

Application Guidelines

Special Program in Japanese and Central Eurasian Studies (1+3 Combined MA and PhD Program)

Period of Application: November 6, 2017– January 5, 2018



Contents

University of Tsukuba	2
Academic Environment	2
Program in Japanese and Eurasian Studies	2
Background of the Program	2
Aims of the Program	2
Program Content	2
Structure of the Program	2
Language of Instruction	3
Degrees Obtained	3
Admissions	3
Eligibility	3
Enrollment Quota	3
Enrollment Date	3
Scholarship	3
Travel Expenses	3
Application Documents	4
Selection and Notice of Selection	4
Application Time Schedule	4
Tuition and related fees	5
Student accommodation	5
Campus Life	5
Academic Calendar	5
Student Facilities	5
Faculty Members and Curriculum	5
Contact Information	5

University of Tsukuba

Academic Environment

Established in October 1973, the University of Tsukuba has inherited the history and tradition handed 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 Humanities and Social Sciences is the only institution in Japan offering combined program for MA and Ph.D. degrees with a specific focus on Eurasian region. This program heavily builds upon successful experience of conducting training and research within Special Program for Central Asian Countries established in the University of Tsukuba in 2006.

Program in Japanese and Eurasian Studies

Background of the Program

The 1+3 Combined MA and PhD English-language program is a unique program offering students MA and Ph.D. degrees in Japanese and Eurasian Studies in Japan. It is intended for students from the Eurasian region (Central Asia, Russia, CIS countries, Mongolia). 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 promote cultural, economic, and technological exchanges between Japan and the Eurasian continent 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 exchange between Eurasia and Japan and play an important role in the stabilization and prosperity of the regions in an academic or practical way, overcoming cultural or historical differences between the regions;
2. To reinforce the networks between Eurasia and Japan through the goals mentioned above.

Program Content

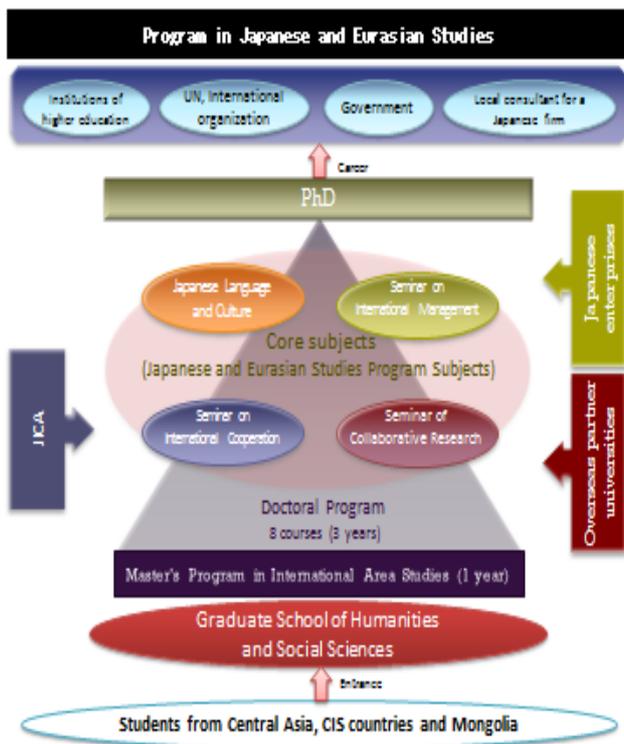
The program is promoted by the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences of the University of Tsukuba.

First, students enroll in the MA Program, which offers more than 100 courses in English, and develops international, interdisciplinary and problem-oriented approach to the understanding of a specific country or an area.

Then students will enroll in the doctoral program of their choice within the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Structure of the Program

The program consists of a 1-year Master's Program and a 3-year Doctoral Program for a total of 4 years. 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 be proficient in both the English and Japanese languages in addition to becoming 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 combined "1+3" program will be in a position to seek employment in the academic and research institutions, UN agencies, governmental institutions and corporate community.



Language of Instruction

English is the main language of instruction for this program. However, knowledge of the Japanese language is an asset.

Degrees Obtained

Students will receive an MA degree in International Studies and PhD in the discipline of the program of enrollment at the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Tsukuba.

Admissions

Eligibility

1. **Nationality.** Applicants must be from Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, or Mongolia (13 countries).
2. **Age.** Applicants who have been born on or after April 2, 1983.
3. **Educational background.** Applicants who have an undergraduate degree and who have completed 16 years of school education.
4. **Language Qualifications.** Applicants must demonstrate their English language proficiency by submitting scores received on English Language Proficiency Tests (Approximate scores are around TOEFL IBT 80, TOEFL CBT 230, TOEFL PBT 500, IELTS 6.0), as well as JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Test) Level N5 or higher. The scores above provided as approximate ones and 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 in Japan by the last week of September 2018.
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 was a grantee of a Japanese Government Scholarship in the past. (Those who have previously been awarded MEXT scholarship may apply for the MEXT scholarship under this program only after 3 years from the time of completion of their previous MEXT-sponsored studies.)
 - b. The applicant is already the recipient of a scholarship from an organization other than the Japanese government.
 - c. 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 Japanese government (up to 5 scholarships per year).

