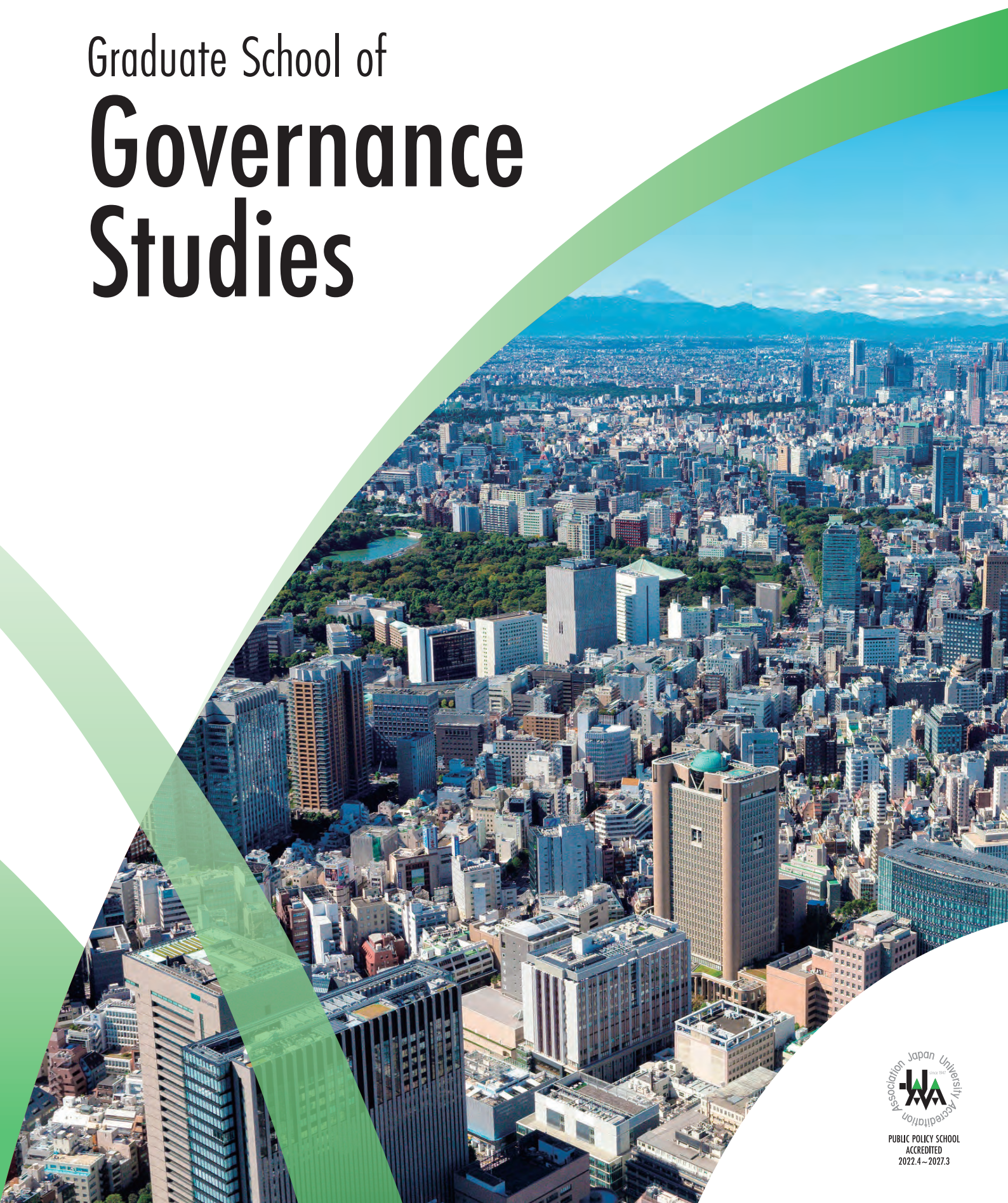




Graduate School of **Governance Studies**



PUBLIC POLICY SCHOOL
ACCREDITED
2022.4 ~ 2027.3

Message from the Dean

01

Message from the Dean

YUASA Harumichi

Dean, Graduate School of
Governance Studies



The Graduate School of Governance Studies) was established in April 2004 and transformed to the professional degree program (professional graduate school) starting in the 2007 academic year.

Looking back at the social environment at that time, it is evident that the period surrounding the establishment of the Graduate School of Governance Studies coincided with a time of significant upheaval in Japan's administration, politics, and economy.

In 2001, a reorganization of central government ministries and agencies was implemented to eliminate the drawbacks of vertical administrative divisions, strengthen cabinet functions, and improve the efficiency of administrative affairs and operations. Furthermore, in 2000, the Comprehensive Decentralization Act was enacted, transferring administrative responsibilities and authority from the national government to local public entities, and from prefectures to municipalities. Meanwhile, in the economic sphere, a financial crisis emerged after 1997, leading to a series of failures among major financial institutions. In the United States, surprising and serious

accounting fraud scandals occurred: the Enron scandal in 2001 and the WorldCom scandal in 2002, leading to a global call for strengthened corporate governance.

Against this backdrop, the Graduate School of Governance Studies was established. It serves as a forum to explore mechanisms for achieving objectives and sustaining long-term social development through collaboration among diverse stakeholders and parties, rather than placing the responsibility for solving various challenges solely on "government (national and local authorities)."

Over 20 years have passed since then, and the concept of governance itself has diversified. Yet, the need to establish and strengthen governance persists across all domains. It is no exaggeration to say that hardly a day goes by without news featuring the keyword "governance." This underscores the necessity of exploring governance as a mechanism for the long-term maintenance and development of society.

Today, our graduate school has produced over 1,000 graduates. Many are involved in the "governance" of communities and economies—serving as local government officials or mayors, as members of local or national assemblies, as employees of private companies, or as members of NPOs and local communities.

Furthermore, our graduate school established the International Public Policy Course (English Track), welcoming civil servants and staff from related organizations, primarily from Asian countries. Graduates are now active as senior civil servants in their nations. The Graduate School of Governance Studies is a place where diverse individuals responsible for governance come together to learn and research, creating new frameworks for solving contemporary societal challenges and managing society. We hope to welcome you to this unique "place for exploring governance." We wish for you to become a member of the "Governance Family," tackling the complex challenges facing modern society as a professional and contributing to building a better future.

