

Ritsumeikan University (Private) Graduate School of Economics

◆ **Program name**
Master's Program in Economic Development

◆ **Degrees:**
Master of Economics

◆ **Credit and years needed for graduation:**
30 credits, 2 years

◆ **Address:**
1-1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu, Shiga
525-8577 JAPAN



Features of University <http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/>

General Information: *As of May 1, 2020

Year of Establishment:	1900
Founding Spirit:	Freedom and Innovation
Educational Philosophy:	Peace and Democracy
Educational Goal:	The learning and development of individual talents in order to nurture just and ethical global citizens.
Enrollment:	35,772
	(Undergraduate: 32,243, Graduate Students: 3,529)
Full-time International Students:	2,378 students from 70 countries and regions
	(Undergraduate Students: 1,437; Graduate Students: 941)
Total Number of Faculty Members (excluding part-time instructors)	1,416
Total Number of Alumni:	402,268
Total Number of Administrative Staff (The Ritsumeikan Trust):	1,453
	(Full-time staff: 734, Contract Staff: 719)
Partner Universities & Institutions:	457 universities and institutions from 68 countries & regions
Number of Campuses:	4 (2 in Kyoto; 1 in Kusatsu, Shiga; 1 in Ibaraki, Osaka)
Number of Colleges:	16
Number of Graduate Schools:	22
Number of Overseas Offices:	12 (New Delhi, London, Beijing, Vancouver, Hanoi, Washington DC)

Ritsumeikan's history begins with its establishment as a private academy in 1869 by Prince Kinmochi Saionji, an eminent international statesman of modern Japan and advocate of Freedom and Internationalism. In 1900, Saionji's protégé Kojuro Nakagawa retained Saionji's spirit and established the Kyoto Hosei School, an evening law school that was open to working people. With Saionji's blessing, the name of this school was changed to Ritsumeikan Private University in 1913. At present, the Kinugasa and Suzaku campuses in Kyoto, as well as at the Biwako Kusatsu Campus in Shiga and the recently opened Osaka Ibaraki Campus in Osaka combined are home to about 36,000 students learning under the core educational philosophy of *Peace and Democracy*. In order to nurture just and ethical global citizens, Ritsumeikan is working to foster creativity and the development of individual talents on a solid foundation of academic achievement.

Achievement:

Ritsumeikan University has been selected as a designated institution of the "Top Global University Project" by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan. The ministry-appointed panel of experts selected 37 institutions among 104 applications and these institutions hold the "Top Global University" status as of October 1st, 2014 to the end of fiscal year 2023.

The "Top Global University Project" has been established as a way to give financial support to 37 public and private universities aiming to promote comprehensive internationalization and become world-class research and education institutions. With our selection for this prestigious project, Ritsumeikan University will serve as a model for globalized schools.

Features of Graduate School <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsec/mped/>

Since its establishment in 1950, the Graduate School of Economics at Ritsumeikan University has produced many outstanding graduates who have entered the business world, national and local governments, and various research organizations. Located near Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan, the campus offers a beautiful natural environment along with the highest level of facilities and equipment. The faculty of Economics has educated more than 50,000 students with independence and ability in business and administration. We feel proud that we have kept a prominent position among graduate schools and faculties of economics in Japan in terms of the quality of education and research.

Please refer to our website for detailed information.

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsec/mped/>

Features of the Program <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsec/mped/>

Since 2001 the school has offered a program for international students that are taught in English. As of June 2021, the program has received 368 international students from 45 countries. It has proven popular with international students who enjoy taking courses in English in a Japanese academic setting, while working with their academic advisors on the writing and submission of their theses. The Master's Program in Economic Development (MPED), which started in September 2002, offers training in fundamental economics, including Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, and Applied Economics, conforming to international standards, and is taught entirely in English. This program accepts students from developing and developed countries who have strong interest in Japanese and Asian economic development and fosters knowledgeable professionals who can lead the international community. The aim of this program is to nurture talented individuals with wide-ranging interests who will become leaders in international society.

Graduates of this program will acquire:

1. Economic knowledge and analytic skill at an international standard level;
2. Specialized and wide-ranging insight on economic development and advanced capability at policy evaluation and infrastructure planning and management in developing countries;
3. Communication skills required for international conferences, international organizations and international cooperation;
4. Deep understanding and insight into the Japanese and world economies with capacity to do the following:
 - Engage in national government and state-enterprise planning, policymaking, economic analysis, and international relations.
 - Be involved in the coordination of regional economic development through local government, NGOs and

related international organizations.

