuilding
Message to Students	The world is changing. Ten years ago, we could not believe the age is coming when the US dollar gets so weak as today and will be continuously so. Unexpected conflicts and natural disasters often happen these days. Climate change seems to have been more dramatically happening more than many of us believed. One small incident that used to be domestic has now given much impact globally. Greek financial shock is one of the examples. There are many challenges the globalized world has faced today. How to mitigate poverty and gender disparity, how to construct societies in which people from different backgrounds can live together, and how international society can provide assistance to post-conflict societies are among the challenges. These problems seem to be so far away from our daily. Yet, is that the case really? Japan, too has many problems, as Japan has faced a declining population with the increasing population of the elderly. What kind of new industries can Japan create to develop more economically? How can we alleviate the gap between the rich and the poor that is getting bigger and bigger? What rational can we provide for Japan’s self-defense army to be dispatched to conflict and/or post-conflict zones under the name of international contribution? As a matter of fact, what vision we really need for our future depends on globalized economy and the increasingly high speed in the flow of money, people, goods and services. What

	kind of job do you have in the future? What do you believe important in your life? These are difficult questions but are the ones that should be thought out by knowing where you stand in the global context. Do you buy a chocolate bar for 100 yen at 100 Yen shop? Or do you pay 150yen for a chocolate bar in a “Fair Trade Shop”? Your choice may be different depending on the time and occasions. Yet, whatever choice you may make, it is a matter of value: what value do you consider important. In this sense, to open up yourself to world affairs is to rediscover yourself. In my seminar, we will study why conflicts and wars happen, how to prevent conflicts and wars, and how to reconstruct post-conflict societies. Another area of study in my seminar is to think about how Muslim women can participate in society by adjusting themselves to a changing society that may have different values and practices than their traditions and cultural practices. Those who are interested in these issues are all welcomed to my seminar.
Name	 **Yukiko NISHIKAWA**
Research Areas	Peace and Development Studies
Message to Students	Social science research focuses on human beings. It concerns human relations and relations between human beings and society, the state, or global or international society. In other words, it is centred by human beings. Our knowledge and technological development can potentially be a double-edged sword if they are used without considering our everyday life and well-being. So as globalization, there are both positive and negative aspects of our pursuance of technological development in the current globalized world, where radical changes are ongoing. For that reason, it is vital now to acquire skills and knowledge to analyze varied problems and phenomena from a human perspective or a perspective centred by human well-being. Those who involve in social science research have a critical task for the betterment of our well-being. There are abundant works in peace and conflict studies by now. Nonetheless, it is the area that requires more empirical research for us to review and reconsider the existing theories and knowledge to find further ways to handle conflict and create a sustainable environment for peace. I hope to work with those who are interested in the area from various regional and country perspectives.
Name	 PAREPA LAURA-ANCA
Research Areas	Defense and Security Studies, International Relations,

	Conflict Studies, International Public Policy
Message to Students	As we witness the rise of new powers alongside the decline of established ones it's crucial to understand that our world is at a crossroads. Such developments are reshaping the existing global economic and security order, bringing new challenges and opportunities and calling for our attention and critical understanding. Furthermore, the emergence and expansion of alternative frameworks of cooperation and security brings more complexity to the global landscape. While these alternative models may promise innovation and adaptability, they often diverge from conventional norms and established rules. To understand how the world evolves requires active engagement and detailed investigation. Thus, you must use your critical thinking and foresight to acknowledge the factors and dynamics behind ongoing changes. Let's analyse these developments together with a critical eye, discerning their implications and assessing their alignment with principles of justice, equity, and sustainability.

Academic Schedule

https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/students/curriculum/new_calender/index.html

The new academic calendar introduced in 2025, basically, students are required to take 13 times of classroom instruction and twice on-demand instruction. During the first week of the semester, an orientation period for registration and the first on-demand class will run concurrently.
This week is called "Doshisha Opening Week (DO Week)
Under the new academic calendar, summer and spring vacations will be longer than before, giving students the opportunity to learn independently through fieldwork, various practical training, internships, and volunteer activities.
We hope you will realize a new kind of learning that is unique to you at Doshisha University.

Facilities

Student Support

The University provides a wide variety of support for daily campus life, including support for students with disabilities, volunteer support, awareness-raising activities, and special programs, as well as support for athletic and cultural club activities, in which many students participate.

Education & Library ***https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/education/index.html***

Doshisha University has educational facilities with state-of-the-art equipment, and organizes many university-wide initiatives and educational programs across the boundaries of faculties and graduate schools.

Restaurants & Stores ***https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/information/restaurant/index.html***

The Imadegawa,Shinmachi,Muromachi & Kyoutanabe Campus dining, café and shopping outlets operate on Doshisha University campuses.

