



国立大学法人山口大学 Yamaguchi University

Public Administration Course of The Graduate School of Economics

1. Yamaguchi University Outline

A Brief History of Yamaguchi University

Yamaguchi University is the third oldest national university in Japan and traces its origins back to Yamaguchi Kodo, a private school, founded by Ueda Hoyo, a feudal clansman of Choshu Province in the late Edo Period (1815). In 1949 it was reorganized to become a national university consisting of five faculties. Throughout the years the university has expanded into a comprehensive university which boasts nine faculties and nine graduate schools. The year 2015 marked the 200th anniversary of the establishment of Yamaguchi Kodo.



Access to Yamaguchi University

Yamaguchi Prefecture can be accessed in 1.5 hours by air from Tokyo, 2 hours by bullet train from Osaka, or 35 minutes by bullet train from Fukuoka. The university has three campuses: Yoshida Campus in Yamaguchi City (the main campus), Kogushi Campus, and Tokiwa Campus in Ube City.

Good Environment for Studying and Living

Yamaguchi prefecture has quiet places, so student can concentrate on their research. In addition to that, a rough estimate of living expenses in the Yamaguchi area is shown below. It is relatively less expensive compared with living in a large urban area such as Tokyo.

Category	Approximate Amount per Month
Rent	24,000yen
Food	28,000yen
Utilities (Gas, Electricity, Water)	10,000yen
Communications (Telephone, Internet)	8,000yen
Learning materials	6,500yen
Other (Entertainment, etc.)	6,000yen
Total	82,500yen

Faculties and Schools

Yamaguchi University has the faculties of Humanities, Education, Economics, Science, Agriculture, Global and Science Studies, and Joint Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at Yoshida Campus, the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences at Kogushi Campus and the Faculty of Engineering at Tokiwa Campus. It also has the Graduate Schools of Humanities, Education, Economics, Medicine, Science and Technology for Innovation, East Asian Studies, Innovation and Technology Management, and the Joint Graduate School of Veterinary Medicine.

International Students

More than 359 international students from 32 countries are studying at Yamaguchi University as of May 1, 2021. Most are students from Asian countries, but they are joined by several students from Africa, Europe and Americas.

Strengthening International Student Support

In the university's medium-term objectives, the following goals surrounding the acceptance of international students have been established:

- To enhance guidance for international students
- To provide support systems involving the local community and municipality to secure provision of reasonably priced, good quality accommodation
- To appoint professors to guiding international students
- To strengthen follow up after providing academic and daily life support to ensure the main objective of supporting international students is achieved

International Student Center (ISC)

The university's International Student Center provides international students with systematic language instruction, and advice and information on academic and daily life. The center helps international students with:

- Academic issues
- Issues in daily life (visa issues, personal issues, etc.)
- Financial issues
- Psychological and health issues: The advisory staff maintains close contact with their counterparts in the Health Administration Center, especially concerning psychological issues.

Advisory services are available in Japanese and English. In the advisory room, the advisors help with problems which international students may have while living in Japan. They also act as a liaison with the local community, helping international students get involved in local festivals, community activities and more, so that they can interact with local people and traditions.

Japanese Language Courses

Japanese language courses are offered to international students on an optional basis. There are courses for beginner, intermediate and advanced students. International students can take any of the courses free of charge according to their Japanese ability. All of the courses are accepted as credits for undergraduates. Moreover, students who do not need credits but are still interested in the classes can audit courses with permission from the lecturer.

Tutor Systems

International students can use the tutor system for up to one year. Under this system, Japanese students help international students with their daily lives and studying Japanese language. Each international student will be matched with one supporting Japanese student. There is another tutor system for international students operated by the student volunteer group.

Research Guidance Policy

The research guidance policy of the Public Administration Course at the Graduate School of Economics is as follows:

- 1) A research supervisor for each student is appointed beforehand depending on the research proposal, so that students may start to work immediately after their arrival. Thesis instruction is conducted in a multidisciplinary manner by appointing one main supervisor and two sub-supervisors for each student. The main supervisor guides the students throughout the years, providing practical and face-to-face research advice. Two vice supervisors also provide comprehensive and careful guidance with a main supervisor in thesis planning and preparation.
- 2) In addition to conventional instruction by our faculty, we use wide variety of teaching methods in lectures and seminars such as: presentation by students using power point, question and answer session, and group discussion, using examples in Japan and developing countries. The variety of teaching methods facilitates a deeper understanding of the contents of our lectures, enhances the students' knowledge of issues related to their research theme and develops their presentation skills.
- 3) A study tour of about one week to central public administration offices is conducted yearly, based on the research needs of each student. This experience allows students to acquire a practical understanding of effective public administration and serves as a basis for comparative study of various aspects of public administration. Past years have included visits to Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Foreign affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, and Embassy of Bangladesh in Japan.
- 4) A short visit to a local city is conducted after submitting the master's thesis to investigate the industrial development of the local city. Students take a lecture on an industrial policy being implemented in the local government and visit several places related to agricultural industry, manufacturing industry, service industry and sixth sector industry.

