


Kyushu University

Graduate School of Law

Address: 744 Motooka, 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://www.isc.kyushu-u.ac.jp/intlweb/en>

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 2021, over 18,900 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 1,900 Master's degrees and 280 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 fifty different countries, and over five 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 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. Most classes award 2 credits.

The curriculum plan for the JDS Program is organized as follows. Students are required to take the Legal Research Methodology & Writing class. 4 credits are also received from taking a special course for JDS students – the JDS Forum – taught over two years.

The 16 remaining credits from courses must be distributed as follows over the four semesters of study:

Semester I (Fall Year I):

2 credits in Quarter 1 & 2 credits in Quarter 2

Semester II (Spring Year I):

4 credits in Quarter 3 & 2 credits in Quarter 4.

Semester III (Fall Year II):

2 credits in Quarter 1 & 2 credits in Quarter 2.

Semester IV: (Spring Year II):

2 credits in Quarter 3 OR Quarter 4.

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
JDS Forum
Fundamental Issues in IP Laws
Transnational Commercial and Investment Law
International Law in Today's World
Cultural Heritage Law and Policy
IP and Private International Law
International Maritime Law
Comparative Corporate Law
Contemporary Issues in 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
A Legal Theory Primer
White Collar & Corporate Crime
International Commercial Arbitration
International Relations & Global Governance
Algorithms and the Law
Introduction to Roman Law and the Civil Law Tradition
Private International Law
Fintech and the Law
Platforms and the Law
IP/IT Dispute Resolution
Borders and Development in Asia
Political Systems in Asia
Japan's Development Context
Japanese Constitutional and Administrative Law
International Financial Law and Regulation
Foreign Investment Business Law in China
Law and Development: A Japanese Perspective
International Law of Foreign Investment
World Trade Law
International Economic Law and Practice
Business Law in a Networked Age
Introduction to European IT Law
Bioethics and the Law