

**SPECIAL
PROGRAM
IN JAPANESE
AND EURASIAN
STUDIES**

**THE
NIPPON
FOUNDATION
CENTRAL
ASIA
FELLOWSHIP**

**Program
Guidelines
2021**



**UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS SCIENCES,
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL
SCIENCES**

Supported by



University of Tsukuba

Academic Environment

Established in October 1973, the University of Tsukuba has inherited the history and tradition down from its predecessor (Tokyo University of Education), which was founded in 1872. As the first comprehensive university in Japan to be established under a nation-wide university reform plan, the University of Tsukuba emphasizes openness in higher education. It offers students a new system of education and research through its New University administration.

In addition to its leading position in university reform, the University of Tsukuba plays a major role as the prime academic facility in Tsukuba Science City, which is the home of many of the nation's top research institutions. We strive to maintain an exceptional level of education and research, to foster our university's unique character, and to create an internationally competitive academic institution.

The University of Tsukuba offers undergraduate degrees and at the graduate level, master's, doctoral, and professional degree programs.

Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences is the only institution in Japan that offered a combined program for MA and PhD degrees with a specific focus on Eurasian region. This program heavily built upon successful experience of conducting training and research within Special Program for Central Asian Countries established in the University of Tsukuba in 2006.

Master of Arts Graduate Program in Sustainable Development Goals

Background of the Program

The English-language program is a unique program offering students MA degree. It is intended for students from the Eurasian region (Central Asia and Azerbaijan). Classes, guidance, and writing theses and dissertations are conducted in English. Areas of expertise consist of various subjects related to the humanities and social sciences disciplines including the fields of Japanese, Eurasian and International Studies. The graduates of the program are expected to contribute to the understanding of SDGs and their implementations as well as to play active roles in the educational and research institutes of their home countries.

Aims of the Program

The main goals of the program are:

1. To foster human resources to promote a better understanding of SDGs as well as the associated problems pertaining to Central Asia and Azerbaijan;
2. To reinforce the networks between Eurasia and Japan through the goals mentioned above.

Program Content

The program is promoted by the Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Tsukuba.

First, students enroll in the MA Program, which offers more than 50 courses in English, and develops international, interdisciplinary and problem-oriented approach to the understanding of a specific country or an area.

Structure of the Program

The program consists of a 1.5-year Master's Program. Over the course of their studies, students will have an opportunity to receive their education using English-language-based curriculum in addition to having an opportunity to enroll in complimentary Japanese language education. By the end of their studies, students are expected to become leading specialists in the chosen area of their specialization. The curriculum of the program features, among other subjects, seminars conducted by JICA, UN, ADB and governmental agencies, colloquiums based on collaborative research projects and internships at the Japanese companies. Those graduating from this program will be in a position to seek employment in the academic and research institutions, UN agencies, governmental institutions and corporate community.

Collaboration with Nippon Foundation Central Asia – Japan Human Resource Development Project

The program offers students to join "Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project". The project has been launched in January 2019, sponsored by The Nippon Foundation, to foster human resources, who will contribute to achieve "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" of Central Asian region. Those applicants who demonstrate outstanding abilities will be "Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project" and awarded scholarships. The project provides special courses for understanding main ideas of SDGs and its implementation in Japan and Central Asian region.

Note: Please note that those selected for the program and eventually awarded Nippon Foundation fellowship awards will be required to participate in the events organized for the fellows and submit their reports about these events. In addition, the information regarding the details of the fellows such as their names, short biographies as well as their activities with their photos is to be published online and distributed widely as a part of promotional activities of the program. Also, the photos and videos of events organized for the fellows will be made public on the website. Thus, those who apply for the fellowship need to be aware that **their application for the fellowship is considered to be their consent to the conditions above.**

Language of Instruction

English is the main language of instruction for this program.

Degrees Obtained

Students will receive an MA degree in International Public Policy at the Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Tsukuba.

Admissions

Eligibility

1. *Nationality.* Applicants must be from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan (6 countries).
2. *Age.* Applicants who have been born on or after April 2, 1985.
3. *Educational background.* Applicants who have an undergraduate degree and who have completed 16 years of school education.
4. *Language Qualifications (proofs will only be requested during the second stage of the application process).* Applicants must demonstrate their English language proficiency by submitting scores in English Language Proficiency Tests (TOEFL IBT 80, TOEFL CBT 230, TOEFL PBT 500, IELTS 6.0). The scores provided above are approximate, i.e. each applicant's ability will be checked and considered on a case-by-case basis.
5. *Arrival in Japan.* Applicants must be able to arrive to Japan by the last week of September 2021.
6. *Other.* Any applicant who falls under the following conditions is not eligible. If identified after the commencement of the scholarship period, the applicant will be required to withdraw from the scholarship.