- Be involved with economic research & education at universities and research organizations.
- Become an international public servant who plays an active role on the global scene.

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsec/mped/program/>

- Students must acquire 30 credits in the two years (completing 15 one-semester courses), including 4 credits from each of the three year-long core courses, 4 credits from the year-long Elementary Seminar, 4 credits each from the year-long Special Seminar and year-long Research Seminar (focusing on thesis preparation), and 2 credits from each of at least three one-semester elective courses. Each student is also required to submit a Master's thesis and pass its examination.
- Core courses (Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Econometrics) and the Elementary Seminar course assure that each student who completes the first year of study will have mastered basic economics and will know how it applies to developing countries.
- Elective courses such as Public Policy, Financial Economics, and Environmental Economics, allow students to focus more intensely on topics of special relevance to their own particular interests or research themes.
- The educational experience extends beyond the classroom. We expect that international students will enjoy and learn from their two years in Japan. Our students have many opportunities to participate in research seminars with Japanese and international students, attend guided field trips to nearby business establishments, and join in other scheduled activities.
- Through individual instruction and guidance we enable each student to successfully carry out his or her research and complete their Master's thesis

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

A thesis supervisor and sub-supervisor are assigned to each student towards the end of the 2nd semester (around June), based on the research plan submitted by the student. In addition, throughout the two years of study, two or three professors guide the JDS Fellows and their fellow students in the Elementary and Research Seminars. Still other professors (and sometimes the same professors) teach the core courses and elective courses. Please refer to the list below for the names of our professors, and our Ritsumeikan University Researchers Database for further information: <http://research-db.ritsumei.ac.jp/scripts/websearch/index.htm?lang=en>

Name	Position	Field of Research, Subject of Research, Research Theme etc.
AONO, Kohei	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monetary Economics • Empirical Finance • Empirical Study on Japanese Stock Market Empirical Analyses on the Impacts of Unconventional Monetary Policy
GOKAN, Yoichi	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macroeconomic Theory • Macroeconomic Dynamics • Economic Growth Theory • "Endogenous business cycle theory: in determinativeness and branch theory"
GOMBI, Ichiro	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Macroeconomic Theory • International Finance • "A Theoretical Study on Determination of Exchange Rate and International Balance of Payments"
HARIMAYA, Koza	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic statistics, Economic Policy, Money, Finance • Empirical analysis of financial institutions and financial markets • Empirical analysis of the effects of industrial policy

HAYASHI, Hiroaki	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative Economic Systems • Economics of System Transformation • Comparative Study on Socio-economic Problems of Transition Countries
HORI, Kazumi	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract Theory • Organizational Economics • Applied Microeconomic Theory
ICHINO, Yasukazu	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International trade theory • Microeconomic theory • Teaching economics • Diversity and international trade • Gains from trade • Flipped classroom in teaching economics
INASAWA, Izumi	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Comparative Analysis of Policy Making Process in Energy/Environmental Sectors • Environmental Policies and Development • International Project Finance
KOBAYASHI, Mizuki	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management • Relationship between automobile companies and suppliers
KURIHARA, Yukiko	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro data Analysis Based on Secondary Utilization of Official Statistics • Regional and Seasonal Features of Work-Life Balance Based on Time-Use Information: An Empirical Study
KUROKAWA, Kiyoto	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Development Economics. • Private sector development study in developing countries. • Economic Resilience
LEE, Kangkook	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalization, Economic Development, Income Distribution, Poverty, East Asia • Effects of financial globalization on poverty and distribution in developing countries • Global imbalances and the global financial crisis
MASWANA JEAN-CLAUDE	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development Macroeconomics • Development theories and policies • Global Development Challenges • Economic Growth, trade and Sustainable Development, FDI and SME Development, Asia-Africa's Economic Interactions.
MATSUMOTO, Akira	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on systematizing of the international economics with the international value theory as the key concept. • On relation between monetary policy and prices • On factors of the fluctuation of Foreign Exchange and the Level
MOMOTA, Akira	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic growth theory • Population economics: a theoretical approach • A theoretical study on macroeconomic dynamics under low fertility and aging societies

