

Toyo University (Private)

Graduate School of Global and Regional Studies

◆ **Program name**

Course of Regional Development Studies

◆ **Degrees:**

Master of Regional Development Studies

◆ **Credit and years needed for graduation:**

30 credits, 2 years

◆ **Address:**

5-28-20 Hakusan, Bunkyo-ku,
Tokyo 112-8606 JAPAN

Features of University

Toyo University is one of the largest private universities in Japan. It was founded in 1887 as “TETSUGAKUKAN (School of Philosophy)” by the philosopher Dr. Enryo Inoue. It was reorganized in 1906 and has since been known as Toyo University. In 2017, the University celebrated its 130th anniversary. Through this long history of academic contribution, the university has grown and currently, there are over 31,000 students in thirteen undergraduate programs and fifteen graduate school programs.

Toyo University was selected as one of the “TOP GLOBAL UNIVERSITY PROJECT” by the Japanese government in 2014. Internationalization is one of the focuses of Toyo University, and currently there are 1,519 international students from 54 countries.

[Location]

The University has five campuses with the main campus located in Hakusan, Bunkyo ward, in central Tokyo. The Graduate School of Global and Regional Studies is located at this campus. This location is much appreciated by international students as it is convenient not only for research but also for immersing themselves into life in Tokyo.

Features of Graduate School

The Graduate School has its academic basis in the Faculty of Global and Regional Studies, one of the leading educational bodies in Asia in the field of international cooperation and regional development. Currently, 17 international students (out of 33 in total) from various regions of the world are studying various fields of Regional Development Studies. Expertise in these fields will be required to address the needs of the ever changing international community. We offer courses in various aspects of regional development, together with various kinds of opportunities including field-work in Japan and abroad. After graduation, students are expected to make contributions in diversified fields in regional development.

The teaching staffs of the graduate school are from various backgrounds including economics, sociology, anthropology, international relations, political science, regional planning, engineering, agriculture, and so forth. Their research fields cover a variety of academic areas such as social and economic development, city planning, environmental management, disaster and crisis management, gender, child labor, vulnerable groups, welfare

issues, international cooperation, and human rights, etc.

Graduate students in the Regional Development Studies will be guided by both their main supervisor and a sub-supervisor. A close relationship between supervisors and graduate students is one of our main strengths. Students also help each other not only in their studies but also in their student life.

Twice a semester, all students give a presentation on their research progress at an internal session, which enables them to learn and get feedback from other graduate students. All faculty members attend this meeting and provide comments and advice on the students' research.

Features of the Program

The graduate school aims to contribute to the building of the capacity of capability of international students who will lead their countries in terms of sustainable development. As the graduate school wishes to accept distinguished students from as many countries as possible, it created a special course for the convenience of English-speaking students. The special course is the English track of the graduate school, in which all the required credits can be obtained through attending lectures offered in English. Even an international student with no knowledge of Japanese language can get a degree from the graduate school following the supervision of the teaching staffs. As the research work in the course may involve field-work, there are many students with prior work experience. This would also provide a good learning environment for the JDS students.

Our Graduate School will make a special arrangement for JDS students to have tutors to assist their academic life. This means not only the main supervisor and the sub-supervisor but also the tutor (a peer from Japan) will be assisting JDS students to enhance their study in Japan.

Another special program that our school provides to the JDS students is tailored short field-trips to local governments, NGOs, private companies or a community within Japan. The destination will be discussed with each student and his/her main supervisor so that it will fit their research interest. Our past JDS students gained practical knowledge from the Japanese experience. This type of tailored field-trip is possible because of the attentive supervisory system at our graduate school.

Curriculum to Obtain a Degree

Education in graduate schools is provided through attending classes and academic advisers will be allocated to you in order to help complete your degree thesis (hereafter referred to as "research advising").

A Master's degree is awarded to those who have been enrolled in the Master's program for two or more years; have earned 30 or more credits; and have passed the review of a master's degree thesis according to the objectives of the relevant graduate school and have passed the final examination after receiving necessary research advising.

The Graduate School of Global and Regional Studies of Toyo University provides courses offered in English for English-speaking students. Presented below is a list of faculty members with their respective subjects in the English track.

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

The * marked faculty members can be research advisors for JDS student's graduation thesis.

<https://www.toyo.ac.jp/en/academics/gs/ggrs/mrds/mrds-professor/>

***Professor Toshiyuki Okamura**, Dean of Global and Regional Studies (Doctor of Engineering, the University of Tokyo)

Urban Transport Planning and Policy, Public Transport Planning and Operation, Urban and Regional Planning

- My current research interests are in developing methods for urban transport planning, and developing measures to address the issues in urban transport in Asian cities. Historical examples of infrastructure development and management, both in developed and developing countries, are examined in my course. Case studies in the transport and urban sectors are discussed in the context of sustainable development.

***Professor Sang Kyung An** (Master of Science, Asian Institute of Technology)

Urban Studies and Planning, Land and Housing Policy, Community Development and Planning

- My current research interests include community-led development process in informal communities in developing countries and the surrounding issues of inclusive urban development.

***Professor Toshiya Aramaki** (Doctor of Engineering, the University of Tokyo)

Urban and Global Environmental Management, Environmental Systems Analysis

-My research area is environmental planning and management, which includes water and wastewater management, solid waste management, mitigation and adaptation of global environmental issues, environmental performance evaluation and so forth.

***Professor Noritsugu Fujimoto** (Ph.D. in Economics, Kyushu University)

Economic Geography, Urban Geography, Urban Systems

-My lectures and seminars focus on urban and economic geography, paying attention to a range of issues relating to global and national urban systems, office location theory, city economies and national land structure.

