

Master's Program in International Public Policy

■ Master of Arts in International Public Policy

Program Educational Objectives

The Master's Program in International Public Policy offers education and research supervision that are cross-disciplinary across the advanced expertise in the areas involving international public policy, including international relations, area studies, sociology, politics, economics, anthropology and public policy studies. The Program thereby cultivates those who set their sights to pursue a doctoral program to become university faculty members, researchers, etc. who base themselves on specialized knowledge to exert the research ability to flexibly adapt to globalization, modern international problems, which have become so complex, individual communities' problems, and social and cultural problems, and also the practical ability of problem solving that can lead these problems to public policy scenes.

Graduate Profile	<p>He or she should possess the problem-solving ability and practical ability from the viewpoint that links problems to public policy as to the political-economic and social policy problems inside and outside Japan and also the problems related to individual communities and international relationships. These abilities are based on the advanced research ability founded on the logical thinking ability and analytical ability for theory and demonstration by taking advantage of the specialized knowledge of the areas of international public policy.</p> <p>As for the public business learning models designed for working adult members of society, in addition to the above abilities, he or she should gain the specialized knowledge of business administration, the ability to logically think in depth, and the ability to logically organize the content of thought.</p>
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Diploma Policy

The degree of Master of Arts in International Public Policy is commenced to those who have fulfilled the requirements for the completion of the Master's programs, as set out in the Graduate School Regulations of the University of Tsukuba and related university regulations, and who are deemed to have the following competences.

	Competences	Evaluation perspectives
Knowledge and Skills	1. Knowledge application competence: Ability to contribute to society with advanced knowledge	① Can you apply knowledge gained through research and other activities in society? ② Can you identify new problems, even in other fields of expertise, based on broad knowledge?
	2. Management competence: Ability to appropriately address challenges from broad standpoints	① Can you take on major tasks with systematic planning? ② Can you understand and solve problems from multiple perspectives?
	3. Communication competence: Ability to accurately and clearly communicate expert knowledge	① Are you capable of efficient communication for research purposes? ② Can you discuss research or research-specific knowledge with experts from your own field and from other fields?
	4. Teamwork competence: Ability to work with a team and actively contribute to the achievement of goals	① Do you have experience cooperatively and actively working on challenges as part of a team? ② Have you helped promote projects and activities other than your own research?
	5. Internationality competence: Willingness to contribute to international society	① Are you aware of making contributions to international society and getting involved in international activities? ② Have you obtained the linguistic skills necessary for international information collection and action?
	6. Research ability: Basic knowledge and ability to set research tasks and carry out a research plan in the areas of international public policy	① If capable of approaching to tasks using the expertise in the areas of international public policy to manage one's own research process ② If capable of internally and externally transmitting research findings concerning international public policy, and based on it, capable of solving problems and making implementation
	7. Specialized knowledge: Advanced specialized knowledge and command of the areas of international public policy	① If analytical ability supported by the specialized knowledge of international public policy and logical thinking was gained ② If flexible thinking ability that works with multiple disciplines of international public policy was gained
	8. Ethical view: Ethical view and ethical knowledge appropriate for persons with basic research ability in the areas of international public policy	If capable of managing one's own research process based on high ethics

<p>Guidelines for Assessing Learning Outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Through courses, especially "Research workshop", the instructor conducts a rigorous educational evaluation based on the student's research progress. - At the end of each semester, competence achievement evaluations are done, and through "Research workshop" in the second year as well as mid-term presentation and final examinations of master theses, students can acquire research skills, based on the evaluations of main- and sub-supervisors, as well as the supervision over the evaluations conducted by the curriculum committee and the degree program office.
<p>Evaluation Criteria for Degree Theses/ Dissertations</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Specific research tasks must be set with a clear description of the significance and need of the research. 2. The research methods and analyses used must be appropriate to the research tasks. 3. The preceding researches in the same area must be sufficiently considered. 4. The entire thesis must be logically developed with consistency. 5. The thesis must be systematically structured and unified as an academic paper. 6. Bibliography and references must be clearly shown in accordance with appropriate expressions and notational conventions. 7. Appropriate consideration must be paid for the handling of personal information and ethics. <p>A thesis for degree grant, if approved to meet all of the above criteria, passes with an oral exam included in the judgment.</p> <p>【Review board members】 A review board must be formed by one chief reviewer and two or more sub-reviewers who are the research supervisory faculty members or course teaching faculty members. Half or more of the reviewing faculty members in the board must be faculty members of the Master's Program in International Public Policy but, if required, faculty members who do not belong to the Master's Program in International Public Policy (including faculty members, etc. of other universities' graduate schools or research institutes, etc.) can be added as sub-reviewers.</p>

