

Comparative Studies of Politics and Administration in Asia

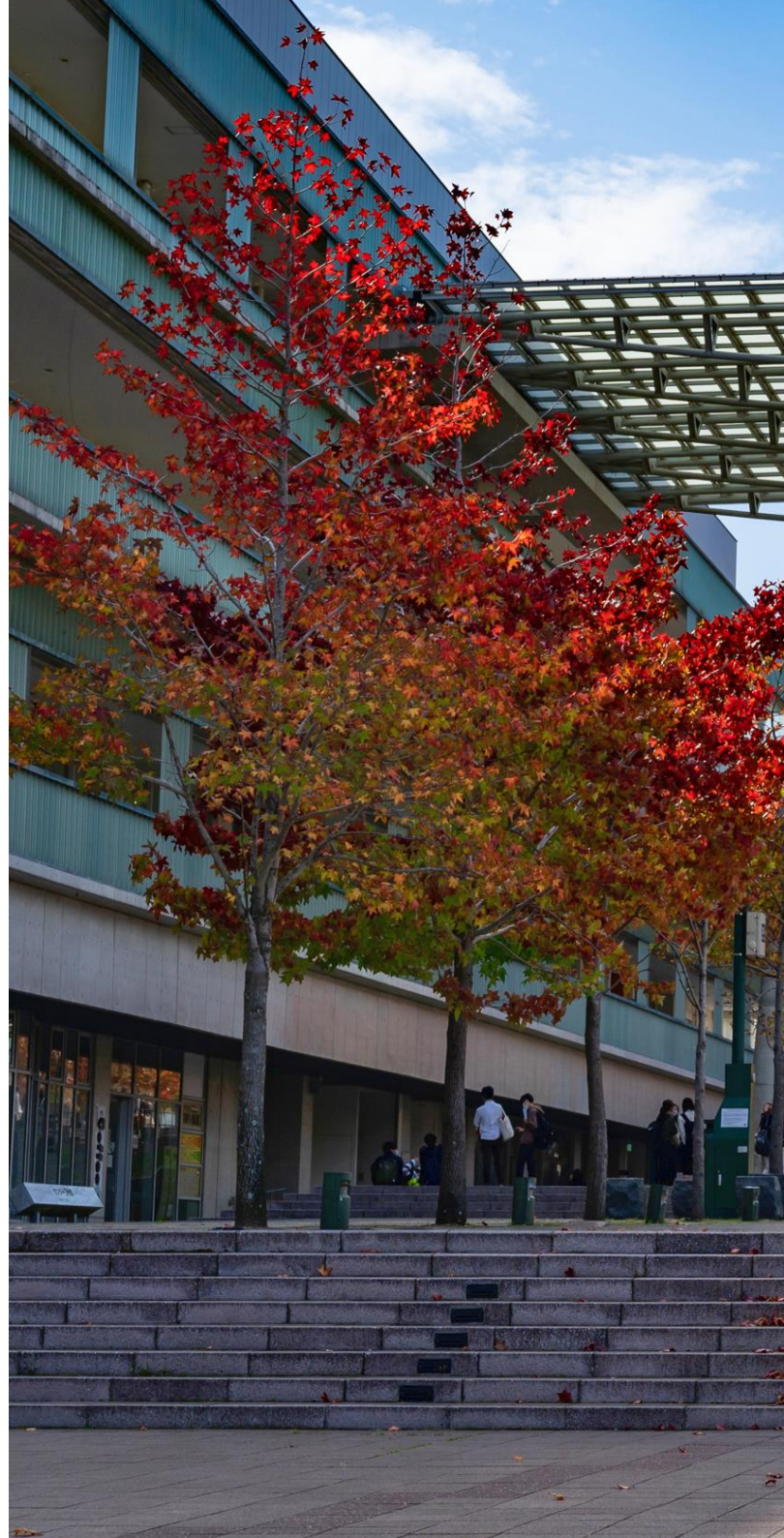
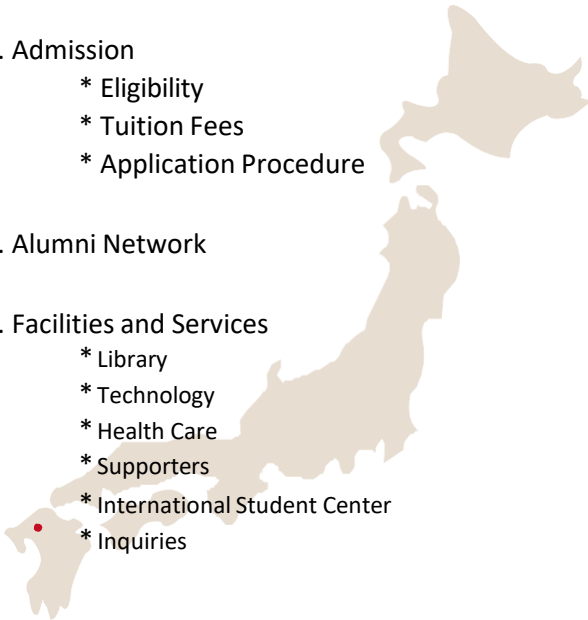
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2026

