

1. University

Private
Ritsumeikan University

2. Graduate school

Graduate School of Economics

3. URL of University

<http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/eng/>

4. URL of Graduate school

http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/eng/international_programs/grad_programs/mped/index.shtml

5. Features of University

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 prefecture combined are home to more than 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.

6. Features of Graduate school

Since its establishment in 1950, the Graduate School of Economics at Ritsumeikan University has produced many outstanding graduates who have entered the world academia and business, and participated in central and local governments, and research organizations.

Beginning in the 2001 academic year, the Graduate School of Economics has offered many courses in English. It is the home to many renowned international Economics and non-economics students who have enjoyed taking such courses as well as writing and submitting their theses in conjunction with their academic advisers. The program starting from September 2002 enables students to enroll in elective courses such as International Finance, Development Economics, Environment Economics, International Economics, and Financial Economics as well as a number of core courses. In 2004, we enlarged the program to non-JDS students from developing countries through alternative scholarships and other funding.

7. Features of the Program

Master's Program in Economic Development (MPED)

1. Overview : The undergraduate school of the Faculty of Economics was established in 1903 and the Graduate School of Economics had its beginning in 1950 under the educational philosophy of peace and democracy. The faculty has a full team of staff members devoted to the master's and PhD programs, and has nurtured as many as 50,000 independent and skilled business students. We feel proud that we have been able to maintain a high quality of education and research and hold a prominent position among many of the undergraduate and graduate schools of Economics in Japan.

The Graduate School of Economics is located at Biwako-Kusatsu Campus near Lake Biwa, the largest lake in Japan. At this campus, surrounded by abundant nature, we offer a cutting-edge environment in which to educate and train future business leaders and economists for the new century. Students in the two-year master's degree program can choose from three research programs: Economic theory and Policy (in Japanese), Taxation and Public Finance (in Japanese) and Economic Development (in English). Economic theory and Policy involves broad ranging research in the fields of social/economic systems and history, microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics, finance, international economics and public economics. The Master's Program in Economic Development (MPED) for International students is based primarily on microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics, while complementing these with a variety of courses from other programs. Students participating in the program come from a diverse range of countries including Bangladesh, the Philippines, Vietnam, Uzbekistan, Nepal, Indonesia, Cambodia, Ecuador, and Myanmar. As of April 2009, 53 JDS students have studied as members of the MPED with 11 more planned for enrollment in September 2009.

2. Purpose of Program: This program is designed primarily for those wishing to contribute to the economic and social development of their home countries. Through their study and research activities, students are expected to:

- (1) Become experts in economic and social development policy who are able to draft up policies, cooperate with international organizations, and hold discussions with their staff.
- (2) Understand the recent developments in Japanese society and its economy, and learn about the problems they have faced in the past through their studies of the Post-war economic history.

8. Curriculum in general

Curriculum at a Glance

	Common Courses	Elective Courses
First Semester (First Year, Fall Semester)	Elementary Seminar I Microeconomics I Macroeconomics I Econometrics I Japanese Economy I Development Economics	Managerial Economics International Finance I
Second Semester (First Year, Spring and Summer Semesters)	Elementary Seminar II Microeconomics II Macroeconomics II Econometrics II	International Finance II Public Policy I Development Policy Environmental Economics Japanese Economy II International Economics Topics in Economics I
Third Semester (Second Year, Fall Semester)	Special Seminar Special Study (Thesis) Special Study (Research Paper)	Environmental Policy Asian Economy Financial Economics Public Policy II Internship Program Topics in Economics
Fourth Semester (Second Year, Spring and Summer Semesters)	Special Seminar Special Study (Thesis) Special Study (Research Paper)	Topics in Economics I Internship Program