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Introduction to Meiji University



Meiji University was founded in January 1881 as the Meiji Law School by a group of young lawyers barely in their 30's: Tatsuo Kishimoto, Kozo Miyagi, and Misao Yashiro. It was an era characterized by Japan's urgent need to develop as a modern independent nation. The three founded the Meiji Law School in their fervent hope to "foster bright capable youths who would lead a modern civil society in Japan".

Although confronted with countless obstacles and hardships along the way, Meiji University was born as a site for learning and education. Continuing its growth without ever ceasing to ring the chimes of liberty, Meiji University has expanded as one of the prominent private universities of Japan, celebrating its 140th anniversary in 2021. With Rights, Liberty, Independence and Self-government as its guiding principles, Meiji University is committed to fostering students who satisfy the requirements of "austerity and sturdiness", "creation of new intellect" and "needs of the times". Having sent out more than 520,000 graduates into the world to date, it has contributed vastly to the progress of society. The achievements of the university's numerous

alumni actively engaged in key roles in various walks of life are highly reputed.

Meiji University ranks solidly among the best universities in Japan, currently consisting of 10 schools. It also has 12 Graduate Schools and 4 Professional Schools, including the Graduate School of Governance Studies. The university has 4 campuses: Surugadai, Izumi, Ikuta and Nakano Campuses. Along with excellent teaching staff, each of these campuses features modern facilities, including an array of affiliated educational and research institutes and amenities for extracurricular activities.

The Surugadai Campus is at the heart of historic Meiji University. Regular classes for the Graduate School are held in the Academy Common in Surugadai. The building opened in April 2004 primarily for continuing education center open to the community; it has eleven floors above ground and two basement levels and is fully equipped with state-of-the-art technology. Access to the campus is excellent, with the nearby Japan Railway service and five subway lines making it an easy commute for busy professionals.



From Government to Governance: Toward a New Ideal of Society Based on Collaboration among Diverse Individuals and Organizations

Training Professionals in Politics, Policy and Public Administration

The three focus areas (Public Policy, International Development Policy, Community Planning and Management) of the Graduate School of Governance Studies aims at providing support to policy-making by government agencies and community residents through research and education in public policy studies. It produces professionals with specialized knowledge and global perspectives. The three focus areas are designed for those who have experience in government at the local level, in international cooperation or similar areas.

It includes elected leaders and representatives, public officials, NPO and NGO workers, and corporate employees, and is also for recent university graduates with an interest in these public policy fields who aspire to careers in public service.

International Public Policy Course (hereinafter referred to as the "IPPC") is primarily for international students, including those sponsored by their own governments, those granted the Human Resource Development Scholarship by Japanese Grant Aid (JDS) or MEXT scholarships, and long-term trainees under Japan's official development assistance program.

Advanced Education and Research for Professional Practitioners

The term "Public Policy" refers to the creation of policies by gathering data and analyzing it for determining the status of policy issues both domestically and internationally. In policy formulation and deployment, experts take a fresh look at conventional policy and decision-making processes to see how they can be improved, often incorporating, citizen's interests. Policy-makers conduct simulations to test the feasibility of policy goals, check negative effects through experimental projects, identifying their causes, and make adjustments accordingly.

Finally, whether at an end point or on an ongoing basis, they observe the outcomes and evaluate the policy.

The curriculum of the Graduate School of Governance Studies is organized along the same line as such steps of policy making and implementation processes.

It provides a streamlined curriculum for the students to build the skills of creating, implementing, and assessing

Developing human resources to become "Professional Practitioners" who have both the expertise and analytical skills to cope with policy making and public administration in the 21st century.



policy. Our courses are grouped into four core fields: Basic subject - Policy, administration, management (Field A); Basic subject - Economic, finance, development (Field B); Applied Policy Study (Field C), in which students conduct research through case studies; and Practical Seminars (Field D), including guidance on writing research papers and improving presentation skills.

The Graduate School of Governance Studies strives for providing professional education with focus on practical knowledge and technical expertise, as well as reshaping the academic discipline of public policy studies into a holistic science that integrates the existing fields of politic public administration, economics, public finance, and administrative law.

Qualities of Our Graduates

Our Professional Master's degree program aims at preparing professional practitioners and researchers with an advanced level of knowledge in governance and public policy. In order to obtain the degree, students must possess (1) a high level of specialized knowledge of disciplines in various fields of governance and policy studies, and (2) the ability to apply that knowledge to solving real problems.

Our ultimate goal is to produce graduates who have a good command of policy-making and implementation skills necessary for resolving the complex problems in this diversified and borderless society.

Wide Range of Field Research Trips

A variety of interesting field research trips are organized by the school. These trips provide opportunities for the IPPC students to observe the actual public policy in practice at both national and local government agencies. The field trips are also an occasion to interact directly with the real Japanese practitioners who can share professional and hands-on experiences. Through the field research trips, students will enjoy the learning experience through Japanese cases. In addition, they will develop a better understanding of Japanese society and culture.

[Courses involving field research trips]

- Current Development in Public Policy and Management
- Quality Management in Japanese Public Sector
- Community Welfare Service

[Places Visited]

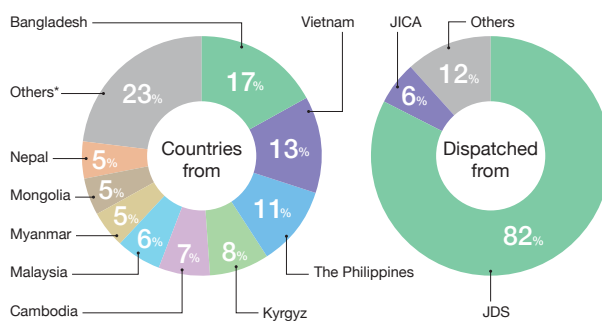
- Edo-Tokyo Museum
- Tokyo Metropolitan Government
- Saitama Prefecture
- Iwate Prefecture
- Miyagi Prefecture
- Fukui Prefecture
- Nagano Prefecture



The JDS program

The Graduate School of Governance Studies has been working closely with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in educating young professionals in the public sector from different parts of the world. In particular, we have trained more than a hundred thriving young professionals through the Project for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) program since 2007. Every year, we welcome approximately twenty students from different countries in September. They enroll in our two year International Public Policy Course and obtain our Master in Public Policy degree by completing the requirements consistent with our Japanese program. For more information about the JDS program, please visit its web page at <https://jds-scholarship.org/>.

