

Rikkyo University (Private) Graduate School of Social Design Studies

◆ Program name

Master of Social Development and Administration (MSDA)

◆ Degrees:

Master of Social Development and Administration

◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

30 credits, 2 years

◆ Address:

3-34-1 Nishi-Ikebukuro, Toshima-ku, Tokyo 171-8501, Japan



Course

Features of University <http://english.rikkyo.ac.jp/>

Rikkyo University has two campuses: one in Ikebukuro, Tokyo and the other in Niiza, Saitama-prefecture which borders on Tokyo in the south. The main campus is located in Ikebukuro, one of the largest commercial and transportation hubs in the heart of metropolitan Tokyo. And our Ikebukuro campus where JDS fellows will study is only a few minute-walk from the Ikebukuro-Station.

Rikkyo was founded in 1874 by an American Bishop, and has a long history of excellence in education and research, which, combined with substantial investment in state of the art information technology and teaching facilities, has earned a reputation as an outstanding educational institution and one of the most sought-after universities in Japan. In 2014, based on the achievements and potential for excellence, the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology selected Rikkyo as one of the 37 universities for special funding through the Top Global University Project. The Project lasts for 10 years.

Today, Rikkyo enrolls over 19,000 undergraduate and 1,200 graduate students in its twelve colleges (Arts, Business, Community and Human Services, Economics, Intercultural Communication, Law and Politics, Contemporary Psychology, Science, Sociology, Tourism, Global Liberal Arts Program, Sport and Wellness) and fifteen graduate schools (Business, Economics, Arts, Tourism, Science, Sociology, Law and Politics, Community and Human Services, Contemporary Psychology, Christian Studies, Business Administration, Intercultural Communication, Law, Social Design Studies, Artificial Intelligence and Science, Sports and Wellness).

Rikkyo, from its inception, has valued international exchange with esteemed institutions abroad. Rikkyo has exchange agreements with over 100 universities in the Asia-Pacific region, Europe, North and South America. Rikkyo believes our campus life, both academic and social, will be greatly enriched by diversity.

Features of Graduate School

https://english.rikkyo.ac.jp/academics/graduate/social_design_studies.html

21st-century society needs individuals that can uncover the problems of civil society, pursue concrete methodologies to find the solutions to these problems, and then realize these solutions. In April 2002, the Rikkyo University Graduate School established the Graduate School of Social Design Studies – Graduate Program in Social Design Studies, the first of its kind in Japan, in an attempt to create a new collection of civil knowledge.

The program is a new type of MBA/DBA course which is centered on three pillars: non-profit organizations, crisis management, and networks. With “networks” as a keyword, students can acquire specialized management skills related to comprehensive crisis management for social organizations existing locally and globally (from families and regions to the national/global level), as well as management skills relating to non-profit organizations that take on a new kind of civic-mindedness for the 21st century (NPOs, NGOs, volunteer activities, etc.), corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities, and other social or community businesses.

The graduate school offers a program to cultivate highly-specialized professionals with a curriculum that places importance on practical, hands-on research activities while maintaining a foundation in theoretical and systematic research (MBA and DBA in Social Design Studies). In addition to our specialist group of around ten members of full-time faculty with diverse backgrounds in work and research, we also promote exchange with people outside of the university, for example by inviting highly knowledgeable experts active in fields such as NPO/NGOs, foundations, government administration, finance, and the media, thereby broadening the possibilities of joint research and collaborative activities outside of the university.

A new academic approach is needed to address the situations of new societies. The research framework for this purpose takes a cross-disciplinary structure that cuts across the borders of existing academic fields. In this program, students can travel between real-life situations and research with a flexible way of thinking that is not bound by established theory, and acquire concrete problem-solving skills and experience across various fields.

Features of the Programs <https://msda.rikkyo.ac.jp/index.html>

Our program is designed to equip students with skills and expertise essential for being future leaders in government, international businesses, non governmental organizations, and international organizations. Students undergo the academic and research training through the required and elective coursework and the process of thesis writing.

We look forward to welcoming you to Rikkyo's unique experiences of learning from enthusiastic scholars and from each other. Although the MSDA Course is strategically kept relatively small, it accepts young professionals and government officials through JICA's SDGs Global Leader, and JICA's ABE Initiative (Master's Degree and Internship Program of African Business Education Initiative for Youth).