- a. The applicant is already the recipient of a scholarship from an organization other than the Nippon Foundation.
- b. The applicant is considered a "future graduate" and selected as such, is unable to graduate within the present date or unable to fulfill graduation requirements.

Enrollment Quota

This program admits up to 10 students per year. Those applicants who demonstrate outstanding abilities will be awarded scholarships of Nippon Foundation (up to 10 scholarships per year). Those who qualify for the program but unable to secure a scholarship of Nippon Foundation will be admitted into the program as privately-financed students. They will be responsible for the costs of their tuition and residence in Japan over the period of their studies.

Enrollment Date

October 1, 2021.

Scholarship (Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project)

Those demonstrating outstanding abilities will be awarded the following scholarships (10 scholarships per year) on a competitive basis. Amount of scholarship is 117,000 yen (MA students). This amount is subject to change.

Travel Expenses

Each grantee of the Nippon Foundation Central Asia-Japan Human Resource Development Project under this program will be provided with an airplane ticket from the international airport nearest to his/her home address in his/her home country to Narita International Airport.

Upon completion, the grantee will be provided with an airplane ticket if he returns to his/her home country during the designated period of time.

Application Documents

There are several stages of the application as below.

First Stage (Fellowship application): The completion and submission of the Preliminary Application Form is the first stage of application process. The preliminary application form should be sent to the following address:

E-Mail: spca-info@ml.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp

Second Stage (Program application): Additional documents will need to be submitted by those applicants who passed the first stage. An interview and an exam conducted in the applicant's home country constitutes the second stage of screening. Each applicant should bring all related documents (certifying statements of academic and professional background and authenticated English proficiency certificate [TOEFL, IELTS, GRE etc.]) on the interview day or send them by post to the following address.

**SPJES, Special Program in Japanese and Eurasian Studies,
Graduate School of Business Sciences,
Humanities and Social Sciences,
University of Tsukuba
Tennodai 1-1-1, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken
JAPAN 305-8571**
E-Mail: spca-info@ml.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp

Application Checklist for the Second Stage

*These are to be submitted by those applicants who passed the first stage of application process.

- Program application form (to be provided for those who passed the first stage)
- 8 photographs (30x40mm)
- Letter of Recommendation in sealed envelope.
- Official transcripts or official copies of diplomas from all undergraduate and graduate institutions previously attended. **If you are currently studying at the university, please submit a current transcript.*
- TOEFL, IELTS, GRE etc. original score report. **The test should be taken no earlier than 2 years prior the submission date of your application.*

Selection and Notice of Selection

Applicants will be selected based on a comprehensive assessment of their preliminary and program applications, and the results of their

interviews and exams. Those who are selected for the second stage will be informed individually. However, due to the high volume of applications, the Selection Committee cannot acknowledge the receipt of applications or notify those who are not selected for the interview stage.

After the first stage of application screening, the faculty members of the University of Tsukuba will conduct interviews with the semi-finalists (those who proceed to the second stage of screening). Successful applicants will then have their files reviewed for final approval and related procedures at the University of Tsukuba.

Tentative Application Time Schedule

First Stage: Fellowship application process

November 15, 2020 – Program is officially announced (Preliminary application form and application guidelines will be available through the Program Website: <http://www.chiiki.tsukuba.ac.jp/spca.html>)

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January 15, 2021 – Deadline for the preliminary application and the first stage screening of the application at the University of Tsukuba

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February-March 2021 – Interviews/exams by the commissioning faculty members of the University of Tsukuba

Second stage: Program application process

April 1-19, Additional Documents to be submitted

↓

April 19-30 Second stage interviews/exams by the commissioning faculty members of the University of Tsukuba

↓

April-May 2021 – Receiving an acceptance letter from the University of Tsukuba

↓

September 20-30, 2021 – Arriving in Japan

↓

October 1, 2021 – Enrolling in the M.A. Program in International Public Policy as full time students

Tuition and related fees

This program admits up to 10 students per year. Those applicants who demonstrate outstanding abilities will be awarded scholarships of Nippon Foundation (up to 10 scholarships per year).

Those who qualify for the program but unable to secure a scholarship of Nippon Foundation will be admitted into the program as privately-financed students. They will be responsible for the costs of their tuition and residence in Japan over the period of their studies.

Student accommodation

Successful applicants will be given an opportunity to reside in the university residence halls. The monthly rent is approximately 15,380- 44,000 yen.