The number of international students



Accumulative number of students: 407 (as of September, 2025)

*Others include Laos, Uzbekistan, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, Tanzania, Indonesia, El Salvador, Bhutan, Pakistan, Canada, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Congo, Senegal, Chad, China, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Solomon Island, Australia, and USA.

Courses and Three Areas

The Graduate School of Governance Studies offers courses in three concentration areas: Public Policy, International Development Policy, and Community Planning and Management. In each of these areas, major topics of immediate relevance to contemporary world issues - including decentralization, “good enough governance,” citizen participation, sustainable development, economic development cooperation, regional development, and poverty reduction are discussed in a wide range of courses offered by our faculty members.

► For more detail of courses, please visit our website.



Area 1

Public Policy

This area is about public policy processes, from identifying issues to formulating, implementing, and evaluating policy options. The knowledge and expertise in policy processes, including theories in political science, public administration, and organizational management fields are growing their importance in the field of public policy.

Field A Basic subject - Policy, administration, management	Governance Studies
	Intergovernmental Relations
	Urban Planning and Design Policies
	Introduction to Policy-making Processes
	Comparative Local Government
Field B Basic subject - Economic, finance, development	E-Government
	Evaluation Theory and Practice
	TQM in Public Sector
	Public Governance and Management
	Public Finance and Social Welfare
Field C Applied Policy Study	Economics A/B
	Econometrics A/B
	Current Development in Public Policy and Management
	Public Policy
	Policy Evaluation
	Cutting-edge Local Government Policies
	Citizen's Participation and Local Governance
	Japanese Economic Policy

Area 2

International Development Policy

Drawing on disciplines concerned with international economics and the environment, this focal area encourages students to analyze global issues of sustainable development and poverty reduction from different perspectives on social systems. While market-driven development policies has achieved economic prosperity in many societies, they have also exacerbated global problems such as environmental degradation and income disparity.

Field A Basic subject - Policy, administration, management	Global Topics and Issues
	Global Governance
Field C Applied Policy Study	Japanese Foreign and Development Policy
	Political Economy of Development
	Theories and Experience of the Developmental State
	SDGs and International Peace Studies
	Private Sector Development
	Environmental Governance
	Environmental Management
	Environmental Assessment
	Global Cyber Governance

Area 3

Community Planning and Management

Community is the field of practice where governance comes most closely in contact with people's lives. Community Planning and Management area is organized around the process of making, implementing, and evaluating policies for resolving global issues from local perspectives. It also focuses on crisis management and the role of the community in responding to natural disasters and terrorism, which have been increasing in recent years.

Field A Basic subject - Policy, administration, management	NGO/NPO Policy
	NGO/NPO Management
	Public Employment and Personnel Management
	Contemporary Japanese Society
Field B Basic subject - Economic, finance, development	QM in Japanese Public Sector
	Negotiation in the Public Sector
	Social Development
	Consensus Building and Sustainability Transition
Field C Applied Policy Study	Human Resource Management
	Terrorism and Political Violence
	Crisis Management and International Politics
	National Security and Intelligence
	Community Engagement and Facilitation
	Community Welfare Service
	E-Participation
	Multicultural Society
	The Political Economy of Food and Agriculture
	Local Development in Japan
	Local Responses to Agricultural Issues in Japan

Research Paper

In order to obtain the Master's degree from Meiji's Graduate School of Governance Studies, students are required to submit a "research paper." Each international student is assigned to a "zemi" group supervised by one of the faculty members and receive hands-on guidance for conducting research and writing the paper.

Research Method

In these seminar courses, first-year students choose a governance public administration related topic and conduct their own research. Through reviewing the relevant literature, students will acquire skills for theoretical studies and policy analysis. This process will guide the student towards the appropriateness of their definition of the topic.

Research Paper

These seminar courses focus on writing academic papers. Each of second year students learns to construct a theoretical framework and employ research methods, data analysis techniques, and related skills for writing a research papers on his or her own research topics.

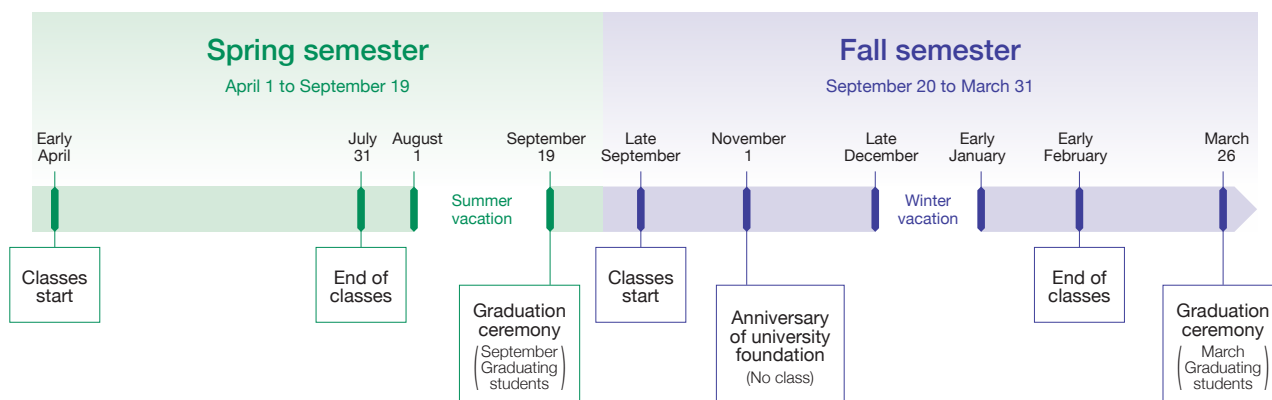
Thesis Workshop

Thesis workshops are organized for all international students at the Graduate School of Governance Studies. This workshop provides students with an opportunity to critique one another's work and engage in intellectual exchange on their approach to governance studies and their theoretical and research procedures.