2. About the Graduate School

The Public Administration Course at the Graduate School of Economics employs experienced professors in the field of policy development projects in various Asian developing countries as well as experts in East Asian studies. Specialized professors who designated to work with students provide practical guidance and supervision to meet students' specific needs. The course is specifically and carefully designed to be implemented systematically and consistently to develop the academic capabilities and experience of international students including them. If a research proposal requires interdisciplinary guidance, multiple professors can be available for joint instruction specific to the student's needs.

In developing countries, in the field of public administration, effective and practical implementation of policies is often hindered by ineffective administrative systems and other issues such as disorganization, corruption, defective law and order, or a failed judicial system. Efforts to deliver administrative services that meet community needs, and reforms in public servant systems and government organizations are conducted, however, due to lack of practical experience; countries face several difficulties. In addition, under conditions imposed by International Organizations, decentralization of the government is proceeding, requiring capacity building of local governments in the financial and administrative sections and social management at a local level including administration of ODA projects.

Our Graduate School has two professors in public administration related disciplines with experience providing their knowledge for several ODA projects for more than 20 years, including projects funded by the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, JBIC and JICA. Such experience is used to its full extent to guide international students to find solutions to their specific issues.

Our Graduate School understands that human resource development in 1) management of public policy, 2) decentralization of public administration and 3) improvement of governance and anticorruption is crucial to build a stable nation, and aims to train students to be talented professionals who will be able to lead in their fields, exhibiting expertise in solving various problems from a broad range of perspectives related to public administration.



Visiting the National Diet Building



Special Lecture at the Ministry of Finance

3. Academic Schedule

First Year

October	Entrance, Enrollment Ceremony
	Orientation at the Graduate School of Economics
	Autumn Semester begins
Mid-November	The International Student Gathering
Late December	Winter Break (~beginning of January)
Late January/ Early February	Study tour to Tokyo
Early February	Spring Break (~beginning of April)
April	Spring Semester begins
Early August	Summer Break (~end of September)

Second Year

October	Autumn Semester begins
Mid-November	The International Student Gathering
Late December	Winter Break (~beginning of January)
Late January/ Early February	Study tour to Tokyo
Early February	Spring Break (~beginning of April)
Mid-February	Internal thesis presentation
April	Spring Semester begins
End of June	Submission of Master's Thesis
July	Study tour to Okinawa
Early August	Summer Break (~end of September)
September	End of Graduate Program, Commencement Ceremony



4. Facilities

Dormitories

Yamaguchi University has 2 International Houses as dormitories for international students, the one in Yoshida Campus, the other in Tokiwa Campus.

The maximum length to be an occupant of an International House is basically 6 months, but if the ISC allows the extension of the stay, students can stay longer. When students start to live there, a deposit fee is required.

The room is classified into single, couple and family type equipped with a refrigerator, washing machine, air-conditioning, bed and study desk.

The ISC selects the residents of the International Houses in January for the residents supposed to move in between April and September; in July for the residents supposed to move in between October and May next year. Every year, the number of the students who want to live in the International Houses exceeds that of the rooms we can supply. So ISC casts lots for the residents and considers the students' length of stay in Japan, their status of international students, etc.

Research Room

Four-storied research building was inaugurated in April 2010 for graduate students. Research rooms are allocated, each room with up to eight students.

The study desks and room numbers at Graduate School of Economics are designated at the time of registration so as to be able to start immediately after the enrollment ceremony. Each room is equipped with an air conditioning, washing stand, printer, etc.

Libraries

Students can browse and borrow 341,032 foreign books at the General Library. Students also browse 4,186 electronic journal. Additionally, the library of East Asian Study Institute is available at the Faculty of Economics where students can find more than 1,000 series of specialized journals and periodicals. Special collection for JDS students is also available. Professional librarians are on standby to give advice and support to students looking for specific data or academic information needed for research works.

Copy Facility

Students are allowed to take up to 1,200 sheets of copy per year free of copy machines charge by purchasing copy paper by themselves.