***Professor Hidetoshi Kitawaki**, Vice president of Toyo University (Doctor of Engineering, the University of Tokyo)

Appropriate Water Supply and Sanitation in Developing Countries

-Comprehensive discussions of health-related problems, hygiene practices and appropriate technology for water supply and sanitation (Ws/S) will take place. Planning methodology for Ws/S development projects will also be discussed.

***Professor Ryo Matsumaru** (Doctor of Engineering, Yokohama National University)

Disaster Management

-As both natural and man-made disasters hinder the development process, "Disaster Management" is one of the main issues in developing countries. To provide practical solutions for minimizing the damage from disasters, various and combined approaches from engineering to social science and policy planning to community development will be applied in my research.

***Professor Namiko Numao** (Master of Economics, Keio University)

Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations, Local Public Finance

-My research field is local public finance, which includes local public policies, local taxation, and fiscal relationships between central and local governments in Japan.

***Professor Ikuko Okamoto** (Doctor of Area Studies, Kyoto University)

Agricultural and Rural Development, Resource Management, Myanmar Area Studies

-My major field of research is the agricultural and rural development of developing countries, especially in Myanmar. In my courses, the emphasis will be placed on understanding the mechanism of the rural economy, while identifying prescriptions for improving the livelihood of rural people on an empirical basis.

***Professor Kazuo Takahashi**, Vice president of Toyo University (Master of Political Science, Gakushuin University)

Urban and Regional Sociology, Visual Sociology

-In class we will discuss sociological research on community development in Asian mega-cities, which has been

conducted in the fields of the urban poor communities focusing on the structure of community and the community networks. Also “visual sociology” using visual representation, which has been constructed as a methodology of sociological research.

***Professor Chino Yabunaga** (M.A. in Social Sciences, Waseda University)

Social Policy, Comparative Welfare State

-Social welfare issues are my main research themes which I try to examine from the perspective of social sciences and policy analysis. A cross-national comparison of welfare states is also in my area of concern. I often conduct fieldwork in Nordic countries.

***Professor Yoshito Yamazaki** (Doctor of Engineering, Waseda University)

Community Design and Planning, “Machizukuri”

-Japan is a super-aging society and the birth rate is dramatically declining, so how will it be possible for local communities to improve continuity? This is my area of research.

***Associate Professor Akiko Nakajima** (Ph.D. in International Studies, Waseda University)

Comparative politics, European and European Union Studies, Welfare States, Third Sector

-My main research theme is welfare politics in Europe, particularly focusing on Spain and other Southern European states. Within this research area, I deal with such subjects as party politics, relationship between the center and the regions, the third sector, migration and European Union politics/policies.

***Associate Professor Kenmei Tsubota** (Ph.D. in Economics, Kyoto University)

International Trade, Development Economics, Spatial Economics

-“Trade and Economic Development” is my main research field. In order to foster the trade for and economic development of developing countries, many issues come up such as the location choice and form of FDI, global value chains, industrial policies. All of these are affected by technological changes (ITCs, AI, Big data, and etc) and institutional progress (Free trade agreements, international transport infrastructures and etc.),

***Associate Professor Kyoko Nakamura** (Doctor of Area Studies, Kyoto University)

Cultural Anthropology, African Area Study

-I have been conducting anthropological research among the Kenyan Samburu pastoralists. My major topics are “beaded body adornments and life stages”, “tourism development and ethnic culture” and “women’s development and alternative life-course choices,” and so forth.

***Associate Professor Norihisa Shima** (Doctor of Engineering, the University of Tokyo)

Urban and Regional Planning, “Machizukuri”

-How can we address the challenges of rapid urbanization? Rapid urbanization of most Asian, African and Latin American cities imposes complex issues on us all, yet conventional urban and regional planning seldom works to find the solutions. Through field surveys recently in Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Zambia and Senegal as well as theoretical reviews, I am trying to address these challenges of rapid urbanization.

Associate Professor Yusuke Sasaki (Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Culture, the University of Tokyo)

Photography, Comparative Cultural Studies

-Comparative cultural studies in cross-media (e.g. photography, text, film, music) and research in cross-cultural perspectives (esp.in French-speaking and English-speaking areas).

Academic Schedule

The basic academic schedule for graduate students enrolled from September is as follows:

[1st year fall semester]

Middle of September: Entrance ceremony for students enrolling from September, and the start of Fall term.

End of January: Examinations, about one week.

[1st year spring semester]

First week of April: Start of Spring term.

End of July: Examinations, about one week.

August to the middle of September: Summer holidays, most students conduct their fieldwork for their MA research

[2nd year fall semester]

Middle of September: Start of Fall term.

End of January: Examinations, about one week.

[2nd year spring semester]

First week of April: Start of Spring term.

Early July: Submission of master's thesis.

End of July: Presentation and oral examination of master's thesis and final examination.

Middle of September: Graduation ceremony

Facilities

- JDS students can use the Graduate Common Room equipped with PCs.
- JDS students have access to all Toyo University libraries which have a large range of resources in English, as well as various English journal databases and on-line journals.
- Toyo University has a Center for International Programs which supports student exchange programs, among others.
- There is no university dormitory available. Most students live in private apartments.

Message for Applicants

This program is an interdisciplinary program, thus research topics covered by faculty members are also diversified. Most faculty members have practical experience in international development, having worked for organizations such as the UN, WHO, WSP, AIT and JICA.

The program aims to contribute to the solution of a wide range of issues involving, for example, social and economic development, social infrastructure, environment, sanitation, gender, human rights, etc.

Please check the research topics of each faculty member at the following web site:

<https://www.toyo.ac.jp/en/academics/gs/ggrs/mrds/mrds-professor/>