Those who qualify for the program but unable to secure a scholarship of Japanese government 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, 2018.

Scholarship

Those demonstrating outstanding abilities will be awarded the following scholarships (5 scholarships per year) on a competitive basis. Amount of scholarship is 144,000 yen (MA student), 145,000 yen (PhD student) as of FY 2014. This amount is subject to change.

Travel Expenses

Each grantee of the MEXT scholarship 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

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

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

Second Stage: An interview and 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; authenticated English proficiency certificate [TOEFL, IELTS, GRE etc.]; and basic Japanese language skills are an asset) on the interview day or send them by post to the following address.

Special Program for Central Eurasia Office
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Tsukuba
Tennodai 1-1-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki JAPAN 305-8571
E-mail: spca-info@ml.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp

Application Checklist for the Second Stage

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

- 8 photographs (30x40mm)
- Letter of Recommendation is 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.*
- JLPT (Japanese Language Proficiency Certificate) Level N5 or higher (if available)

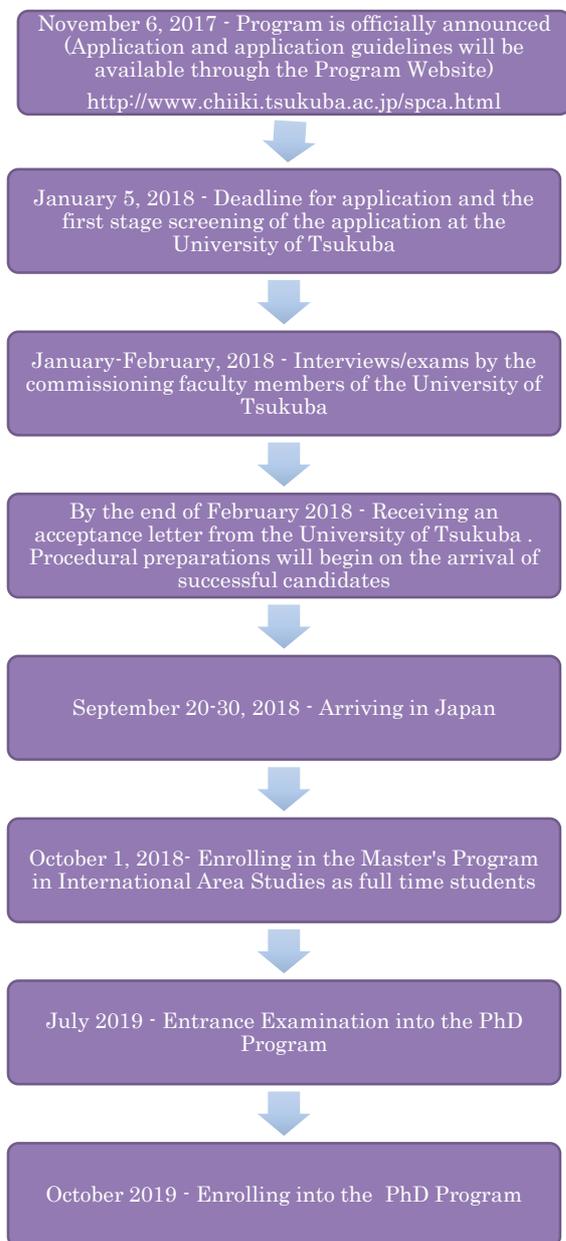
Selection and Notice of Selection

Applicants will be selected based on a comprehensive assessment of their preliminary application documentation 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. Successful applicants will then have their files reviewed for final approval and related procedures at the University of Tsukuba.

Note: The information and forms that applicants provide to the Master's Program in International Area Studies are kept confidential and are used for selection purposes only.

Application Time Schedule



University of Tsukuba
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Special Program in Japanese and Central Eurasian Studies

Tuition and related fees

This program admits up to 10 students per year. Those applicants who demonstrate outstanding abilities will be awarded scholarships of Japanese government (up to 5 scholarships per year).

Those who qualify for the program but unable to secure a scholarship of Japanese government 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 15,000-44,000 yen.

Campus Life

Academic Calendar

1. Autumn Semester: October-March

Entrance Ceremony and Guidance: End of September
Orientation with Supervisors: Early October
Classes Begin: Early October
University Festival: Beginning of November
Winter Break: End of December–Beginning of January
Last Day of Classes: Mid-February
Spring Break: Mid-February – End of March

2. Semester: April-September

Classes Begin: Beginning of April
Thesis Midterm Presentation: Beginning of May
Thesis Submission: End of June
Thesis Oral Defense: Beginning of July
Last Day of Classes: Beginning of August
Summer Break: Mid-August – End of September
Graduation Ceremony: End of September

These dates may be subject to modification and are not legally binding. The Academic Calendar 2017 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 SPCEA students is located in the building of Master's Programs in Humanities and Social Sciences.
- (4) Satellite Room: An air-conditioned computer room (8B201) 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.html>

Contact Information

Special Program for Central Eurasia Office
Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of Tsukuba
Tennodai 1-1-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 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>