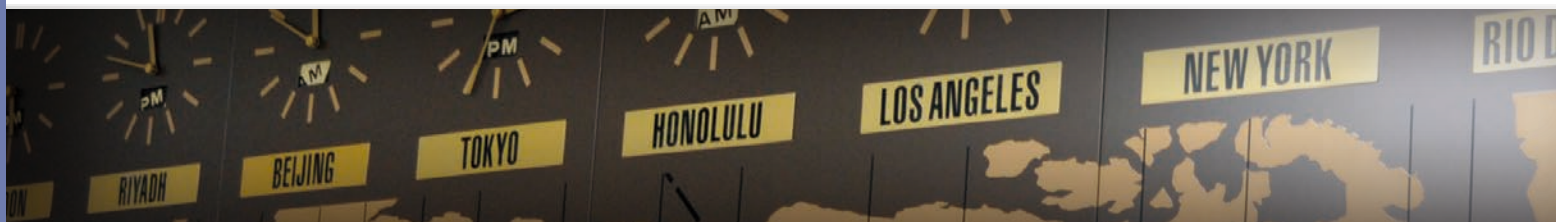


15 SPECIALIZED COURSES



Japanology

In the Japanology Course, we explore human activities in Japan from a cultural point of view while positioning Japanese culture relative to various cultures in the world. We aim to address, jointly study and learn an extremely wide range of cultural and social issues from ancient to modern times concerning literature, arts, religion and philosophy. The course also provides opportunities to improve professional skills for reading ancient papers and reviewing documents, which are often required to deepen understanding of Japanese culture and society. Moreover, the course provides specialized training to students so that they can discuss Japanese culture and society by an academic process without being limited by popular views of Japan. Our objective is to nurture individuals who can discuss Japan with specialized skills and high-level academic capabilities.

Students' research themes

Master's course: Research on gender equality program of Kobe city; A study on the source History of *Onsenji-temple* in Kinosaki; A research on the thoughts of the flower arrangement practice in the Edo period; Images of Japanese performing arts displayed in journals for national propaganda; A Comparative Study of Horror Expressions and Characterization of Female Protagonists in Horror Games; A historical study on the practice of *gagaku* at Kumamoto-Han domain.

Doctoral course: Ethnographical study on the folk music and dance for rice-planting; A study of folk literature in connection with feudal lords in the early modern era; A study on cultural policy on radio broadcasting in the post-war Okinawa under US military occupation; A study on *iemoto* system in *cha-no-yu* (tea ceremony) since the modern era; A study of the hygiene problems in East Asia in the 19th century: focusing on an open port Incheon, Korea; A study of newspaper reports on Tottori earthquake in 1943; Cinema that "Records" an Author: The "New Wave" and the Avant-Garde Art Movement of the 1950's.

Teaching staff

Fumiaki ITAKURA, Professor

Subjects: Japanese Visual Arts

Research fields: Japanese film studies from international and historical viewpoints.

Shizue OSA, Professor

Subjects: Contemporary Japanese Society

Research fields: Modern Japanese history, specifically the War memory and Occupied Japan.

Nobuyuki KONNO, Professor

Subjects: Japanese Language and Culture

Research fields: Japanese intellectual history, specifically on nationalism from the 1920s to the 1940s with an awareness of history and religion.

Naoko TERAUCHI, Professor

Subjects: Japanese Performing Arts

Research fields: Japanese traditional music and performing arts in relation to various cultures in Asia and other parts of the world.

Asia-Pacific Culture Studies

Going through major changes in economy and international exchanges, the Asia-Pacific region is rapidly growing. In this sense it is one of the most active regions in the world. However, just following the superficial flow of such development is not enough to understand the characteristics of the region. East Asia, Southeast Asia and the Pacific Area all have extremely complex and diverse traditions, and have been transformed by the wave of globalization. Therefore, in order to have a deep understanding of the characteristics of the region, we need to conduct specialized in-depth studies on many aspects including social structure, religion, history and economic circumstances. This course has a well-established guidance system where professors with diverse specialties teach research methods in classes on a broad range of research fields.