Kyushu University
Graduate School of Law

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九州大学

KYUSHU UNIVERSITY



九州大学中央図書館
Kyushu University Central Library



Kyushu University

Kyushu University celebrates its centennial in 2011 since its foundation as an Imperial University in 1911. During these years, the university went through several fundamental reforms as Japan's higher education system had been reformed: the introduction of a new educational format after the World War II, and the reorganization of national universities to University Corporations in 2004.

Kyushu University has always been one of the leading universities in Japan consisting of 19 faculties, and Interdisciplinary Graduate School and various kinds of well-rounded research institutes and facilities. In 2009, it was chosen by the Japanese government as one of the 13 core universities for extended international education. At present, there are more than 2,500 international students from over 109 countries. The total number of students amounts to 18,801, while the faculty members number 2,171.

Faculty of Law

The faculty of law, since its establishment in 1924, has been a center of excellence for legal and political education in the Kyushu region. Its graduates, approximately 22,000, have been active in the fields of judicature, governmental services, businesses, journalism as well as research and education. A separate professional law school was established in 2006 in accordance to the reform of the national legal education system.

The faculty launched its two Master courses entirely managed in English firstly LL.M in 1995, then Comparative Studies of Politics and Administration in Asia (CSPA) in 1999.





Dean's Welcome

TOKUMOTO Minoru
Dean, Graduate School of Law
Kyushu University

In our increasingly interconnected and rapidly changing world, young professionals are confronted with many new challenges. The Comparative Study of Politics and Administration in Asia (CSPA) program offered by the Faculty of Law at Kyushu University is a pioneering step towards resolving pressing contemporary issues in Asia.

We are proud to offer students of political science and public policy the opportunity of participating in our CSPA program. The graduate level programs offered by the Faculty of Law at Kyushu University are designed to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the challenges of a global world, and we are firmly committed to developing an outstanding group of future leaders.

As Dean of the Faculty of Law, I have been fortunate to oversee remarkable progress in the fields of comparative politics and administration. I look forward to welcoming many new generations of international students to our faculty and university.





Conceptual Structure of CSPA Program

	Research Literacy	Politics	Public Policy	International Relations
Introductory Courses	Academic Literacy	Introduction to Politics	Introduction to Public Policy	Introduction to IR
Basic Courses	Research Methodology	National Governance Local Governance	Development and Good Governance Governance and Public Philosophy	Global Governance Regional Governance
Advanced Courses	Thesis Workshop	Japanese Politics Japanese Diplomacy etc	Energy&Environmental Policy Security Policy etc	IR and Human Rights IR in East Asia etc

Why study at the CSPA?