Curriculum Policy

The Program is designed to provide students with education and research supervision to develop a breadth of basic skills in humanities and social sciences, and to have the big picture in mind in humanities, society and business as well as the generic knowledge and ability that support the students to be active in diverse social scenes, along with the research ability, specialized knowledge and ethical view for the research on international public policy that is cross-disciplinary across the areas of international relations, area studies, sociology, politics, economics, anthropology and public policy studies.

<p>Curriculum Design Framework</p>	<p>In order to cultivate the basic skills and wide perspectives as well as generic knowledge and ability in associated areas with the student's major at the core, one credit from Graduate General Education Courses, another one credit from Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses, and two credits from “Joint Seminar for Master's Thesis” and “Introduction to Research Methods or Academic Writing and Research Ethics” in Degree Programs' Common Courses must be earned as required subjects, and other Degree Programs' Common Courses are encouraged to be taken. The research supervision takes a multiple-instruction scheme (participated by faculty members of other Programs if required) to develop a research ability that exerts multifaceted perspectives. The concrete subjects to be taken and the assignment of sub-supervisory faculty members will be decided based on the individual student's research plan, carrier plan, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ability to put advanced knowledge to use in society is acquired with Graduate General Education Courses, Joint Seminar for Master's Thesis, Introduction to Research Methods or Academic Writing and Research Ethics, etc. - The ability to appropriately address challenges from every angle is acquired with Graduate General Education Courses, Internship for Humanities and Social Sciences (1)(2), Foundation Subjects for Major, etc. - The ability to express expert knowledge accurately and clearly is acquired with Graduate General Education Courses, Joint Seminar for Master's Thesis, Major Subjects (seminar subjects), etc. - The ability to cooperate and actively contribute to the achievement of goals as a team is acquired with Graduate General Education Courses, Internship for Humanities and Social Sciences (1) (2), Major Subjects (seminar subjects), etc. - The awareness to contribute to international society is acquired with Graduate General Education Courses, Grant Writing for Humanities and Social Sciences, Foundation Subjects for Major, etc. - The basic knowledge and ability to set research tasks and carry out a research plan in the areas of humanities and social sciences and the areas of international public policy are acquired with Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses, Joint Seminar for Master's Thesis, Introduction to Research Methods or Academic Writing and Research Ethics, Foundation Subjects for Major, Major Subjects (seminar subjects), master's thesis creation, special interest group presentations, etc. - The advanced specialized knowledge and command of the areas of humanities and social sciences and the areas of international public policy are acquired with Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses, Joint Seminar for Master's Thesis, Major Subjects, writing of master's thesis, special interest group presentations, etc. - The ethical view and ethical knowledge appropriate for persons with basic research ability in the areas of humanities and social sciences and the areas of international public policy are acquired with Graduate General Education Courses (life, environment and research ethics subjects), Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses, Introduction to Research Methods or Academic Writing and Research Ethics, Research Workshop on International Public Policy, Major Subjects (seminar subjects), research supervision, etc.
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<p>Teaching and Learning Methods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Early on immediately after enrollment, students take foundation subjects including Graduate General Education Courses and Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses to acquire the generic competences such as the Competence of knowledge application, Management competence and Communication ability as well as ethics. - Students take Foundation Subjects for Major principally in their first year to master the basic methods and interdisciplinary perspectives in the areas of international public policy and acquire the Competence in Internationality and basic research ability. - Major Subjects includes lecture and seminar subjects. Lecture subjects allow mainly to gain advanced specialized knowledge, whereas seminar subjects, through discussions and other exercises, allow to enhance the research ability for the project that each student works on and also develop the problem-solving ability, Communication ability and Group skill. Students organize the subjects to take throughout the first and second years in the areas of international public policy, around those that each one thinks are especially important. - In the second year, the support for the research process is offered toward the writing of a master's thesis while including the training on ethics through the thesis supervision by the supervisory faculty members of the “Research Workshop on International Public Policy” .
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Admission Policy