Students' research themes

- Studies on Thai wives who have Japanese husbands
- Representations and practices of Ainu Culture today ---Case studies of cultural activities in Shiraoi town
- Historical studies on the influence on the Japanese image in Australia from the early development of Australian-Japan relationships
- Naxi native official surnamed Mu in Lijiang, Yunnan during the Ming Period 14-17 centuries
- College students' conflicts about love and sex in Indonesia
- Studies on secretaries and the training of secretaries in Outer Mongolia in the Qing period
- A study about the Ownership of Farmlands and its Contracts in Inner Mongolia during Manchu Qing Period: Cases in Guihuacheng Tümed Banner (12th Asia Pacific Research Prize Winner article)

Teaching staff

Tomomi ITO, Professor

Subjects: Culture and Society in Southeast Asia

Research fields: Thai studies, studies on modern social history, Buddhism and women

Shinichi TANIGAWA, Professor

Subjects: Society and Economy in China

Research fields: Chinese politics and society

Makoto TACHIBANA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Culture and Society in East Asia

Research fields: Modern history of Mongolia, Studies on international relations in East Asia

Yasushi SADAYOSHI, Professor

Subjects: National Integration in Southeast Asia

Research fields: Modern history of Indonesia, studies on overseas Chinese

Hiroki FUKAGAWA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Culture and Society in Oceania

Research fields: Cultural anthropology, social anthropology, personhood and sociality

European and American Culture Studies

In the European and American Culture Studies Course, we conduct multifaceted and comprehensive education and research on European and American societies and cultures, which have been playing a central role in world politics, economy and culture in modern times. Although the cultures developed in these regions have spread worldwide, it is being critically reexamined. Moreover, there has recently been progress on studies on the societies and cultures in Europe and America that only played a peripheral role in establishing the modern era. Based on these past achievements, we reexamine Western thoughts and values that are deeply rooted in our modern lives and consciousness, and seek their meanings in the 21st century. We want to reveal the unknown depths of Europe and America through a course of concrete studies in a wide range of fields including history, language, religion, philosophy, literature, art and society.

Students' research themes

The "German Legends" of the Grimm Brothers, A Study on William Morris, Acceptance of Victorian Culture in "Harry Potter", Modern French Fashion, Czech Romani Literature, Czech Baroque Studies, A Study on C. Bronte Establishment of the Mirandese language, Analysis of Visual Gags in I Love Lucy, Stereotype of the Japanese People in Hollywood Movies, Problems of Italian Immigration in America, Pacifism, Isolationism and Populism in the United States of America during Interwar Periods, Japan-Russian Relations through the Imperial Families, Belarusian Nationalism, Chinese Immigrants to the US.

Teaching staff

Takuya OZAWA, Professor

Subjects: Latin America and Global History

Research fields: Latin America, especially the modern history of Central America, ethnic issues and culture concerning export crops that impact Central American society.

Takuya NISHITANI, Professor

Subjects: Literary and Visual Culture in North America

Research fields: American literature, especially Herman Melville, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and other writers of the American Renaissance; film studies, especially adaptation studies and comparative studies in the narrative representation in film and literature.

Taro KINUGASA, Lecturer

Subjects: History of German and Central-Eastern Europe

Research fields: Modern and contemporary history of German and central-eastern European borderlands, the separatist movement and migration in Silesia.

Asami NAKAMURA, Lecturer

Subjects: Religion and Culture in Britain

Research Fields: Anglophone literature, particularly utopian/dystopian fiction and science fiction (SF). My research interests include nostalgia, gender and sexuality and posthuman philosophy.

Satoru FUKAMACHI, Lecturer

Subjects: Trans-border Literature

Research fields: British literature, military science fiction (especially Invasion literature), propaganda studies, and British near-future war fiction from late 19th century to WWII.