English Language Academic Writing

We offer a range of English academic communication and writing support courses, workshops and tutoring for international students whose first language is not English. These are taught by native speaking instructors, experienced in English academic support course development.

Academic Calendar



Requirements for Completion of the Degree (Master of Public Policy)

1	As a general rule, students must be enrolled in the Graduate School of Governance Studies for at least 2 years and must obtain at least 40 credits (including 4 credits each from Field A and Field B) and complete a Research Paper.
2	Students must enroll in the following four courses: Research Method 1, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1, and Research Paper 2. Students also must prepare a Research Paper with necessary guidance from their supervisor.
3	Students may complete a maximum of 32 credits in a single academic year.
4	Where recognized as necessary by the Faculty Council of the Graduate School of Governance Studies, interdepartmental courses, up to a maximum of 4 credits, shall be counted toward degree completion and included in the maximum 32 credits obtainable in a single year.

YUASA Harumichi [Dean, Professor]

My research is focusing on legal and political aspects of internet and information society. Countries around the world are going electronic and e-government now, and the prevalence of COVID19 has accelerated the process of digital transformation. Electronic voting, Internet voting, and online participation in government have the potential to transform democracy. However, digitization and e-government have created new problems such as cyber security, cyber crime, privacy protection and personal data protection. As technology evolves, legal and political systems cannot always keep up. Let's study together how to solve these problems.



Profile

Before he joined the Graduate School of Governance Studies in April 2021, he taught at several universities. His academic positions include Vice President and professor at Institute of Information Security, Vice President and professor at Kyusyu Kokusai [international] University. Prof. Yuasa is also serving as Director of Japan Cybercrime Control Center (JC3), Special Advisor to CIO of Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) and others.

Courses Taught

E-Government, E-Participation, Global Cyber Governance, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

MATSUURA Masahiro [Associate Dean, Professor]

Most of the emerging public policy issues in recent years are often characterized as wicked problems. Dealing with the global challenges such as climate change, mega cities, and sustainable development all require well-managed transformations in institutions and norms under the high level of uncertainties. I am interested in exploring the practice that encourages democratic negotiation, participation, and consensus building for fair and efficient solutions as well as future-oriented deliberations for dealing with emerging wicked problems. I hope you will join us for action-oriented learning experience and explore these emerging challenges with us.



Profile

Graduated from the Department of Civil Engineering, the University of Tokyo. Finished the Master in City Planning and Ph.D. (Urban and Regional Planning) programs at the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Worked for Mitsubishi Research Institute for assisting participatory processes for national and regional planning projects. Taught at the University of Tokyo's School of Public Policy as an assistant professor with focus on energy, environment, marine, and science policies. Appointed to the current position in April 2016. Head of the Democracy Design Lab., a not

for profit organization promoting better design of participatory planning. Has provided many training courses and lectures for international students as well as aid agencies such as JICA.

Courses Taught

Urban Planning and Design Policies, Introduction to Policy-making Processes, Negotiation in the Public Sector, Consensus Building and Sustainability Transition, Research Method 1&2, Research Paper 1&2

OYAMA Norihiro [Professional Graduate School Committee Rep., Professor]

Poverty is widely recognized as something that should not exist. Neglecting poverty not only brings misfortune to individuals but also leads to social fragmentation and the weakening of society as a whole. However, because poverty reduction requires state fiscal expenditure, a dynamic often emerges that attempts to minimize state responsibility by framing poverty as a matter of personal responsibility. This dynamic influences not only the government but also our culture and psychology. Let us reflect together on how we can overcome this challenge and build a society where everyone can thrive.



Profile

He completed his doctoral coursework at the Graduate School of Community and Human Services at Rikkyo University, earning his Ph.D. in Community and Human Services. After working as an official for Shiki City Hall and the Saitama Prefectural Government, and serving as an Associate Professor and subsequently a Professor at Takachiho University, he assumed his current position. His public appointments include serving as the Chair of the Sugunami City Council on Children and Child-Rearing, and the Vice Chair of the Saitama

Prefectural Committee on the Activities of Welfare Commissioners and Commissioned Child Welfare Volunteers.

Courses Taught

Community Welfare Service

IZUMO Akiko [Professor]

In Japan, public officials have been decreasing to a considerably smaller number than in other countries.

Their list of duties is increasing due to new policy needs. Given the financial situation, how can we efficiently manage the administration while human resources cannot be easily expanded? Your country will face the same problem. We can analyze whether the administrative organization can be applied to the environment, whether this personnel administration raises motivation, or whether inter-organization cooperation is accorded.



Profile

Completed the doctoral course at the Graduate School of Public Administration, International Christian University, Ph.D. She has been in the Graduate School of Governance Studies, Meiji University since 2021 after working as a researcher at the Institute of Administrative Management, a lecturer and an associate professor at the Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Tokai University. Members of the governmental committees related to personnel evaluation and the pay system of public officials, management evaluation in the activities of local governments and affiliated organizations, a lecturer on the training

of public officials in the Local Public Service Act, a member of the board of directors in the Japanese Society of Public Administration, and others.

Courses Taught

Governance Studies, Public Employment and Personnel Management, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

KATO Ray Ryuta [Professor]

Many of issues in our modern society seem to be money-related, and many conflicts among different groups rise from the distribution of wealth. In order to logically understand complicated conflicts as well as to prescribe remedies for such conflicts, economics can help us scientifically approach them. By using the economics framework, we can try to provide some solutions for the problems you particularly have at your workplace and in your country.