The successful achievement of nation building in Asia in the latter part of the last century is now being challenged at four levels: global, regional, national and local. Also, what once were questions of maintaining political and administrative organizations within a national government have become more interactive involving different levels of governing. Thus, changing context of contemporary Asia requires the need of studies with a wider perspective and greater attention to how a country is actually managed and how policies are formulated. This is the study of governance. The CSPA will provide you with a framework and fundamental skills to analyze the policies and political issues for good administration, and help you gain the insights of the changing world that we live in.

Program

Term and Degree

The program consists of two years study, each year with two semesters, beginning in October. A student with outstanding performance may finish the course in 1 year. The program will confer upon those who successfully complete all course requirements a degree of Master of Laws. Successful completion of the program includes both the coursework and submission of a masters thesis reflecting a deep understanding of issues involved in comparative studies of politics and administration in Asia.

EU DIPLOMA

All students registered on a graduate program at Kyushu University are eligible to take the EU Graduate Diploma offered by the KYUSHU UNIVERSITY EU Centre.

Further details are available at: <http://eu.kyushu-u.ac.jp/>

Ph. D. Option

Subject to separate University admission requirements, students with fluency in Japanese language may choose to continue their education in pursuit of a PhD degree.

Financial Aid

Several studentships or bursaries may be available for those who are admitted to the program.

Japanese Language Course

International students may participate in the Japanese Language Course offered as extra-curriculum activities at the International Student Center with no extra charge.

Faculty



Prof. Jiro Hasumi

He is a political philosopher with particular interest in the theories of citizenship and education policy. He was awarded his PhD from University of Cambridge for his thesis entitled “A Critical Examination of the Aims of Political Education as a Constituent Part of Citizenship Education: With Particular Reference to the Contemporary Policies of England and Japan” (2008).



Prof. Kaoru Izumi

He is a specialist in Korean Politics, specially in the field of democratization and the power structure. On top of the academic activities, he is also active in mass media.



Associate Prof. Toru Oga

He is an Associate Professor in International Politics. His research interests include international relations, East Asian regionalism, and human rights regimes. He is the author of numerous articles in *International Relations of the Asia-Pacific*, *Malaysian Journal of International Relations*, *Interdisciplinary Information Sciences*, and so on.



Associate Prof. Takuma Nakashima

He has conducted research on the Diplomatic History of Japan, especially the Okinawa reversion negotiations during the Sato administration from 1964 to 1972. His research interests include the Japan-U.S. security arrangements, the U.S. alliance politics, and Japan's Three Non-Nuclear Principles. He completed his PhD and MA at Kyushu University and BA at Kagoshima University. He was awarded the Suntory Prize for Social Sciences and Humanities in 2013 for his book *Reversion of Okinawa and the Japan-U.S. Security Arrangements* (Yuhikaku).



Associate Prof. Edward Boyle (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)

He currently researches borders and borderland spaces in Japan and Northeast India, as well as in Asia more broadly, and examines issues relating to maps and representation, scalar governance, territoriality, connectivity, migration, infrastructures, memory, heritage, and history. His work intersects with political science, geography, history, and scholarship on international relations. He holds a BA from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and an MA and PhD from Hokkaido University.

Alumni Voices

Nargiza Juraboeva (CSPA, 2001-2002, Uzbekistan)

UNDP Regional Coordinator



I have very much enjoyed my year at CSPA. The programme was still new and at a time it was a one year programme. It offered a variety of subjects and I have warm memories of lecturers who used to teach me back in 2001-2002.

I have especially enjoyed my classes on politics, public administration, gender and globalization. I believe that for a one-year programme that included the dissertation period, we had a good mix of subjects on offer.

We received tremendous support from the faculty on all aspects of academic, and at times personal lives. Professors made themselves fully available for advice on coursework and dissertations - there was indeed a great deal of individual attention. The Secretariat office on the ground floor has always been dear to me - It is one of the main places that keep the programme running.