Cultural Anthropology

The Cultural Anthropology Course specializes in various themes and regions providing a high-quality education and research curriculum. Today's various cultural issues are characterized by the dynamism of the conflict, division, integration, reconciliation, generation and extinction of various cultures and values under the influence of globalization. In the course, we consider methods of allowing dialogues among various cultures based on deep intercultural understanding, by viewing the world from down-to-earth research investigation field work with broad and flexible perspectives. We welcome students who wish to be internationally successful specialists and researchers and foreign students who wish to conduct high-level anthropological studies.

Students' research themes

Master's program: cargo cult, Kazakh identity, tourism, multicultural orientalism, post-Soviet period, postcolonial, status of women in China, Boze in Akuseki Island, local Hawaiian, Peruvian living in Japan, primitive art, kula trade, fare trade in Bangladesh, Education of Nation-State, Over Sea Korean, International marriage, Vietnamese in Japan, Cultural Heritage, World Heritage, Murti-culturalism in Japan, Nikkei in Argentine, Korean American, Hispanic, bilingualism, Chinese American, Caribbean in America, Brooklyn Carnival, Native Canadian, sustainable tourism, ethnic media, multiracial in America, ethnic identity, South Americans in Japan, Nikkei Brazilian, Nikkei Hawaiian, life history, diaspora, transnationalism, Dominican baseball migrants, Pentecostalism in Jamaica, Rastafarian, Christianity and contextualization, development and women in Mexico, participation and development
Doctoral program: cultural authenticity, Aneityum of Vanuatu, historical anthropology, refugee, Karenni, homestay, the Experiment in International Living Care and Family of Korea, Social Change of Korean Village in China, Feminization of Migration, Over-Sea Chinese in Vietnam, Anthropology of Tourism on Vietnam, masculinity, gender in the Caribbean, popular music, reggae, soca, dancehall, identity politics, mixed race, 'Hafu', representation

Teaching staff

Kiyoshi UMEYA, Professor

Subjects: Ethnology

Research fields: Social anthropology, East African ethnography, studies on witchcraft and sorcery, Japanese folk-religion, anthropology of development

Yuka OISHI, Associate Professor

Subjects: Social Anthropology

Research Fields: Ecological anthropology, environmental anthropology, global history, subsistence, material culture, Siberian ethnography, Arctic area studies

Hiroki OKADA, Professor

Subjects: Ethnographic Research

Research fields: Societies in East Asia and Vietnam, re-organization of families and religions in the process of colonization and modernization, minorities and multiculturalism, space anthropology.

Tsuyoshi SAITO, Professor

Subjects: Cultural Anthropology

Research fields: Social anthropology, Middle Eastern ethnography, anthropological Islamic studies, Morocco

Hisashi SHIMOJO, Associate Professor

Subjects: Contemporary Cultural Anthropology

Research Fields: Historical anthropology, Vietnamese and Southeast Asian studies, water frontier, wet zomia, ethnicity, religion, hybridity, migration/refugee, war, socialism, survival

Transcultural Studies

As globalization continues, people and goods are increasingly crossing various borders, including national borders. In this course, we aim to comprehensively address the issues arising from a variety of transboundary movements, focusing on three perspectives: immigration, tourism, and science and technology. Through these lenses, we deepen our understanding of the conflicts and transformations resulting from the asymmetrical encounters of civilizations and cultures that globalization inevitably brings.

Students' research themes

Master's program: Foreigners in Meiji Japan, Text-Image Relations in the Classics, Gardens in Myths, View of Nature, Environmental Issues, Food and Toxic Chemicals, Whitehead's Philosophy of Organism, Xu Guang-qi's View on Mathematics

Teaching staff

Hirota INOUE, Professor

Subjects: History of Trans-border Societies

Research fields: American studies with a focus on the history of intellectuals in the United States.

Masato KARASHIMA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Transborder Societies and Cultures

Research fields: International History of Tourism, Political Economy of Knowledge and Culture.

Togo TSUKAHARA, Professor

Subjects: Science, Technology and Society, etc.

Research fields: Science history and technological societies.