NAKAMOTO, Satoru	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political economics analysis of the contemporary U.S. economy • Study of shift towards service economy • Study of globalization • Study of "creative economy"
NIIGATA, Atsushi	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International finance • Financial market analysis • Impact of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) on finance • Financial industry analysis
NOMURA, Ryoichi	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Trade Policy • International Trade Theory
ODAMAKI, Tomoko	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Policy • Co-production of Welfare Services
OHNO, Atsushi	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Political Economy • Fair Trade and Ethical Consumption • WTO and Development Policy
OKAWA, Masayuki	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on the Theory of International Trade Theory under Imperfect Competition • Theoretical Study on International Trade and Trade Policy
OSHIO, Ryohei	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Economic History • Socioeconomic history of performing arts and theatre in Vienna • Socioeconomic history in modern Austria
QIN, Jie	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asymmetric information on the securities market • Emotion and markets • Herding and Crash • Behavioral Finance
SANO, Sayaka	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural economy • Development economics • Economics policy (Agricultural policy) • Agribusiness and Cooperatives in Brazil
SASAO, Toshiaki	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Economics • Economic Analysis of Waste Management and Circular Economy
SATOH, Takashi	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marxian Economic Theory • Theory of Capital • The Theory of Capitalist Economy
SEKI, Mai	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic statistics, Economic policy • Public finance, Public economy • Applied microeconometrics, labor economics, economics of education, development economics

SHEN, XUEMEI	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Added-value Tax • Environmental Tax
SHIMADA, Koji	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy Consumption Behavior Analysis • Urban formulation policy analysis considering the housing and location preferences • Renewable energy transaction mechanism research • "Environmental and urban/regional issues analysis in terms of consumer and private company's characteristics of preference and behavior"
SUGITA, Nobuki	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Policy of Japan • Measurement of Income Disproportion • Regional Development Policy
SUSA, Taiki	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Economics • Political Economics • Intergovernmental fiscal competition under globalization and effects on political process
TAKEUCHI, Ai	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experimental Economics and Game Theory • Institutions to raise and sustain cooperation • Effects of information on behavior
TERAWAKI, Taku	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic valuation of non-market goods with stated preference approaches • Empirical analysis of consumer behavior/preference using survey data
TOKUMARU, Natsuka	Associate Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Philosophy • Experimental Economics • Micro-behavioral Theory of System and Ethics
YAMAI, Toshiaki	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Inequality in Germany after 1945 • Comparative-historical Study on "Revolution" • Study on the German Revolution of 1848/49 • Nation and nationalism in the European history. • Regional Plan and Local Autonomy in Germany After World War II • "Modern European social economic history centered on 19th century Germany"
YOSHIOKA, Shinji	Professor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japanese Economy • Economic Policy • Study of Japanese economy, in particular, on viewpoint of business cycle, and applying for development economics, and policy analysis in general and for sharing economy in Japan

Academic Schedule

Reference Only

Semester	Date Mont/Day		Targeted students	Event & things to-do
AY2021 Fall Semester	9	24	New Students	Orientation for New Students
	9	25	New Students	Matriculation Ceremony
	9	26	All	Start of Classes, Fall Semester
	12	26	All	Start of Winter Break
	1	5	All	End of Winter Break
	1	6	All	Classes Recommence, Fall Semester
	1	24	All	End of Classes, Fall Semester
	2	1	All	Start of Spring Break
AY2021 Spring Semester	3	22	All	Commencement Ceremony (Masters/Professional) (BKC)
	3	31	All	End of Fall Semester, End of Spring Break
	4	1	All	Start of Spring Semester, Orientation for New Students
	4	2	New Students	Matriculation Ceremony
	4	3-5	New Students	Orientation for New Students
	4	6	All	Start of Classes, Spring Semester
	7	26	All	End of Classes, Spring Semester
	8	1	All	Start of Summer Break
	9	23	All	Commencement Ceremony (Masters/Professional) (Kinugasa)
	9	25	All	Matriculation Ceremony, End of Summer Break, End of Spring Semester

Facilities <http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/lifecareer/>

Student Dormitories: 153 single rooms are available in our international student dormitory, the BKC International House, constructed adjacent to the BKC Campus in Sept 2012.

Rooms are furnished with: bed, desk, chair, internet connection, toilet, sink, refrigerator, lighting, and air conditioner. (*Showers in some rooms)

Common areas include: kitchens, showers, coin laundry, study rooms, lobby, multipurpose hall with tatami corner (with TV & DVD player), billiard table, table tennis, basketball hoop, and vending machines.