Without doubts, my year at CSPA has greatly contributed to my career path. It helped me start up with an Internship In Tokyo and smoothly transition to working for the UN in my home country. I have now been working for the United Nations in different capacities for the last 7 years. It was not only the education itself that helped me grow, but also my exposure to different cultures and ability to understand and respect people from various backgrounds. CSPA is a place that offers such diversity, along with many other brilliant things that are so special about living in Japan.

Dr. Abdul Karim (CSPA 2002-2004, Bangladesh)

Joint Director, Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development



It was one of my great opportunities to attend in the Master's Degree Programme on CSPA in the Kyushu University where I have come to meet a team of scholars during the study.

I have really been immensely enriched through the way of teaching provided us. It was indeed self-development, enriching analytical faculty and building Inner capacity making suitable human resource for the development of the society.

At present, I am conducting research on local governance of Bangladesh. Recently, one study report, 'Service Delivery and Good Governance: A Micro Level Study' has been published, in which I have adopted the theoretical framework that was taught in the Kyudai. The report is highly appraised and widely covered In one of the national newspaper (The Daily Star). I am also organising training courses as well as facilitating sessions related to governance issues. In designing and conducting the training courses, experience and lessons of Kyudai have helped me to a great extent. I have been definitely benefited to build my career having studied In Japan.

Life in Kyudai was very comfortable. My family and myself enjoyed whole-hearted cooperation from every corner during our stay In Japan. We like to be there once again !

Carlo Kreuger (CSPA 2012-2014, The Netherlands)

Senior Associate, State Street Trust and Banking Co., Ltd.



I first heard about the CSPA in 2010 when I was an exchange student at Kyushu University. Having already fallen in love with Fukuoka and Kyushu University, I was eager to come back for my master's degree.

During my bachelor's degree in Japan Studies I specialized in International Relations, so being able to continue that study at Kyushu University when I joined the CSPA in 2012 was like a dream come true. Since day one the CSPA faculty and associated staff have been fantastic. They have welcomed us warmly, and have been tremendously helpful in overcoming whatever obstacles we were facing with our studies or privately. During this two-year period I have come to know them to be more than just my professors, I have come to see them as my friends.

As for the program, the CSPA provides a large variety of subjects, giving students many opportunities to develop themselves broadly and find a subject closest to their liking. Moreover, with students coming from all over the world, the CSPA is incredibly diverse. This stimulates lively academic discussions in the classroom, exposing you to many points of view. As a result, I feel that I have left the CSPA more open-minded and with a deeper understanding of the world.

I also tremendously enjoyed the workshops that the CSPA held abroad with other universities. These were great opportunities for us to experience not only an entirely different culture and living circumstances compared to Japan, but also provided us with a unique view into the academic workings of these countries.

The CSPA provides a challenging and stimulating multicultural environment, allowing you to challenge yourself both academically as well as personally. Moreover, it enables you to develop a solid foundation for life after graduation. I have greatly enjoyed my time at the CSPA, leaving me with many great memories and new friends. It has greatly benefited me, as it is thanks to the CSPA that I had the freedom and capability to start a career at a large Japanese company.

INOUE, Hinako (CSPA 2017-2020, Japan)

Kyodo News



The two years for which I studied in the CSPA Program was one of the most precious experiences in my life. I've been keen on studying regionalism in East Asia. Although regionalism has been promoted by political factors as

well as economic motivation, I had had no opportunities to learn the political dynamics of the region in my undergraduate days. I was, therefore, very excited to learn in the CSPA program. Every course provided by great professors inspired me to get a deep understanding of what is going on in East Asia.

In the rich diversity of the CSPA students, I feel that not only my academic skills but also my personality as a global citizen has developed. Sharing our thoughts and ideas with students from all over the world enables me to expand my sights. It also has told me that there are tons of things I am know about the world. Even if I couldn't fully understand what I face, knowing that I don't know is, I believe, much better than I don't know that I don't know. I think those experiences made me able to work as a journalist of Kyodo News in Japan.