International Relations and Comparative Politics

In the International Relations and Comparative Politics course we welcome students with an interest in Japanese politics and foreign affairs.

Professors in our department specialize in international relations, international political economy, security studies, public policies and urban administration.

In their research, graduate students cover diverse areas including countries such as Japan, China, India, Europe, America, Middle East, etc.

The staff, along with graduate and undergraduate students, are actively engaged in research in line with the international standard.

Students will master a variety of methodologies and approaches through team teaching run by the academic staff.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. This department also offers foreign students the opportunity to study the internal politics and diplomacy of their home country from a comparative perspective.

Students' research themes

Thematic approach: Regional integration, Preventive diplomacy, Conflict and Peace building, Security, Ethnopolitics, Party politics, Democratization, Welfare state, Educational policy, Transnational relations, Contemporary history of International relations

Regional approach: EU studies, French politics, British politics, German politics, Spanish politics, Italian politics, Politics in Northern Europe, American politics, Politics in the Middle East, Politics in ex-Yugoslavia, Indian politics, Sino-Japanese relations, Sino-American relations, Politics in the Mediterranean

Teaching staff

Satoru NAKAMURA, Professor

Subjects: Regional Politics

Research fields: Preventive diplomacy in the Middle East, Middle Eastern political economy, Saudi Arabian history

Sho NIKAWA, Lecturer

Subjects: Political Institutions

Research fields: Making and breaking governments in democracies, politics in Germany and Europe, political science methodology (especially qualitative and multimethod research)

Maraharu YASUOKA, Professor

Subjects: Contemporary Politics

Research fields: Comparative public policy, American politics and government, urban politics contemporary modern American politics (especially the federal system and urban issues)

David ADEBAHR, Lecturer

Subjects: International Relations

Research fields: International relations theory, international relations of the Asia-Pacific, Japanese foreign policy.



Modernity Studies

The basic framework of our contemporary society consists of three distinct realms: the techno-economic structure, the polity, and the culture. The ruling principles of these three realms, such as functionary rationality, the idea of equality, and the expression & realization of "self," originated in Western Europe with the arrival of the modern period. Today, however, these principles are proved to be discordant and are being shaken to their roots along with the progress of globalization. This situation demands a re-examination of the meaning of "modernity" and an accurate reading of just where the world is (should be) heading in this ongoing upheaval. The Modernity Studies Group covers a wide range of disciplines from social thought, economic thought, political thought to epistemology and history of modern science. Through careful analysis of the prevailing principles of the three realms of the modern world, we aim to cultivate firmly grounded capabilities of cogitation that are required for tackling actual issues in our society.

Students' research themes

Master's program: M. Foucault and Herculine Barbin, Peter Berger's idea of "everyday" and religion, Alfred Schutz's idea of "relevance"

Doctoral program: Ernst Junger, "technology," Niklas Luhmann, social system theory, Herbert Spencer, modernization of Japanese society, D. H. Lawrence, eco-criticism

Teaching staff

Naritoshi UENO, Professor

Subjects: Modern Political Thought

Research fields: History of political and social thought. I analyze such key concepts as "violence," "liberty" and "public sphere" in the form of social philosophy, focusing on the history of thought concerning the philosophers of the Frankfurt School including Horkheimer and Adorno. [I have published "Frontier of the Thought – Violence" (Iwanami Shoten).]

Yuji SHIKANO, Assistant Professor

Subjects: Modern Social Thought

Research fields: Philosophy, psychoanalytic theory and social thought. I explore the modern social thought and culture, based on the studies on the philosophy of Gilles Deleuze. His books include "Gilles Deleuze's The Logic of Sense: event, amor fati and permanent revolution" (Iwanami Shoten) and "Gilles Deleuze and Theories of revolution" (Ibunsha).

Yuriko TANAKA, Professor

Subjects: Philosophy and History of Modern Science

Research fields: Epistemology (philosophy of human scientific knowledge), 19th & 20th centuries' history of atomic physics and biomedicine. [I have published "History of the Body, Suffering and Living" (Seidosha).]