The dormitory features 24-hour English-speaking managers and student Resident Mentors living on each floor, ensuring that even students coming to Japan for the first time can enjoy a worry-free start to their life in Japan.

*It is possible for the University Cooperative's real estate agency to offer English-language assistance to students who wish to seek alternate accommodation in the local area.

International Student Dormitory (BKC International House) Website:

<http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/lifecareer/dorm/bkc/>

Library Services: BKC is home to two library/media centers. Academic literature related to science and engineering, information science and engineering, life sciences, and pharmaceutical sciences are found in the Media Center, whereas information related to economics, sports and health science, and gastronomy management are found in the Media Library. Both of these facilities are available to students regardless of the research department to which they belong.

*Ritsumeikan University, as a whole, has a collection of 3,415,334 books. (Japanese and Chinese: 2,397,642; Western languages: 1,017,692(as of March 2020))

*Students may also borrow materials from libraries on other campuses using our electronic library services system.

Library Website:

[Ritsumeikan University Library | Ritsumeikan University Library. \(j-server.com\)](http://ritsumei.ac.jp/library/)

Medical Service Center: Located on campus, the medical service center promotes the health of students through a combination of general health support services and a medical office that specializes in internal medicine. To ensure their good health, all students must take part in a yearly health check that assesses their overall health condition and, depending on the result, follows up with additional tests as necessary. Students with any persevering health issues are put under watch and given follow up medical guidance until graduation.

Counseling: Professional counseling is available in English or Japanese Monday-Friday.

Training Room: In order to support students from a health perspective, our campus has a training room with the equipment necessary for a healthy workout. Trainers are always on hand and students can use the gym facilities free of charge. Further, a new facility called the Sports and Health Commons, housing both indoor and outdoor pools, a large gymnasium, other sports facilities and a café opened in the fall of 2016, giving students plenty of opportunity to get in a great workout.

Restaurant / Cafeteria: Several restaurants and cafeterias are spread across the campus, providing both a variety of meals and serving as communication spaces where students can interact with each other as well as with their professors. When classes are in session, a number of private boxed-lunch vendors and food trucks selling delicious meals covering everything from traditional Japanese lunches to curries, kebabs, tacos and pasta can also be found across the campus.

Religious and Dietary Considerations: Multiple cafeterias on BKC campus provide halal food and vegetarian options in an effort to better provide a campus that is prepared to meet the dietary needs of its international population. The convenience store on campus also provides vegetarian options and halal snacks for students on the go. Moreover, we also have a room for which students may pray.

International Center and Beyond Borders Plaza: The International Center provides support for Ritsumeikan's large international student body including organizing new student orientation, promoting exchange activities, and managing scholarships. Assistance is available in English, Japanese, and Chinese. Located directly in front of the International Center is the Beyond Borders Plaza – a global student commons where students can study, relax, take language courses or hold their own events. The lounge is full of books, magazines and newspapers in a variety of languages as well as board games, a computer station, and a TV airing CNN so that students may keep up to date with breaking world news.

Other Support: A special course for JDS students called the JICA/JDS English Program is held to improve students' applied English ability at the graduate level. Additionally, the university strongly encourages JDS students to enroll in the JICA/JDS Support for Daily Conversation in Japanese, which is held so that students may more smoothly adapt to life in Japan by learning basic conversation skills and the Japanese alphabets of hiragana/katakana.

Finally, on the program, you may have a chance to visit company.

Message for Applicants

We are especially interested in recruiting students from the Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Uzbekistan, Republic of Tajikistan. Our aim, which we have largely achieved, is to attract succeeding cohorts of students from many countries, with varying work experience, all intent on learning economics and applying it to practical questions, while also experiencing life in Japan. Students from the Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Uzbekistan, Republic of Tajikistan and other nations can help one another to learn and to enjoy the shared experience of expanding their knowledge. The Ritsumeikan University Master's Program in Economic Development (MPED) is for all students with high communication skills in English who desire to learn basic economics and apply it to their own specialized fields of study. Economics is a broad discipline that is widely applicable to government policy and business practice. MPED graduates are able to apply economic reasoning to public and private sector decision making. They are able to identify the true effects of policies and persuade others of the correctness of their analysis using empirical evidence and cogent arguments. Applicants should have a desire to use such abilities in their careers for the benefit of society.