<p>Desired Student Profile</p>	<p>We seek candidates who, through the wiring of bachelor's thesis, other outcomes of learning or their social experiences, have gained the ability and specialized knowledge to allow to continuously carry out the logical and practical research that enables the coexistence of individuals amid the complex modern society and international problems, as well as the enthusiasm for such research and the flexibility that can be applied to actual work of expertise by actively identifying challenges out of their interest, not only absorbing advanced knowledge.</p>
<p>Student Selection Process</p>	<p>To select out enrollments, diverse candidates are sought through the general entrance exam, recommendation entrance exam, the special selection for those who wish to complete the Program by taking only English-taught courses or other enrollment selection methods. The opportunity of entrance exam is offered multiple times in the same year with the split of the number of persons admitted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the general entrance exam, candidates are comprehensively evaluated with the written exams of specialized subject and foreign language and an oral exam. <p>For the specialized subject, candidates select one subject, which is associated to the areas of international public policy, at the time of the application for enrollment; the selectable subjects are international relations, social development, anthropology, sociology, politics, area studies, economics, etc., and the exam evaluates the continuous research ability and specialized knowledge sufficient to write a master's thesis and the flexibility that can be applied to actual work of expertise. The written exam on a foreign language evaluates the command of the language indispensable for research and actual work.</p>

<p>Student Selection Process</p>	<p>The oral exam, which has regard to a research plan, etc., evaluates the candidate's enthusiasm and motivation for research, the specialized knowledge of the area to be researched, the flexibility and other qualities to be applied to actual work of expertise and the possibility of achieving the research plan, as well as the presentation ability, the communication ability, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the recommendation entrance exam, candidates are required to write a paper as the written exam and take an oral exam to make an overall evaluation. <p>This exam is applicable to candidates who are recommended by the faculty members who instructed them in a degree program, etc. and know their abilities, personalities and qualities well enough to assure that they have already acquired the specialized knowledge, continuous research ability and foreign language command necessary for the research in the areas of international public policy.</p> <p>For this reason, candidates are not required to take the written exam of a specialized subject and a foreign language but write a paper to evaluate the specialized knowledge of the area to be researched and the flexibility to be applied to actual work of expertise.</p> <p>The oral exam, which has regard to a written recommendation and a research plan, evaluates the possibility of achieving the research plan, the enthusiasm and motivation for research, the specialized knowledge of the area to be researched, and the qualities the candidate has for research, as well as the presentation ability, the communication ability, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special selection is applicable to those who wish to complete the Program by taking only English-taught courses, such as younger civil officials and other jobholders in developing countries and emerging powers. <p>In special selection, document screening and an oral exam are given as overall evaluation. Document screening examines the research plan, recommendation and so on, and evaluates the possibility of achieving the research plan, the enthusiasm and motivation for research, etc. (The oral exam, which has regard to the documents, evaluates the continuous research ability, the specialized knowledge of the area to be researched, the enthusiasm and motivation for research, the command of English, the possibility of achieving the research plan, as well as the presentation ability, the communication ability, etc.)</p>
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Learning Support Framework

<p>Academic Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We provide information about university initiatives (such as writing support) and encourage students for active participation. - In addition to explaining how to proceed with learning during orientation at the time of enrollment, one main advisor and at least two co-advisors jointly provide study support to students. Supervisors, Curriculum Committee, Student Committee, and the administrative staff in charge of students provide support to students as needed. - By publicizing seminars led by external lecturers, we are creating a learning environment that can accommodate students' diverse research interests.
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Opportunities for Peer Interaction	In the Master's and Doctoral Programs in International Public Policy, meetings are held once or twice a year where master's and doctoral students, along with faculty members, discuss the environment and work to improve the learning environment.
Opportunities for Student-Faculty Interaction	To promote interaction between students and faculty, and to provide opportunities to gather students' opinions regarding the research environment, informal discussion sessions (e.g., tea gatherings) are held at least twice a year.

Approaches to Assuring and Enhancing Educational Quality

- The curriculum committee, through evaluating learning outcomes of students, verify the appropriateness of the curriculum and the suitability of instruction. Specifically, syllabus checks are performed at the initiative of the curriculum committee in order to confirm whether the course content is appropriate to the aims of the degree program, and whether the necessary information is provided to students.
- The curriculum committee plays a central role in reviewing and improving overall educational activities of the degree program in order to ensure the quality of education and the aims of the degree programs.