Profile

Before he joined the Graduate School of Governance Studies in April 2018, he was teaching at Shiga University and International University of Japan. While he belonged to Shiga University, he was a research fellow of Economy Planning Agency of the Government of Japan, as well as Economic and Social Research Institute of Cabinet Office of the Government of Japan. He was also a senior research fellow at Imperial College of the University of London. Recent papers have appeared in Japan and the World Economy, Journal of the Japanese and International Economies, Review of Economics

& Finance, Journal of Economics and Political Economy, Public Policy Review, International Journal of Health Care Finance and Economics, and Japanese Journal of Social Security Policy. PhD University of Essex, UK (2000) MA University of Essex (1996), and Yokohama National University (1990) BA Chuo University (1986)

Courses Taught

Economics A&B, Econometrics A&B, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

KIMURA Shunsuke [Professor]

Japanese governments which are composed of the central government and the local governments are carrying out the administrative activities through enacting the national laws and the bylaws. I have experienced planning the systems, draft of the laws and the bylaws as the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications. In the standpoint of public administrations, a comparative analysis of the central government and the local governments is very effective for figuring out the frame of the governmental system. In the lectures I shall try to identify the specific characteristics of Japanese administrative systems.



Profile

Graduated from the Department of Law, the University of Tokyo. Joined the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), which oversees local government. Positions: Section Chief of Policy Planning Division, Director of the Finance Division (Gifu Pref.), Deputy Director of Public Enterprise Division (MIC), Deputy Mayor (Matsuyama City), Counsellor for Local Finance (MIC). He holds a Ph.D. in Law from Hitotsubashi University and conducts research in comparative public administration, intergovernmental relations, and local public administration. He holds public offices including member of

MIC' Study Group on Local Finance, chair of the Tokyo Metropolitan Govt's Human Rights Ordinance Review Committee, and member of the Kawasaki City Finance Committee.

Courses Taught

Intergovernmental Relations, Cutting-edge Local Government Policies, Citizens Participation and Local Governance, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

NAGAHATA Makoto [Professor]

In recent decades, as modernization has prevailed all over the world, traditional local communities drastically lost its importance on human life, and both the nation states and market economy play much important roles for fulfilling various needs of the people. However, no one denies that there are serious problems which can be solved neither by public sector nor by the private companies alone. It becomes inevitable to have collaborative actions involving non-profit private organizations (NPOs / NGOs) for overcoming complicated issues in modernized societies. The emergence of NPOs can be regarded as an indication of active civil participation in the process of self-governance.

Profile

After graduating from the University of Tokyo, he completed master's program at the graduate school of Global Studies, Sophia University. Then, he joined a Japanese NGO that has development projects in the South Asian countries and worked there for 14 years including four year stay at Dhaka as a country director.

In 2004, he established own NPO in Tokyo aiming at promoting mutual learning network among practitioners and policy makers on community development both in Japan and in the developing countries. His NPO

implements various capacity development activities for government officials and NGO leaders in Asian countries.

He also facilitates training courses on participatory community development implemented by JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency).

Courses Taught

NGO/NPO Policy, NGO/NPO Management, Human Resource Management, Community Engagement and Facilitation, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2



NISHIDE Junro [Professor]

"Theory without practice is empty, and practice without theory is blind." The great thinkers of the world have often introduced this motto. How can we merge theory and practice? This is a difficult question to answer.

However, even if these two are parallel, if we can pursue theory and practice for the same direction just as the two wheels of a cart, we can go ahead through absorbing the strengths of each other. I would like students to earn capacity to manage the cart through the learning and research activities at our school.

Profile

Up to the present position, He dedicated his own career to Fukui Prefectural Government (1988-2005), University Evaluation Center at University of Ryukus as associate professor (2005-2009), and the School of Policy Studies at Iwate Prefectural University as associate professor and professor (2009-2018). He earned Master of Public Administration and Master of Arts in Economics from the Maxwell School of Public Affairs and Citizenship at Syracuse University (2000-2002). He also attended Ph.D. program in Public Management at Waseda University (2006-2010, 2012-2015), and earned Ph.D. in Public

Management (2018). He was engaged in the Evans School of Public Policy at University of Washington as visiting scholar for research on performance management system in the U.S. governments. He serves on academic societies as advisory board member, and on governmental bodies tasked with improving the administrative system.

Courses Taught

TQM in Public Sector, QM in Japanese Public Sector, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2



SASAOKA Yuichi [Professor]

My area of interest lies in global governance, local governance and their linkage in forming public space.

I am particularly interested in analyzing how the governance is, and can be, related to development and security from the perspectives of international relations. I have a 30 year - experience as a practitioner in the field of development while conducting research and teaching at universities. My main area focus has been on sub-Saharan Africa while having strong interest in other areas such as Asia.

Profile

After graduating in law from Chuo University (political science), he earned a master of public administration from Kennedy School, Harvard and Ph.D. in social science from Waseda University. While working for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) between 1981 and 2011, he worked as an advisor to the Ministry of Finance and Planning in Uganda, senior advisor for Institute for International Cooperation, special advisor in JICA Tanzania office, senior research fellow at JICA Research Institute. He also served as the visiting professor of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, professor of National

Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, and vice president of TICAD Civil Society Forum.

Courses Taught

Government and Politics in Developing Countries, Global Governance (Theory), Global Topics and Issues, Global Governance (Institutions), Japanese Foreign and Development Policy, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2



TANAKA Hideaki [Professor]

Management within the modern public sector including central and local governments is becoming increasingly diverse, complex, and challenging. This is due not only to issues such as “government failure” but also to the growing importance of relationships and interactions between the government and various stakeholders—including citizens, businesses, and non-profit organizations. “Governance” refers to the mechanisms used to address societal problems. There is a need for you to understand and put governance into practice. Doing so requires a combination of theory and empirical analysis, as well as the skills and experience to analyze and resolve issues. Let us explore the concept of governance together.



Profile

Graduated from the School of Engineering at the Tokyo Institute of Technology, and completed graduate school at the same university. London School of Economics Master's degree (social security policy), National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies Doctorate (policy studies). In 1985 joined the Ministry of Finance, and worked on budgets, government investment and loans, free trade negotiations, reform of the central government ministries and agencies, etc., while working at the National Tax Agency, Cabinet Secretariat, Cabinet Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Embassy of Japan in Malaysia), Ministry of Health and Welfare (now the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare),

etc. Furthermore, engaged in education and research at Australian National University from 2003 to 2005 and Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University from 2007 to 2010. Has also participated in the projects of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), International Monetary Fund (IMF), and other organizations.