Kyushu University, where I spent my seven years, is filled with my memory of youth. Now Fukuoka is my second hometown!



Admission

Eligibility

The Program is open to applicants with a bachelor's degree (political science degree or equivalent of social sciences) from an accredited University. All applicants will be expected to have engaged in some form of political study on either the college or graduate level. Strong English ability is a requirement of the Program and proof of English ability may be requested.

Tuition Fees

The tuition for the academic year 2026 is 535,800 yen. In addition, the admission fee of 282,000 yen must be paid for the first year, which makes the total amount for the first year 817,800 yen. A student can apply for remission of all or half the amount of tuition fees at each semester if his/her grades are excellent and he/she has difficulty in paying tuition. Fees for registration, admission, and tuition are waived for Japanese Government Scholarship students.

Application Procedure

Applicants are requested to submit an original and one copy of the materials listed below to the CSPA Admissions office, Graduate School, Kyushu University.

The application deadline for October 2026 entry is available on the international programs website.

<http://law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/cspa/>

- (1) Completed **Application Form**;
- (2) (For non-native English speakers) **Proof of English Proficiency**.
A minimum score of TOEFL 550 or equivalent is required.
- (3) **Research Proposal** of your Master thesis in two A4 pages.
- (4) **Two Letters of Recommendation** from the applicant's supervising professor or other teaching staff who have had direct contact with the applicant, or from a supervisor in the employing body with personal knowledge of the applicant (prescribed form).



- (5) **Official School Transcript** of the last school from which the applicant graduated and that which the applicant is currently attending.
- (6) **Photocopy of Graduation Certificate** of the last university and graduate school, or a certified letter from the university at which the applicant is currently attending, stating the expected graduation date.
- (7) **Certificate of Citizenship** or **Proof of Residence** in the applicant's home country, i.e., census register, passport (photocopy), or other positive proof of citizenship.
- (8) **One photograph** taken within the past 6 months (6cm x 4cm).

We will not accept when application materials are not completed or missing a part of materials.

An application form can be requested from:

CSPA Admissions Office
Faculty of Law, Graduate School, Kyushu University 744 Motooka,
Nishi-ku, Fukuoka
819-0395 Japan
Fax: +81[Japan]-92-802-5407
E-mail: admission@law.kyushu-u.ac.jp