Our coursework curriculum consists of three groups: Required course in which students receive research guidance toward completion of the master's thesis; Elective 1 course in which students nurture the basic problem solving approach on subjects including qualitative research methods, philosophy, corporate social responsibilities, organizational theory, social development, research methodology, and human resource development; and Elective 2 courses in which students develop the academic and hands on expertise on the fields of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), public management, and economics.

In their first year, students take at least five Elective 1 courses related to social design, acquiring foundational knowledge and a capacity for logical thinking. In the second year, they take Elective 2 courses in line with their research interests and complete a Master's thesis. Through this combination of coursework and thesis writing process, students can acquire expertise in public policy and social design.



In the classroom



Field Trip

Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

<https://msda.rikkyo.ac.jp/program.html>

Upon successful completion of the MSDA course requirements and a master's thesis, a Master of Social Development and Administration degree will be awarded.

Course Type	Credits Required for Graduation
Required courses	4 credits or more
Elective courses 1	10 or more credits
Elective courses 2	16 or more credits
Total	30 or more credits



Graduation ceremony



Orientation

Minimum course requirements for the MSDA students

Elective Required Courses (4 credits)	credit
Master's Thesis Supervision 1	2
Master's Thesis Supervision 2	2
Master's Thesis Supervision 3	2
Master's Thesis Supervision 4	2
Elective Courses 1 (10 credits and over required)	
Qualitative Research Methods	2
Philosophy and Ethics	2
Corporate Social Responsibilities	2
Organization Theories	2
Cooperation with National and Transnational Civil Society	2
Organizations	2
Social Development	2
Human Resource Development	2
Public Administration	2
Research Methodology	2
Japanese Modernity and Development	2
Advanced Seminar on Social Development and Administration 1	2
Elective Courses 2 (16 credits and over required)	
SDGs	
Disaster Risk Management	2
SDGs and Environment	2
Peace, Security and Justice	2
Gender Equalities	2
Sustainable Education	2
Inclusion	2
Population, Migration and Refugee issues	2
Quantitative Methods for Policy Analysis	2
Local Initiatives and SDGs	2
Learning Local Initiatives through Field trips	2
Advanced Seminar on Social Development and Administration 2	2
Public Management	
Public Management	2
Project Cycle Management	2
Public Private Partnership	2
Local Government and Public Services	2
Public Policy	2
Security Sector Analysis and Management	2
Environmental Policy and Disaster Management	2
Economics	
Inequality and Poverty	2
Development Planning	2
Environmental Economics and Policy Analysis	2
Optional Courses	
Advanced Seminar 1	2
Advanced Seminar 2	2
Minimum required credits:	30

Various Japanese language courses are also available to JDS fellows.

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

Each JDS fellow will be supervised by a very dedicated MSDA faculty. At the September orientation sessions in the first semester, all MSDA students will meet with their supervisor to discuss their research and coursework. Besides the regular scheduled classes, the MSDA faculty team will also provide a series of thesis writing sessions on a need basis.

List of MSDA faculty who could supervise/advice JDS fellows: https://msda.rikkyo.ac.jp/research_n_faculty.html

OSA, Yukie Professor

Ph.D in **Human Security Studies(Area Studies)**,The University of Tokyo

Research Interests:

Peace Building IHL Human Security Studies Comparative Genocide Studies International Humanitarian Law transitional Justice

Major publications:

Yukie Osa.(2012).Evolving Japanese humanitarianism Keynotes:Cultures of humanitarianism: Perspectives from the Asia-Pacific Department of International Relations, Australian National University:29 - 32

Yukie Osa.(2003).The Role of Japanese NGOs in the pursuit of human security : limits and possibilities in the field of refugees Japan Forum15 (November 2):251 – 265

KURAMOTO, Yukiko Professor

Ph.D. in Political Science, The George Washington University

Research Interests:

International Relations, Gender, and Social Development

Major publications:

Yukiko Kuramoto. (2011). "Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Gender Equality Focused Aid." *2010 Journal of Asian Studies for Intellectual Collaboration*: 94-110.