Counseling: ***https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/student_life/counseling/index.html***

To lead a fulfilling student life, it is important to be physically and mentally healthy. However, there are many challenges students encounter which may generate various concerns and may affect students' health. Students who are new to university, new to Kyoto, or even new to Japan will experience significant changes in environment. It is common that these situations can make students feel stressed and overwhelmed. We have "Counseling Center" at both Imadegawa and Kyotanabe campuses to provide assistance in dealing with concerns regarding academics, studying overseas, future career paths, interpersonal relationships, health, etc. By discussing and working together, we will support students to be able to deal with their concerns and make their own decisions. If necessary, we can also introduce other departments on campus or organizations outside the university. Confidentiality will

be strictly maintained, so please feel free to contact us. Counseling is available in both Japanese and English. In addition to individual counseling, we also hold workshop to help you lead a richer student life.

Student Life and Healthcare
https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/student_life/healthcare/index.html
The Student Health Center, with premises situated on both on the Imadegawa and Kyotanabe campuses, provides support and assistance to students to help them maintain good physical and mental health throughout their time at Doshisha University.

International Community Lounge
https://ois.doshisha.ac.jp/ois/en/facilities/lounge.html
International Community Lounge is a place for students from different backgrounds to interact with each other beyond nationality. If you are interested in international exchange or want to learn about different cultures, improve your language skills or make friends with students from around the world, feel free to stop by at the lounge. A whole new world will open up for you.

Meditation Room
https://ois.doshisha.ac.jp/ois/en/facilities/meditation.html
Anyone who are studying or working at Doshisha University, of any religious belief, can use the Meditation Room located on Shikokan 2nd floor, Karasuma Campus and Chishokan North Laboratory (Engineering) 1st floor, Kyotanabe Campus as a place for prayer.
Also, multipurpose toilets at Shikokan 2nd floor, Karasuma Campus and Divinity Hall 1st floor (Imadegawa Campus) have a place for Wudu available.

Global Village **https://ois.doshisha.ac.jp/ois/en/facilities/village.html**
Global Village is a place for international exchange located on the 2nd floor of Ryoshinkan Learning Commons. There are many ways to use the space, including consultation with the study abroad coordinator, watching international broadcasts and conversation with international students in the no-Japanese-speaking area.

Message for the Applicants

Our institution provides an international environment with over 60% of the students coming from more than 19 countries, Morocco, Tunisia, Laos, Mozambique, China, , among many other countries.

Over fifty percent of students at our graduate school are foreign nationals, coming from diverse backgrounds with various research objectives, making a very friendly and international atmosphere, and providing an exciting opportunity for all students to share thoughts and ideas among each other through daily interaction. Furthermore, all students can fully benefit from the optimal learning environment at the fully equipped new university facilities for effective studies and research. In addition, being located in the heart of Kyoto, the old capital, all students will be in an excellent atmosphere to learn and understand the Japanese culture, people and language.

Some research topics of JICA funded students who graduated over the last few years include “Saffron as an Alternative to Opium Poppy Cultivation in Afghanistan”, “Understanding the Complex Nature of Public Procurement Corruption and Redress Policies in South Africa”, and “Evaluation of Anticorruption Commission”. Their major point of interest is to understand how the Japanese experience (good governance, democratization, human rights, etc.) can be adapted to their own country, and confirm what needs to be promoted in establishing a better public administration. To actively support students to answer some of their questions, guest lecturers (practitioners such as government officials, civil society, etc.) are invited to share their views and experience, and a number of field studies such as visits to the central and local governments, international organizations, civil societies and other institutions are arranged.

We look forward to welcoming you and supporting your studies for further advancement of your government and ultimately your country.





Joined Japan Association of Int'l Development in 2024





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<Short Article by JICA student>

Message from Alumni

Civil Service Commission, Democratic Republic of Timor Leste



Before coming to Japan, I worked for the Timor Leste Civil Service Commission for five years. My job was to disseminate information about scholarships for studying abroad to civil servants. I should experience studying abroad myself to better inform other government staff of what studying abroad would be like. I decided to apply for the Japan Development Scholarship (JDS) through JICA. I was thrilled when I was selected as the JDS scholarship.

After arriving at Doshisha University, it was very challenging for me to adjust to a Japanese academic system where a student is expected to participate actively in classroom discussions. As my native languages are Tetum and Portuguese, catching up with English instruction and doing English homework was difficult initially. However, I gradually improved my reading, writing, and speaking skills in English. I am happy that I learned much about how various countries and societies interact globally and what it means to be a civil servant back home, serving in the

local communities from global and regional perspectives.

I also learned how Japanese human resource management is conducted in the public sector. I discovered that it is very different from my country. Japan's training and development system is more systematic and ensures quality. Upon my return to Timor Leste, I would like to utilize my knowledge of the Japanese system and contribute to improving training and development programs in the Civil Service Commission.