Tetz HAKODA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Modern Social Thought

Research fields: History of social thought, contemporary critical thought and political ecology. I read modern social philosophy in the context of current developments in critical thought and contemporary issues such as the climate crisis, extractivism and logistics. [I have published "Michel Foucault and the Concept of Government: An Introduction" (Kodansha).]

Contemporary Social Issues

The interaction between humans, society and nature has significantly changed and is becoming increasingly complex in modern society. The objective of the "Contemporary Social Issues" course is gaining understanding of contemporary society through an interdisciplinary approach that bridges the humanities and social sciences in exploring leading issues in modern society. For example, we analyze the changes in thinking surrounding nation states, families and individuals from the perspective of gender theory to capture socially constructed human relations; envision an equitable solution to global challenges such as cultural friction, absolute poverty, human-rights violation, climate change and seek to understand human nature and society in a multicultural world faced with informatization of the consumer society facilitated by innovation in media technology. The "Contemporary Social Issues" course disentangles these conflicting problems theoretically and provides a means of tackling them realistically.

Students' research themes

- Gender division of labor in the home in urban China
- Euthanasia seen from the perspective of the right to self-determination
- Why is the sex selection of a child unacceptable?
- Racism in dance hall reggae
- A sociological study of "created communities"
- Urban youth subcultures in Japan: The changing perception of public space with reference to the case of parkour
- NPO/NGO network media: Is accessing the public sphere possible through the Internet?
- Occupation and sexuality: GHQ's policy-making on prostitution (Doctoral dissertation)
- Feminism as relation: From the perspective of interaction between images, individuals and methodology
- Changes of heart and the development of moral individualism (Doctoral dissertation)

Teaching staff

Kaoru AOYAMA, Professor

Subjects: Gender and Society

Research fields: Sociology, migration, gender and sexuality. I am also interested in issues such as globalization, multiculturalism, social exclusion and inclusion, the right to intimacy and representation. She is pursuing a combination of theoretical and empirical research methodologies to look into phenomena that cause changes across public and private lives such as immigration, care / sex workers, same-sex marriage, and gender identity "disorder."

Hiroki OGASAWARA, Professor

Subjects: Media and Cultural Studies

Research fields: I am studying sociology and cultural studies. I am critically examining the relationship between multicultural capitalism and racism especially in the fields of media and sport from empirical, theoretical and historical perspectives.

Haruko KUDO, Associate Professor

Subjects: Norms and Cultures

Coming from transnational sociology, my research focuses on the relationship between international migration and gender and sexuality, particularly the norms of sexuality in refugee and forced migration. Having worked in the humanitarian field, I am also interested in the issue of violence within humanitarian assistance/activities and the power relations between humanitarian workers and beneficiaries.

Tetsu SAKURAI, Professor

Subjects: Contemporary Jurisprudence

Research fields: My speciality is legal philosophy; I am particularly engaged in "global justice," i.e., how we should understand the meaning of national borders when we address global issues such as absolute deprivation, economic disparities, human rights violations and environmental pollution. I am now working on conflicts between universal human rights and national sovereignty that contemporary large-scale immigration raises.

Akihiko NISHIZAWA, Professor

Subjects: Contemporary Social Theory

Research fields: I am studying sociology and urban studies. I have been dealing with contemporary social problems, focusing on the life-world and the identity of the urban poor confronted with social exclusion. [My recent books include *The Sphere of Poverty: Who is excluded?*, *Kawadeshobo Shinsha*, etc.]

Art, Culture and Society Studies

Art and Culture Theory Courses are configured from an arts and culture environment system and content-based arts and culture. Research is conducted on fine art (painting), literature, performing arts (music, opera, theater), and fashion art and how they are related to society.

In content-based arts and culture, social awareness and the worldview as reflected through analysis of artwork are considered. In the arts and culture environment system, arts management connects the arts and society examining and the grand design of cultural policies, considering factors such as the right of easy access to art and actual cultural facility management from an international perspective.