9. Degree

Degree: Master of Arts in Economics

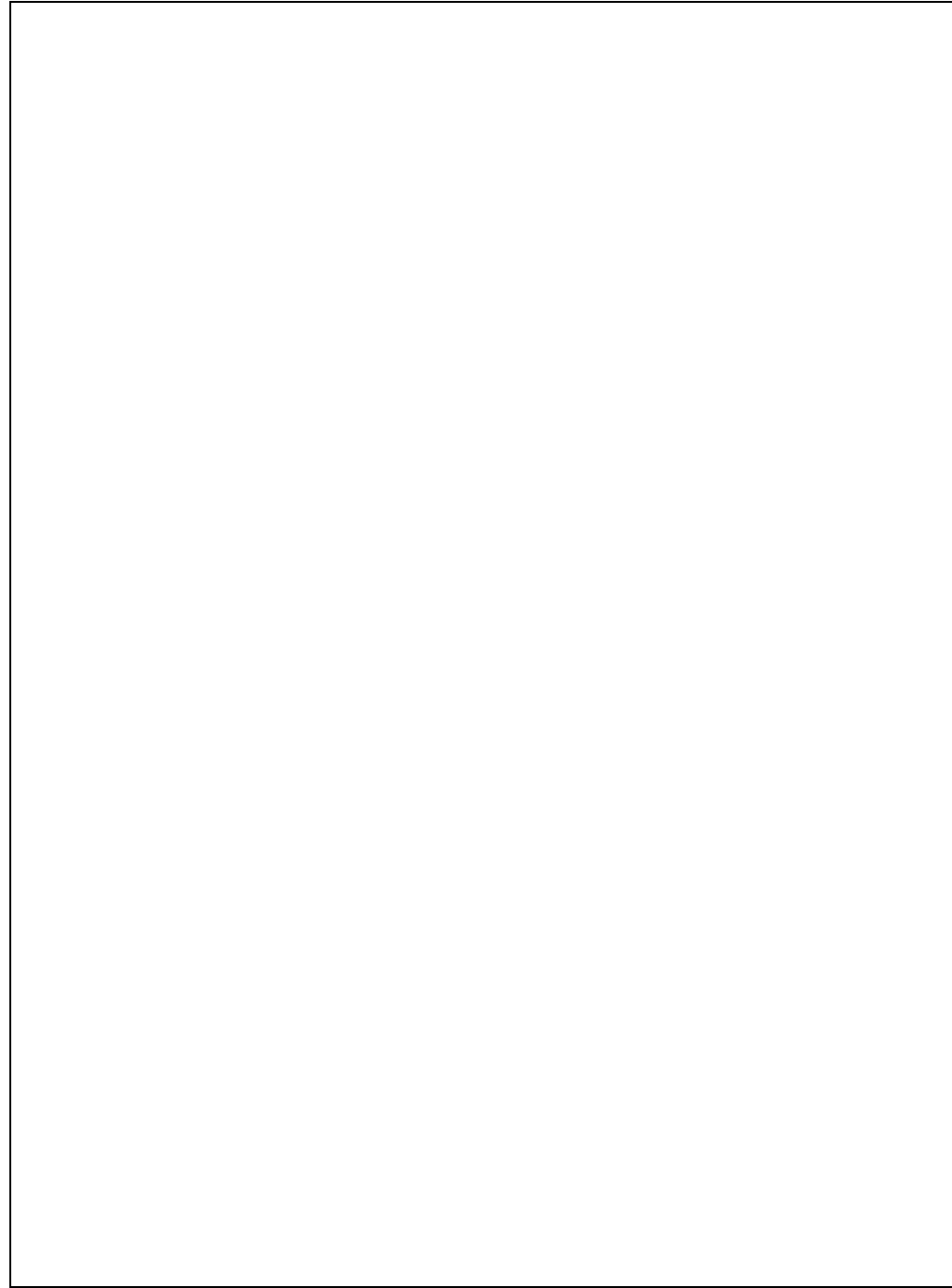
Note : The School confers the Master's Degree in Economics to graduate students who successfully earn the required credits. Students are to accumulate a combined total of 32 credits from course work, seminars with their academic advisors, and their final thesis. The Masters Degree is also conferred to anyone who completes a research paper in place of their final thesis. During the first year of study, students are able to make this choice between a master's thesis and research paper.

Each course is worth 2 credits per semester and full year courses and seminars are worth 4 credits. The final thesis is worth 6 credits and the research paper is worth 2 credits.