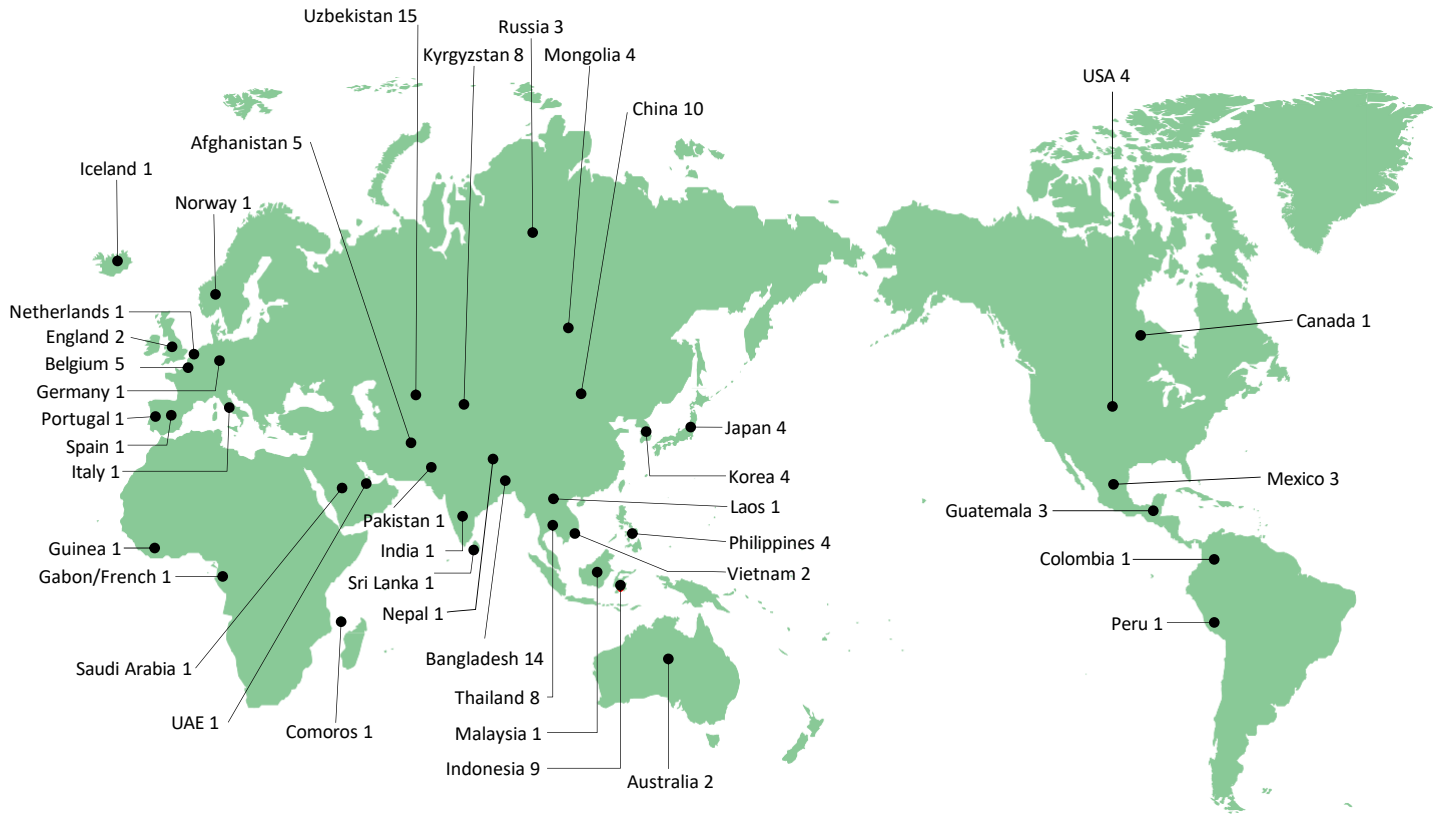
or downloaded from:

<http://law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/cspa/>



Alumni Network

Alumni in total counts 128 persons from 37 countries between 1999-2025





Facilities and Services

Library

The Central Library of Kyushu University houses one of the largest collections in Japan with over 2,450,000 volumes. It is particularly well known for its collection of international and foreign-language materials including e-journals, and provides an excellent research resource for all graduate students. The students can also access to other 6 libraries of the university.

Technology

Kyushu University provides wireless access throughout the campus. International students enrolled on a program at the Graduate School of Law are given access to the CSPA Study Room, which contains the network hubs for laptops. Students are also given access to an extensive selection of on-line databases containing both English and Japanese e-journals and materials.

Health Care

All international students are obliged to join a national health insurance scheme. For a nominal monthly charge, 70% of health costs are covered by insurance. Students are free to choose their health care provider.

Supporters

All international students enrolled in a course at the Graduate School of Law will be provided with a supporter to assist with various practical matters upon arriving in Japan. This service will include accompanying the student to their accommodation, helping in opening a bank account & registering at the Ward Office, and other practical assistance. The supporter service ensures that adjusting to life in Japan goes smoothly for all incoming international students.

International Students Center

With over 2,300 international students from over 100 countries, Kyushu University has a diverse and international student body. The International Students Center serves as a resource providing a range of services from Japanese language classes, immigration advice to counseling. For more information, please see:

<http://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/intlweb/en>

For more information, contact us at:

Admission Office
Graduate School of Law
Kyushu University

744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka
819-0395 Japan

Fax No. +81-92-802-5407
E-mail Address: admission@law.kyushu-u.ac.jp