In this course, we welcome candidate students, regardless of their undergraduate major, who are interested in art and supporting its environment as well as those who are keen to undertake specialist learning.

Students' research themes

Master's program: Local community, Public theater organizational management, Network formation between non-profit organizations, Community art, Art project in sojin area Social and Cultural Center in Berlin, Civic activities and cultural policy in Sweden, Protection and application of cultural heritages: historic sites of France and China, City space improvement in Paris, Congolese Diaspora in Belgium, Indie bands of Japan and Korea, Church building during the Russian Imperial Period, Japonism, Tadamaso Hayashi, French Impressionist painter Gustave Caillebotte, French Women Writer, Japanese avant-garde calligraphy and abstract expressionism painting, Women and modes in France, Japanese Street Fashion.

Doctoral program: Cultural Policy and social inclusion, Modern advertising in Japan, Daumier and the modern city of Paris, Acceptance of modern French music in prewar Japan, Formation of Japanese ceramics collections in France and the trade between Japan and France, Kenji Miyazawa and the optics, Cultural policy in Singapore.

Teaching staff

Keiko ISHIDA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Art Theory

Research fields: Aesthetics and art theory. I conduct studies under such themes as the relations between art and politics in modern times and the artistic communication with others. I am also interested in recent trends in art that attempt to engage with social and political issues.

Yusuke ISOTANI, Lecturer

Subjects: Art in Contemporary Society

Research Fields: History of modern art, history of photography. I particularly work on photography in France between the two World Wars and its relationship to the contemporary changes in art, graphic design, and publishing industry. I am also interested in the roles played by art history, art museums, and libraries in the formation of photo history.

Yoshiko OKAMOTO, Lecturer

Subjects: Modernism in Art

Research fields: My main interest is theater studies, particularly Central and Eastern European operas and dramas at the turn of the twentieth century. I am currently analyzing Hungarian music theater works and the process of changes and expansion of their performances.

Eisuke TAKADA, Lecturer

Subjects: Contemporary Cultural Policy

Research fields: I specialize in the 19th-century Russian writer and playwright Chekhov. My research focuses on the relationship between literature and science, and the problems confronting humanity. I am also interested in contemporary Russian literature.

Linguistics and Communication Studies

Linguistics and Communication Studies course addresses the issues of cross-cultural communication, which are becoming increasingly important in the era of globalization. Language is the primary means of conveying concepts and messages to others and has a cultural dimension to it which is closely linked to human cognition, thoughts, and customs. Based on comparative and contrastive analysis of language structure and usage, this course aims to study a wide variety of aspects of human language communication, such as the pragmatic functions of language, second language acquisition, literary texts, and figurative language, as well as to explore more effective methods of teaching Japanese as a second language. Classes for fundamental and applied research are offered to help students develop skills in research and practical teaching.

Students' research themes

Master's program: Fillers in Japanese and French, Persuasion and Rhetoric, Words written in Katakana, Translation of onomatopoeia in comics, Bilingualism, Social aspect of Japanese language education.

Doctoral program: Compound verbs, Rhetoric of fiction, Free indirect speech and stylistics, Contrastive study of verbs in Japanese and Chinese, Acquisition of L2 morphosyntax, Historical study of Japanese language education, Effects of corrective feedback in the learning of L2 Japanese *ni, de, o*.

Teaching staff

Yuki ISHIDA, Lecturer

Subjects: Usage-based Linguistic Typology

Research fields: My research interest is the analysis of French literature in terms of linguistics and narratology. I am working on ideological and cultural issues such as self-identity, happiness, translation and Cross-cultural understanding. My current research deals with self-narrative and happiness of self-narrative.

Naoe KAWAKAMI, Lecturer

Subjects: Teaching Japanese as a Second Language (Practical application)

Research fields: My research field is the historical study of Japanese language education. In particular, I am interested in the historical progress of the Japanese language in Japan and China. By analyzing Japanese learning and teaching from a historical perspective, I explore the significance, role and status of Japanese language education in society. I am also interested in studying training for non-native Japanese teachers.