Yukiko Kuramoto. (2013) "Comparative Analysis of Japan's Colonial and Foreign Aid Policy: Ideas of Economic Development and Institutions." *The Journal of Applied Sociology* 55: 99-126.

MUTO, Ako Specially Appointed Professor

Ph.D in Global Society Studies, Graduate School of Global Studies, Doshisha University

Research Interests:

Development and Humanitarian Assistance under Conflict, Human Security, Peacebuilding, Middle East, Gender

Major publications:

Ako Muto, "The Challenges and Effects of Externally Driven and Locally Driven Peacebuilding Approaches in a Complex Context: A Case Study of the Syrian Conflict," in Cedric de Coning, Rui Saraiva and Ako Muto eds., *Adaptive Peacebuilding: A New Approach to Sustaining Peace in the 21st Century*, Cham: Palgrave Macmillan. 2023. pp. 179-206. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-18219-8_7

Ako Muto, Kota Sugitani, Kaito Takeuchi, and Nobuaki Oyama, "The History of Human Security Research with a Focus on the Work of the JICA Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development," in the Report Human Security Today, JICA Ogata Research Institute, Vol.1, 2022, pp. 27-53. ISSN 2758-3619

NAKANO, Yoshihiro Specially Appointed Associate Professor

DPhil in Development Studies, The University of Sussex

Research Interests:

Critical Development Studies, Transition Design, Global Ethics, History of Ideas

Major publications:

Yoshihiro Nakano (2019) 'Postdevelopment in Japan: Revisiting Yoshiro Tamanoi's Theory of Regionalism' in Elise Klein and Carlos Eduardo Morreo (eds.) *Postdevelopment in Practice: Alternatives, Economies, Ontologies*, London and New York: Routledge, pp. 37-51. Yoshihiro Nakano (2013) 'In What Way Does Degrowth Reconstruct the Ethical System of Modernity?' *The Journal of Social Science (International Christian University)*, No. 75, pp. 149-161.

Yoshihiro Nakano (2012) 'Post-development and Questions Concerning Technique: In the Time of the Fukushima Crisis' *The Journal of Social Science (International Christian University)*, No. 73, pp. 29-52. (2011).

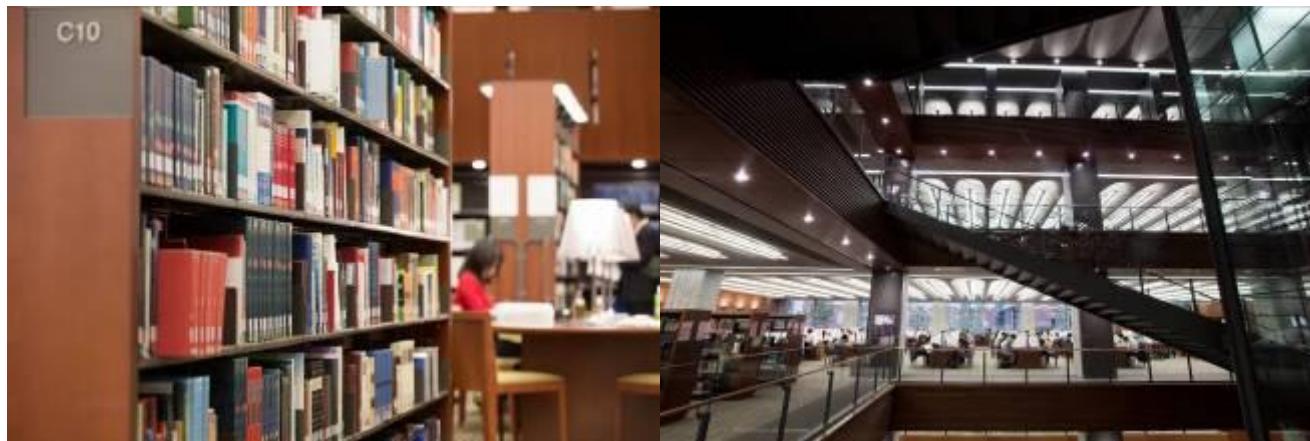
Academic Schedule

Tentative academic schedule of 2024-2025 for JDS fellows:

1st year	
Late September	Entrance Ceremony
Late September	Fall semester (1st semester) classes begin
Late December - Early January	Winter holidays
Late January	Fall semester (1st semester) classes end
Early February - Late March	Spring holidays
Early April	Spring semester (2nd semester) classes begin
Late July	Spring semester (2nd semester) classes end
Early August - Late September	Summer holidays
2nd year	
Late September	Fall semester (3rd semester) classes begin
Late December - Early January	Winter holidays
Late January	Fall semester (3rd semester) classes end
Early February - Late March	Spring holidays
Early April	Spring semester (4th semester) classes begin
Early May Late June	Submission of a master's thesis
Early June	Thesis oral examination
Early July	Submission of a master's thesis (final version)
Late July	Spring semester (4th semester) classes end
Mid-September	Graduation ceremony

Facilities <https://english.rikkyo.ac.jp/campuslife/learning/library.html>

(1) **Library:** Rikkyo has one of the largest and best libraries in Japanese universities with large selections of books, journals, and English-medium data bases and software. With the collection of over 1.9 million volumes of print and digital materials, the library supports research and teaching. Renovated in 2012, our library is among the best in Japan. 670 computers including 370 rental lap-tops are available for use in the library. PC Help Services and Writing Support Staff are also available at the counter.



(2) **Study room:** The MSDA study rooms are equipped with computers and printers which are available for MSDA student's use. There are enough seats for all students and equipped PCs have been already installed a statistical software, Stata. Students are provided for an individual locker, so they can keep their own private belongings in it with key.

(3) **Sports facilities:** Rikkyo has a new gymnasium, opened in April 2013, which accommodates an Olympic-size swimming pool, indoor tennis courts, basketball stadium, training room etc.

(4) In addition to the International Center which takes care of the overseas student's non-academic needs, there are English-speaking staffs in the program office to assist JDS fellows.

Message for Applicants

The MSDA program equips students with research skills and resources on social issues related to the SDGs. Rikkyo University is in Tokyo, the capital of Japan, providing students with abundant research resources in this field and the opportunity to expand their global network. In addition, Rikkyo University offers a variety of options to deepen students' understanding of Japan. Students have the option to enroll in the "Japanese Modernity and Development" course as well as Japanese language courses. Other options include a field trip to Rikuzen-Takada to understand Disaster Risk Reduction and other disaster-related issues and a field trip to Hiroshima to deepen their understanding of nuclear disarmament and peace studies. The MSDA students can participate in both field trips with financial support from Rikkyo University.

Comments from alumni:



Sinai Bakanibona From Burundi

1. There are two reasons that have made me come to study in Japan: The first reason is that I was very impressed by the way Japan has become powerful in terms of economy. Thus, I'd like to know how the Japanese people have managed to reach the top level of the economy., the second reason it's that I got a scholarship from JICA, so this has allowed me to come and study here in Japan.

2. Well... I'm very interested in social innovations and then, and the title of my research is The Contribution of Savings and Internal Lending Communities in Social and Solidarity Economy in Bujumbura municipality of Burundi. So, the topic is related to analyzing the contribution of saving groups such as SILCs* to eradicate poverty. Marginalized people come together in the so-called SILCs. They help each other to uplift their living conditions. With this research, I want to know the contribution of these saving groups and how they can make changes in the living conditions of these people who are in extreme poverty. So, that was the main goal of my research.

*SILC s . . . Savings and Internal Lending Communities

3. First, what I can say it's how the lectures are organized, the way they teach it was very nice for me. Because they give all they know! So, we are going back home well-equipped with skills. This was very amazing for me. And then, another thing that has been a memorable impression it's the way Japan is safe. It has made me rethink the situation back home because I grew up in a violence situation comprising wars, and conflicts. Really, it was great to have a such peaceful experience for 2 years in Japan. A country where you can walk during the night without any problem related to your security.

4. I can tell them to come and do a Master of Social Development and Administration. It's a good department. The lecturers are supportive and the MSDA staff are kind too. I think this is a good program, because for example, I'm consent to work with marginalized people, who are in difficulties, I think it's a good program, especially for those who are desiring to work with International NGOs, or those who want to work with local associations. I think this is a good and suitable program to pursue if you have a passion for working with social organizations. I would like to recommend them to come and then join Rikkyo University. Thank you.