Campus Life

Academic Calendar

1. Autumn Semester: October-March
Entrance Ceremony and Guidance: September 30
Orientation with Supervisors: Early October
Classes Begin: October 1
University Festival: November 6-8
Winter Break: December 29-January 5
Thesis Submission: Early January
Thesis Oral Defense: Mid-January
Last Day of Classes: Mid-February
Thesis Midterm Presentation: Mid-February-April
Spring Break: Mid-February-March 31

2. Spring Semester: April-September
Classes Begin: Early April
Last Day of Classes: Early August
Summer Break: Early August-September 30
Graduation Ceremony: End of September
These dates may be subject to modification and are not legally binding. The Academic Calendar is also available at
<http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/en/students/academic/information-calendar>

Student Facilities

Students will be able to benefit from the following services:

- (1) Tutor: A tutor will be arranged for each student. They will help students with their life in Tsukuba.
- (2) Copy Card (up to 1000 sheets for free per year; may be subject to change).
- (3) Study Room: The study room for SPJES students is located in the building of Master's Programs in Humanities and Social Sciences.
- (4) Satellite Room: An air-conditioned computer room (8A210) is available 24 hours per day. Students can

use printers (up to 1200 sheets for free per year; may be subject to change)

- (5) Mail Box
- (6) Personal Locker

Faculty Members and Curriculum

For information about our faculty members, please check the program's homepage:

<http://www.chiiki.tsukuba.ac.jp/spca/people/faculty/>

Contact Information

SPJES, Special Program in Japanese and Eurasian Studies
Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Tsukuba
Tennodai 1-1-1, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken JAPAN
305-8571
E-Mail: spca-info@ml.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp

For more information, please visit the pages below:

University Main Page:
<http://www.tsukuba.ac.jp/english/>
SPCEA website:
<http://www.chiiki.tsukuba.ac.jp/spca.html>



SPECIAL PROGRAM IN JAPANESE AND EURASIAN STUDIES
Graduate School of Business Sciences, Humanities and
Social Sciences

Color Photograph

4cm×3cm

Preliminary Application Form

Personal Information			
1.	Name (as in passport)		
	_____	_____	_____
	First	Middle	Last
2.	Citizenship		
3.	Passport Details		
	_____	_____	_____
	Number	Issuing country	Issuing place
	_____	_____	_____
	Issuing authority	Date of issue	Date of expiration
4.	Date of Birth	5.	Place of Birth
		6.	Sex
			Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Marital Status	8.	Current Position
	Single <input type="checkbox"/> Married <input type="checkbox"/>		
9.	Address (Permanent)	Address (Present)	Address (Mailing address)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Address (Permanent)
			<input type="checkbox"/> Address (Present)
	Phone: Email:	Phone: Email:	Phone: Email:
10.	Accompanying persons, if any Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> (If the answer is "yes", provide the following information)		
	Name	Date of birth	Relationship
11.	Past entry into/stay in Japan		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes () Time(s) Latest entry from _____ Day _____ Month _____ Year to _____ Day _____ Month _____ Year		
	<input type="checkbox"/> No		
12.	Would you like to be considered for The Nippon Foundation Fellowship for your graduate studies?		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
	Do you have alternative sources of funding for your study in Japan (scholarships from other foundations, personal funds)?		



Language Competency

13. Mother Tongue

14. Other Languages

English-language Proficiency	Written		Oral		Listening		Speaking	
	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other language Proficiency	Written		Oral		Listening		Speaking	
	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>	Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>	Good	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fair	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Poor	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. Language Proficiency Tests

Test Name	Score	Date taken
Test Name	Score	Date taken
Test Name	Score	Date taken

Educational Background

16. Please indicate your total years of education (from elementary school to the last institution of education).
() years

University or equivalent (Name, place, and country)	Attended		Degrees and Academic Distinctions Obtained	Faculty, Department, or Major Course of Study
	From Month/Year	To Month/Year		

17. Schools or other formal training or education from first year elementary school (include elementary school, secondary school, and high school)

School (Name, place, and country)	Attended		Certificates or Diplomas Obtained
	From Month/Year	To Month/Year	

18. List of Publications (if any).

Employment History

19. Starting with your present post, please list your employment experience **in reverse order**. Use a separate line for each post. Include service in the armed forces and note any period during which you were not gainfully employed. If you need more space, attach additional pages of the same size.

Date		Name of Employer	Exact Title of Your Post	Description of Your Duties
From	To			

Essay

20. Critically analyze your country's approach to SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals) in 800-1000 words (**total**).



Statement of Purpose

21. Brief Statement of Purpose (Why are you applying for this program? How will your proposed studies benefit your career goals?)
in 800-1000 words (**total**).

Research Proposal

22. Topic of the Proposed Research

23. Research Questions (Please state your research questions).

24. Literature Review (Please provide an academic background to the research that you are proposing. Please critically analyze the relationship among different works on your topic and show how they relate to your proposed research).

25. Outcome of your proposed research.