10. Credit needed for graduation

32 Credits, 2Years

Note :



11. Academic Schedule

First Year 2009-2010		
2009	September	Entrance Ceremony, Fall Semester begins
2010	February-March	Spring Break Spring session
2010	March	Submission of Research Plan (for thesis)
2010	April	Spring Semester begins
2010	August-September	Summer break Summer session/Internship
Second Year		
2010	September	Fall Semester begins Submission of Progress Report (for thesis)
2010	October	Interim Oral Research Presentation
2011	February-March	Spring Break Internship
2011	April	Spring Semester begins
2011	May	Oral Research Presentation
2011	July	Submission of thesis Oral defense of thesis
2011	August-September	Summer break
2011	September	Graduation Ceremony

(1) First Year

Students are required to take common courses such as Elementary Seminar, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, Development Economics, and Japanese Economy. The Elementary Seminar enables students to prepare for their master's thesis by brushing up their original research proposals. Students will utilize the textbook *Economic Development* written by Michael P. Todaro and Stephan C. Smith to aid their development studies, and discuss their own research concerns as well as participate in field trips to help them understand various aspects of the Japanese economy and society. In the second semester, students are eligible to take Topics in Economics (Academic Writing) in order to learn how to organize the research topics in their thesis. In terms of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Econometrics, students are to be divided into 2 classes that take into consideration the academic background of each student. For a more general understanding of issues on economic development, students can also enroll in the following elective courses: International Finance, Development Economics, Environmental Economics, International Economics, Financial Economics and a course on current issues (Topics in Economics). Every year, our school invites distinguished overseas scholars to provide lectures on current topics.

(2) Second Year

Students enroll in elective courses and special seminars according to their own research interests. Research areas are broadly categorized as follows:

- 1) Issues on national economy such as fiscal & financial policy, and industrial policy.
- 2) Issues on international economy such as trade policy and international finance.
- 3) Business startup, accumulation of technology in small business, and its international transfer.
- 4) Protecting the natural environment for sustainable development.

Students can take such courses by using econometric methods, doing fieldwork study, or participating in internship programs according to their own research themes. Opportunities to participate in internship programs will be made available during their two month spring vacation. Their presentations at the two formal seminars and open research seminars will also help students to be confident of their own research and allow them to receive useful comments from the faculty members as well as from other students.

12. Facilities

Student Dormitories: No student dormitories.

*It is possible for the university cooperative's real estate agency to provide students with single room accommodation.

Library Services: BKC is home to two academic information facilities. Academic literature related to science and engineering is found in the media center, whereas information related to economics and business administration is found in the media library. Both of these facilities are available to students regardless of the research departments to which they belong.

Note

13. List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS fellows

AGATUMA, Nobuhiko Professor Environmental economics; economic policy

FURUKAWA, Akira Professor Research on contemporary Japanese economy

HATA, Katsu Associate Professor Financial Economics

HORI, Kazumi Associate Professor

Theoretical Economics, Applied Economics

HIRATA, Junichi Professor

Empirical and theoretical analysis of Japanese and U.S. financial markets and the macro economy

INABA, Kazuo Professor Empirical studies of Japanese corporate overseas activities

IZAWA, Hiroshi Professor

Theoretical and empirical analysis of Japanese financial system

LEE, Kang-kook Associate Professor Macroeconomics and International finance

KAJIYAMA, Naoki Professor International Finance

MATSUNO, Shuji Professor

Economic Policy (including Economic Condition)

MATSUBARA, Toyohiko Professor

Agriculture and agribusiness in Canada and Japan

International Economics; theory of international trade and trade policy

SAKATA, Kei Associate Professor Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics

SHIMADA, Kohji Professor Environmental Policy

TANAKA, Hiroshi Professor

General Theory of Economics, General Theory of Economics, General Theory of Economics, Economic Policy (including Economic Condition)

TANIGAKI, Kazunori Professor Economic Theory

TERAWAKI, Taku Associate Professor Applied Statistics

YOSHIDA, Chisato Professor International Economics, Microeconomics

ZEHNG, Xiao-Ping Professor Urban and Regional Economics, Regional Science