


# Kyushu University

## Graduate School of Law

Address: 744 Motoooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka, 819-0395, JAPAN

	Program Name
	LL.M. Program
	Degree
	Master of Laws (LL.M.)
	Credits and years required to graduate
	30 Credits (a 20 credits coursework component, plus 10 credits thesis component), 2 Years
	Math Exam
	Not Required
	Admission Quota
	2 students per batch

### Web Links

- University:  
<http://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/>
- Graduate School:  
<https://www.law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/programs/english/>
- Course/Program:  
<http://www.law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/programs/english/html/programs-admissions/academic-programs/jds-ll-m/>
- List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows:  
<http://www.law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/programs/english/html/faculty/faculty-members/>
- International Student Support:  
<https://isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/center/international/>

### Features of the University

Kyushu University is one of the oldest and most prestigious national universities in Japan. The history of the university dates to 1911, when Fukuoka Medical College was founded.

The university offers undergraduate and graduate-level education across a full range of academic disciplines. There are currently around 19,000 students enrolled and 2,000 faculty members.

Kyushu University is particularly well known for the large number of education programs that are offered for international students, and for the resulting diverse student body.

In November 2021, the university was selected

by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as a Designated National University Corporation and a central element of this project is to promote internationalization of higher education in Japan. At present, there are around 2500 international students enrolled at Kyushu University from around one hundred different countries.

Kyushu University's main campus is in Itoshima, close to the city of Fukuoka. Fukuoka is the largest city in Kyushu, the most southern of Japan's four main islands, and the city of Fukuoka is regularly featured in various international rankings of the world's most liveable cities.

### Features of the Graduate School

The Faculty of Law was established in September 1924 as the Department of the Faculty of Law and Humanities and acquired independent status in 1949.

Annually, 200 students are admitted to the faculty as undergraduates. As of April 2024, over 19,500 students have completed the undergraduate program. Occupational activities of these alumni are diverse, covering the legal profession, government service (both national and local), business, journalism, education, and academia. The graduate program of the faculty, which was set up in 1949, has produced over 2,060 Master's degrees and 290 Doctoral degrees.

In 1994, the Faculty of Law launched Japan's first master's program taught entirely in English: the LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law (*IEBL*). In 1999, a similar program was established focusing on comparative politics

and political administration (CSPA). In 2001, the faculty launched a special government funded program for young legal professionals of designated Asian countries (YLP).

The LL.M. and CSPA programs have been accepting JDS Fellows since the inception of these programs.

Around 40% of students entering graduate programs at the faculty are now coming from overseas. The faculty now has the experience of educating students from more than 74 different countries, and over eight hundred students have graduated from the various international programs.

As a result, the university has accumulated a great deal of experience and "know how" in receiving international students and provides reliable support systems in education, research and for living in Japan.

### Features of the Program

The JDS program offers a wide-ranging curriculum with a particular emphasis on the following topics: international business and the law; innovation and law in a smart society; law and development, and cultural heritage and the law.

The program is intended to provide JDS Fellows with a variety of intellectual and practical skills necessary to confront the many legal challenges in a rapidly globalizing and technology-driven world.

Students who successfully complete the program will be conferred a master's degree in law (LL.M.).

Over the two years of study, JDS Fellows are required to complete a coursework component of approximately 10 semester length courses and write a master's thesis on a topic of their choosing.

Two professors will supervise students in writing their thesis. The supervisors will offer both specialized and practical help to ensure that the thesis meets the standards expected of master's level research.

### Curriculum

All JDS fellows are expected to complete a 20-credit coursework curriculum and write a master's thesis of 50-70 pages (10 credits).

The JDS Program uses a Quarter System. Each semester (Fall and Spring) is divided into two quarters. Students will normally have two classes of each subject per week over the course of the quarter for regular classes. In addition, intensive classes are organized during the

semesters. Classes award 1 or 2 credits.

The curriculum plan for the JDS Program is organized as follows. Students must gain a minimum of 20 credits from courses offered within the framework of the JDS Program. In addition, students are required to take the Legal Research Methodology & Writing class.

#### **Semester I (Fall Year I):**

4 credits in Fall Quarter & 3 credits in Winter Quarter

#### **Semester II (Spring Year I):**

4 credits in Spring Quarter & 3 credits in Summer Quarter.

#### **Semester III (Fall Year II):**

2 credits in Fall Quarter & 2 credits in Winter Quarter.

#### **Semester IV: (Spring Year II):**

2 credits in Spring Quarter OR Summer Quarter.

The following is an indicative list of courses offered in the last few years (this list is subject to change on a yearly basis):

- Legal Research Methodology and Writing
- Transnational Commercial and Investment Law
- International Law in Today's World
- Comparative Corporate Law
- Big Tech and Competition Law
- Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy
- Introduction to Japanese Law
- Mediation and Conflict Management Approaches
- Japanese Intellectual Property Law Practice
- Creative Economy and Cultural Diversity
- Introduction to EU Law
- Social Studies Primer
- White Collar & Corporate Crime
- International Commercial Arbitration
- Algorithms and the Law
- Introduction to Roman Law and the Civil Law Tradition
- Private International Law
- Fintech and the Law
- Platforms and the Law
- Borders and Development in Asia
- Japan's Development in Context
- Japanese Constitutional and Administrative Law
- International Financial Law and Regulation
- Law and Development: A Japanese Perspective
- Introduction to EU Technology Law
- Bioethics and the Law
- International Criminal Law
- Implementation and Operation of the Hague Conventions
- Japanese Intellectual Property Law in Practice
- Japanese Business Law in Practice
- Cultural Conflict Camp
- Risk Management and the Law
- Resolution of transnational Commercial Disputes