Research Building

5. Features of the Program and Degree Curriculum

Public Administration Course Program (From October 2021) -

Course	Instructor	Credit	2021	2022		2023
			Autumn Semester	Spring Semester	Autumn Semester	Spring Semester
Preparatory Courses (Compulsory)						
Academic Writing	T. Takemoto	1	○		○	
Economic Statistics	K. Fukuyo	2	○		○	
Economics	M. Yamada	2	○		○	
Core Courses (Compulsory elective)						
Development Economics	K. Hamashima	2	○		○	
International Economics	K. Yamamoto	2		○		○
Principles of Administrative Law	M. Hattori	2			○	
Program Evaluation	T. Umada	2		○		○
Public Administration*	K. Nishiyama	2	○		○	
Public Economics	S. Teraji	2	○		○	
Public Finance	H. Kojima	2	○		○	
Elective Courses						
Academic English	T. Takemoto	1		○		○
Mathematics for Economics	L. Yuan	1	○		○	
Research Methodology	T. Umada M. Hattori	1		○		○
Advanced Data Analysis	T. Nishio	2	○		○	
Advanced Public Administration Studies IB*	I. Tomimoto	2	○			
Advanced Public Administration Studies IIA*	I. Tomimoto	2			○	
Cost-Benefit Analysis	S. Yamashita	2		○	○	○
Cultural Psychology of Administration	T. Takemoto	2		○		○
Economic Policy	M. Nakama	2		○		
Environmental Policy	L. Chen	2		○		○
Industrial Policy*	K. A. Akkemik	2	○		○	
International Cooperation Studies*	K. Amatsu	2		○		○
International Framework for Environmental Protection	M. Maruyama	2	○		○	
Local Government Finance	M. Nakama	2	○			○
Media and Society	M. Loehr	2		○		○
Monetary economics	T. Hyodo	2				○
Public Debt Management	T. Sakano	2		○		○
Public Policy	T. Umada	2			○	
Quantitative Development Policy Analysis	K. A. Akkemik	2		○		○
Regional Economics	H. Saito	2		○		
Social Policy Studies*	I. Tomimoto	2			○	
Southeast Asian Economy	K. Amatsu	2	○		○	
Strategic Management	T. Hirano	2		○		
Tourism Policy	M. Asamizu	2		○		○
Yardstick Competition Among Government	H. Yoneoka	2	○		○	

* means that those subjects are provided as JICA Development Studies Program.

○First Year

Preparatory Courses (Compulsory)

Objectives: To acquire the basic skills required in the study of public administration management such as thesis writing skills, economics and economic statistics.

(Quarter & Semester: 1 or 2 credits per course, a total of 5 credits required)

No.	Course Title	Credits
1	Academic Writing	1
2	Economic Statistics	2
3	Economics	2

Core Courses (Compulsory elective)

Objectives: To acquire fundamental knowledge and skills required in the implementation of public administration such as public economics, public administration, program evaluation and others.

(Semester: 2 credits per course, a minimum of 8 credits required)

No.	Course Title	No.	Course Title
1	Development Economics	5	Public Administration
2	International Economics	6	Public Economics
3	Principles of Administrative Law	7	Public Finance
4	Program Evaluation		

○First and Second Year

Elective Courses

Objectives: To study advanced topics related to public administration and other subjects to allow the acquisition of the theories and specified knowledge required in the implementation of efficient public administration.

(Quarter & Semester: 1 or 2 credits per course, a minimum of 3 credits required)

No.	Course Title	No.	Course Title
1	Academic English *	15	Public Policy
2	Research Methodology *	16	Cultural Psychology of Administration
3	International Cooperation Studies	17	Monetary Economics
4	Media and Society	18	Economic Policy
5	Southeast Asian Economy	19	Tourism Policy
6	Environmental Policy	20	Strategic Management
7	Social Policy Study	21	Industrial Policy
8	Regional Economics	22	Advanced Public Administration Studies IA
9	Public Debt Management	23	Advanced Public Administration Studies IB
10	Cost Benefit Analysis	24	Advanced Public Administration Studies IIA
11	Local Government Finance	25	Advanced Public Administration Studies IIB

12	International Framework for Environmental Protection	26	Advanced Data Analysis
13	Mathematics for Economics *	27	Yardstick Competition Among Government
14	Quantitative Development Data Analysis		

* means 1 credit.

Seminars

(Semester: 2 credits per course, a total of 8 credits required)

No.	Course Title		No.	Course Title	
1	Seminar IA	1 st Year	3	Seminar IIA (Thesis Instruction)	2 nd Year
2	Seminar IB		4	Seminar IIB (Thesis Instruction)	

○ Graduation Requirements

Preparatory Courses	5 Credits
Core Courses	8~14 Credits
Elective Courses	3~9 Credits
Seminars	8 Credits
Total	30 Credits



Special Lecture by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism



Special Lecture at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Special Lecture at the National Tax College



Visiting the Embassy of Bangladesh in Japan



Tokyo

Osaka

Yamaguchi

Yamaguchi

Shimane

Yoshida Campus

Kogushi Campus

Tokiwa Campus

Fukuoka



YAMAGUCHI UNIVERSITY