Courses Taught

Public Finance and Social Welfare, Public Governance and Management, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

YONEHARA Aki [Professor]

The ultimate goal of public policy can be said to create social values. Public policy creates social goods for people to send happier, healthier, safer, and more prosperous lives. On the other hand, these values are not always easy to see, particularly in the field of human services such as education or human development in a broader sense. As society becomes more diverse, social values also become more diverse, so that it becomes more difficult even to agree with the goal of the policy. Policy evaluation can be a powerful tool to “extract values,” which is an original meaning of the term of “evaluation.” Evaluation studies, relatively new field in Japan, awaits your challenge to contribute to the social value creation.



Profile

She received an MA in Comparative Education Policy from Kyoto University and a PhD in the same field from Indiana University Bloomington as a Fulbright Scholar. After working as an international consultant, a postdoctoral researcher at JSPS, a professor in the Department of Sociology at Toyo University, and a visiting professor at the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, she joined the Graduate School of Global Studies at Meiji University in 2026. She currently serves as Vice President of the Japan Evaluation Society, an editor for the Asia Pacific Evaluation Association, and an evaluation advisor to JICA, ACCU, and other international and national institutions.

Courses Taught

Introductory Statistics for Social Research, Social Development, Research Method 1&2, Research Paper 1&2

MATSUMOTO Naka [Associate Professor]

Today we live in an era where people work together with individuals from diverse backgrounds. In a time of ongoing globalization, accompanied by an increased wealth-poverty gap, the question of how cities should incorporate those left behind by this process, particularly at the point of local communities, is assuming paramount importance. I am particularly interested in immigrants and women in cities. By examining and coming to understand multifaceted situations, I hope we can all join in exploring new ways to build communities that support members and solve shared problems.



Profile

Upon graduation from Keio University with a master's degree in Media and Governance, she was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to work towards her doctoral degree at the University of Maryland, College Park, where she earned a Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning and Design. She has taught urban planning and policy at Columbia University, Keio University, and other universities as an adjunct instructor. She has also conducted various urban policy and design research projects as a visiting scholar at Keio Research Institute at SFC and Kuchokai Institute for Research and Study.

Courses Taught

Analyzing and Writing in Qualitative Research, Masters Thesis Development, Qualitative Research Methods, Multicultural Society, Research Method 1&2, Research Paper 1&2

TSUJI Masami [Professor]

In the past, environmental protection was regarded as an inhibition factor to economic development. Later, recognition that economic development should be in harmony with environmental protection became prevalent. Further changes of the view are occurring, from the harmony to "win-win" relationship of those, as symbolized by ESG investment. On the other hand, we are facing a critical situation of the environment such as global warming. We will discuss how we should tackle the situation in the changing society.



Profile

He graduated from University of Tokyo (Faculty of Science) in 1984, and joined the Environment Agency (current Ministry of the Environment), Japan, where he handled water quality, environmental assessment, wildlife protection, and international cooperation. He also worked for the Ministry of Health and Welfare (current Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare), Japan, on drinking water quality, and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (current Japan International Cooperation Agency), and undertook research activities on water management in the Ministry of the Environment, France. In 1998-2014, he worked for Asian Development Bank and promoted environmental agenda. He

taught environmental management and sustainable development in Tohoku University and Sophia University, and undertook research in the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies. Before joining Meiji University, he was Senior Advisor on Environmental Management in JICA. He has a Ph.D. in Social Governance (Hosei University).

Courses Taught

Environmental Governance, Environmental Management, Environmental Assessment, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

LOLLINI Niccolo [Senior Assistant Professor]

Given the number of converging global issues ahead, food security will continue to remain a top priority at the global, national, and regional level. Achieving greater sustainability and resilience in our food systems involves envisioning more socially sensible forms of food production and consumption. Agriculture is also closely linked to issues of economic equality in rural development and rural revitalization. I hope students interested in these topics will contribute to the courses offered with their unique experiences and background.



Profile

After completing a MA in International Relation at Waseda University, He worked for three years in an agricultural corporation in Italy. He then decided to pursue research on rural revitalization in Japan and completed a doctoral degree in Social Anthropology at Oxford University, St. Peter's College. Under the Covid pandemic, he established and ran a small organic farm based on agroecology principles.

A book based on his doctoral dissertation will be published by Routledge in 2023.

Courses Taught

Contemporary Japanese Society, The Political Economy of Food and Agriculture, Local Development in Japan, Local Responses to Agricultural Issues in Japan, Research Method 2, Research Paper 1&2

MAKI Anna [Assistant Professor]

Concerns about the dysfunction of modern democracy have grown in recent years. Today, the rise of right-wing populism and public 'apathy' towards politics are critical issues in political science. Is there a way out of this so-called 'crisis of democracy'? And what are the underlying causes of this political situation? Untangling the complexities of modern democracy by exposing the gap between its theory and reality has become increasingly important. I would like to work with students who are eager to tackle unresolved political questions.



Profile

She earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from the Graduate School of Political Science and Economics, Meiji University. Prior to joining the faculty of the Graduate School of Governance Studies at Meiji University, she served as a JSPS Research Fellow (2019-2021) and taught area studies and political science at Nihon University's College of Risk Management and Surugadai University's Faculty of Law as an adjunct instructor. Her research specializes in democratic theory, applying the methodology of subaltern studies, with a focus on the local self-government system in India.

Courses Taught

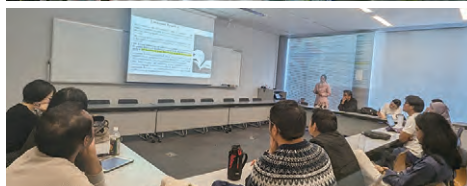
Introduction to Political Science, Theories of Democracy, Current Development in Public Policy and Management, Critical Reading and Writing

Guide to Facilities

Campus (Academy Common)

The Graduate School of Governance Studies is located on Meiji University's Surugadai Campus, which is right in the heart of metropolitan Tokyo, a hub city alive with contemporary and traditional culture.

Classes are mainly held in the Academy Common building, consisting of eleven floors above ground and two basement levels with fully equipped classrooms and conference rooms. Access to the campus is excellent, with a nearby JR rail service and five subway lines.



Graduate Students Shared Research Room (Building 14)

Study space is provided for students of the Graduate School of Governance Studies. Each space is equipped with a power outlet and LAN connection for laptop computers. Full Internet access allows students to consult online journals, external databases, and library catalogs. There are also lockers, copying machines, and an open printer service. (Hours: 7:00 a.m.–11:00 p.m.)

There is an Assistant Lecturer room at building 14, too. An Assistant Lecturer provides comprehensive support for student's academic writing endeavors, helping them express their ideas clearly and effectively in the academic context.



Central Library (Surugadai Campus)

The 12,485m² Central Library provides seating for 1,299 readers. Its extensive collection includes 2.57 million books, 34,000 newspapers and journal titles, and a comprehensive range of electronic materials on microfiche, CD-ROM, and other digital media. The catalog database can be searched using the OPAC system, and the library provides free access to the essential database LexisNexis and many other academic databases.



Admission Information

Selection Method

- Document Screening (need to submit the designated documents) Those who pass the document screening will be allowed to take the following examinations.
- Online Essay-writing examination
- Online Interview examination

English proficiency Requirements

- TOEFL iBT 4.0 or 72 points or above
- IELTS 5.5 points or above
- TOEIC score is not accepted.
- Applicants whose first language is English may be exempted from submitting the score report.

Fees

- Screening Fee: 35,000 JPY
- Academic Fees (Two years): 2,869,000 JPY (Including admission fee, miscellaneous fee)

※ Changes may occur without prior notice.

Our formal application process, along with more detailed information around entrance requirements is available online at:

<https://www.meiji.ac.jp/cip/english/graduate/governance/examination.html>



Human Resource Development-related Objectives and Educational and Research Objectives

Governance Studies Program of the Graduate School of Governance Studies aims to support policymaking by residents and local governments through research and education of public policy and nurture professionals with highly specialized knowledge, policy planning ability, coordination skills, problem-solving ability in society, and an international perspective. It targets those involved in local politics and administration, including elected leaders and representatives of local governments and other politicians and civil servants, citizens who are leaders of civil society, business persons, activists of private non-profit organizations and NGOs, professionals who contribute to society in various specialized fields, and those planning to build a career in public policy and graduates aspiring to become civil servants. The Graduate School also focuses on international contribution and offers high-quality education and research opportunities to international students dispatched by governments of various foreign countries, Japanese government-sponsored international students, and students supported by official development aid (ODA) so that they can gain the capability to contribute to the development and improved governance in their countries.

Public policy studies pursue academic and technical knowledge required to practice policy implementation and analyses for ensuring the effectiveness of the policy, besides formulating policies based on analysis of the state of public issues and information gathering both within and outside the country. They also involve research of ideal governance that carries out superior policy formation and implementation by improving the processes starting from policymaking to finalization needed for solving public issues, considering purposeful process reorganization, and investigating the feasibility of political goals as well as the existence of barriers and their causes.

The Governance Studies Program of the Graduate School offers a curriculum that is organized in a way that is easier for the students to understand based on the series of policy formation and deployment processes, while also cultivating policymaking, policy implementation, and analytical ability, and carrying out education and research for a profession in public policy studies, which is a comprehensive science that integrates fields such as the existing political science and public administration, economics and finance, and jurisprudence fields.

Admission Policy

Qualities Sought in the Applicants

The Graduate School of Governance Studies aims to produce graduates who are capable of meeting the political and administrative needs of the coming era. Our program is designed to train professionals with advanced knowledge, vision, and a high level of ability to formulate and carry out policy. In our entrance examination and interview, we look not only for special knowledge, experience or consciousness relevant to public policy and associated fields, but also for the practical qualities of professionalism and for the signs of such potential and motivation.

Eligibility to Apply and Intended Targets

Applicants must be university graduates or expected graduates, or those who are recognized by the Graduate School of Governance Studies as having academic abilities equivalent or superior to those who with university degrees. In particular, our programs are designed for practitioners in the fields of public administration, such as elected representatives, public officials, non-profit organizations (NPO) and non-governmental organizations (NGO) workers, private sector employees, as well as those who aspire to pursue political or public service careers.

Approaches to Learning and Teaching

In order to realize a collaborative and participatory society in the coming era, both instructors and students, working closely together, must consider a wide range of policy options and put them into practice. To that end, our curriculums are designed to enable students to take charge of their own learning through case studies and discussions of ongoing issues, while providing a grounding in theoretical matters and other basics. Our faculty embodies this approach to a high degree, with many of its members bringing extensive practical experience in policy-making and implementation, others contributing legal expertise in areas like the relationship between public policy and lawmaking, and still others with specialist knowledge in NPOs and NGOs. Many also bring a wealth of overseas experience and inspire students to learn by providing their global perspective and an opportunity to contact with practitioners in various fields.

Notes on the Entrance Examination

The entrance examination consists of a written test and an interview. Prior to the examination, applicants are required to submit a personal statement discussing their long-term goals and motivation, including a question about the reasons for attending the graduate program (see "Application Form and Personal Statement"). By applying the goals of the Graduate School of Governance Studies as the basic criteria, applicants are judged on qualities such as their reasoning and analytical skills. In the interview, the ability to present one's ideas persuasively and with a clear logic carries particular weight.

Curriculum Policy

Curriculum philosophy

The Graduate School, with the aim of achieving social development and solving public issues with increasing complexities in this era of globalization, intends to establish public policy studies as a comprehensive science that includes international perspectives as well as based on diverse collaboration and cooperation within Japan. The Graduate School aims to nurture public policy professionals (highly skilled professionals) with broad knowledge, keen insights, and high analytical and judgment capabilities to address the current challenges as the policies are becoming increasingly sophisticated and specialized.

Composition of the curriculum

The curriculum aims to enable the students understand the various aspects of governance^{*1}. It is built in an interdisciplinary manner, and first of all, along with incorporating two core course fields—one comprising politics-, administration-, and policy-related subjects and another made up of management-, economic-, and

finance-related subjects—as disciplines that make up public policy studies, it also includes abundant policy research courses to grasp and understand the concrete status of the subjects.

The Graduate School also offers multiple course models composed of subjects from these fields corresponding to the profession and problem awareness of the graduate students. Models of the subjects taught in Japanese are Course Model I Urban/Regional Politics, Course Model II Management of Local Government, Course Model III Formation of Public Affairs, Course Model N International Development and Cooperation, and Course Model V Consumer Policy and Development of Market. Subjects taught in English are the three areas of Public Policy, International Development Policy, Community Planning and Management. Further, in order to raise their practical problem-solving ability, the students are required to prepare research papers in Problem Finding/Research Method I & II and Writing Skills/Research Paper I & II, and grade evaluation is carried out based on rigorous examination upon their review.

<*1. Four Course Fields>

Field A: Core courses (Politics, Administration, Policy-related), Field B: Core courses (Management, Economics, Finance-related), Field C: Policy Research, Field D: Special Research

Features of the curriculum

The Graduate School covers all sorts of themes related to public issues and is a base that was formed by welcoming people who joined the university after gaining work experience and graduates aiming to build a career. It is a forum for learning where information exchange and interaction between people with abundant experience (including Graduate School of Governance Studies tenured staff, special teaching staff, visiting professors, guest professors, and part-time lecturers) gives rise to novel ideas that spread, develop, and flow through it. Here, even though our students "graduate," many of them continue to work on their initiatives, which have delivered results. In particular, in "Governance Network," "Urban Policy Forum," and "Governance Forum with Everyone," it serves as a setting for practice and research that links not just graduates but also graduates and current students, which is its best feature.

Diploma Policy

Human resources to be developed

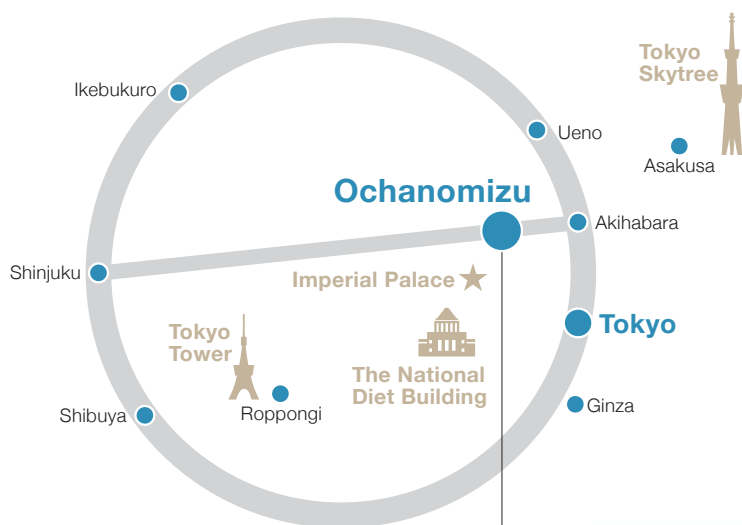
The Graduate School of Governance Studies aims to nurture diverse human resources who would engage in the governance of public affairs (collaborative governance and cooperation). Specifically, they are (1) elected representatives and leaders of local governments, and civil servants involved in politics and administration, (2) activists of private non-profit organizations engaged in solving domestic problems as well as in international cooperation, business managers and employees of private companies, those doing specialized jobs (professionals such as architects, administrative scriveners, and tax accountants, technical experts such as public health nurses, master consumer affairs advisors, etc.), and (3) civil servants engaged in administration of their respective countries. By obtaining (1) professional knowledge and ability to create public policy, (2) coordinating and problem-solving ability in the society, and (3) international perspectives, they are expected to successfully serve the society from where they hail.

Goals to be attained for developing such human resources

The goal is to enable the students to gain logical and practical ability to address the various social issues they face by leveraging manifold and diverse techniques in accordance with the public policy theory they learn by the time they complete their course, aiming for development of politics, economics and culture through collaborative and cooperative governance. The Graduate School grants the Master of Public Policy degree to those students who acquire a minimum of 40 credits from two subjects from Field A Core Course, two from Field B Core Course, Problem Finding or Research Method I & II, and Writing Skills or Research Paper I & II, prepares a research paper, and passes an oral examination.

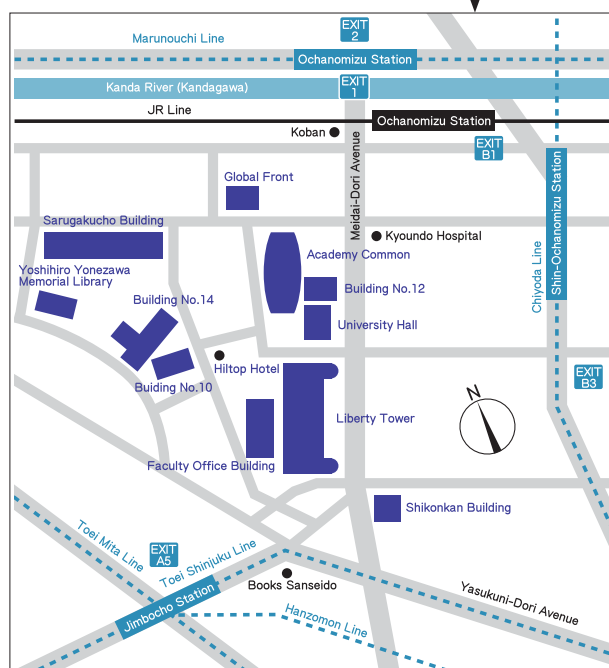
Located at Ochanomizu, the very CENTER of TOKYO

- Excellent access to various famous places in Tokyo
- The most famous college town in Japan



Required time by trains

Ikebukuro.....	11min.	Akihabara.....	2min.
Shinjuku.....	10min.	Tokyo.....	4min.
Shibuya.....	20min.	Ginza.....	8min.
Roppongi.....	22min.	Asakusa.....	13min.
Ueno.....	10min.		



MEIJI UNIVERSITY Graduate School of Governance Studies

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<https://www.meiji.ac.jp/cip/english/graduate/governance/>