Tetsuta KOMATSUBARA, Lecturer

Subjects: Rhetorical Communication Theory

Research fields: My main focus involves the field of figurative language study. Specific attention goes to pragmatic effects of metaphor and metonymy, to creative meaning in wordplay, and to grammatical constructions of figurative language. My theoretical orientation is mainly that of cognitive linguistics, with a special emphasis on conceptual metaphor theory and cognitive grammar.

Miho SAITO, Associate Professor

Subjects: Teaching Japanese as a Second Language (Method)

Research fields: My main research interests are the analysis of modern Japanese grammar, including regional dialects, and the teaching methods of Japanese as a second language to children with foreign roots. In recent years, I have become particularly interested in supporting their acquisition of the academic language.

Junko TANAKA, Professor

Subjects: Second Language Acquisition

Research fields: My research interests include the role of feedback and output in Second Language Acquisition (SLA) processes and the role of individual differences in SLA such as age, language aptitude, and motivation. My current research project deals with how a concept in a second language (L2) that does not exist in the learners' first language (L1) can be correctly or incorrectly segmented and mapped onto L2 morphology. I am also interested in classroom SLA as well as SLA in naturalistic or multilingual contexts.

Yusuke MINAMI, Associate Professor

Subjects: Comparative and Contrastive Linguistics

Research fields: My primary interest lies in analyzing grammatical constructions in English and Japanese from the perspective of cognitive and functional linguistics, which holds that linguistic signs are motivated by human cognitive abilities and communicative purposes. My main works include shedding light on grammatical constructions that have not drawn much attention in the literature and exploring what they reveal about the organization of the speaker's linguistic knowledge.

Human Communication

Human Communication Program presents a wide range of opportunities for research about communication based on human sciences and cognitive sciences. Students can learn advanced knowledge of communication by studying phonetics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, psychology, neurology, and performance science.

A PhD candidate must learn basic skills of statistics and will be advised to master an advanced level of statistics. Research should be performed through evidence-based studies. You have to gather enough data in both quality and quantity before you come to a conclusion.

Our M.A. program is divided into two tracks; the career enhancement track and the researcher track.

Carrier enhancement track is aimed at students who want to develop skills for a career outside of academic societies. Students will acquire up-to-date knowledge and research skills. Students, with guidance from professors and senior students, will submit an MA report.

The researcher track is more aimed at students who want to go on to do a Ph.D. with more focus on research skills than the Career enhancement track. The other main difference is that students submit an M.A. thesis to complete the course.

Students' research themes

- The influence of working memory contents on visual search
- Cueing effects of target location probability and repetition
- A Japanese-Chinese comparison on syntax and sentence delivery
- The traits of tandem learning, seen from scenes of language output difficulties
- Changes in prosody caused by shadowing training of Japanese
- Recognition and acoustic features of attitudes realized in Chinese
- Performer-and-audience dynamics in music communication

Teaching staff

Ryo KITADA, Professor

Subjects: Nonverbal Communication

Research fields: Focuses of my research are (1) to understand the mechanisms underlying multisensory perception and social cognition and (2) how innate and postnatal experience are interacted with each other to develop them. I use multiple methods (e.g., psychophysics and neuroimaging techniques) to address these questions.

Ryoko HAYASHI, Professor

Subjects: Neurolinguistics

Research fields: Speech science, psycholinguistics. I am researching phonetics in Japanese and other languages as well as experimental solutions to the difficulties in pronunciation for foreign languages. Also, I am interested in speech disabilities, linguistic development and the difference in teaching speech communication between countries.

Kai MAKITA, Lecturer

Subjects: Interactional Grammar

My research interests include cognitive psychology, neuroscience, development, developmental disorders, and linguistics. In my research, I mainly use structural and functional brain imaging to study cognitive functions and behaviors, such as human development, perception, and learning. In carrying out my research, I would like to deepen my research from a cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective.

Eriko MATSUMOTO, Professor

Subjects: Neuropsychology and Communication

Research fields: Cognitive psychology, neuropsychology, and cognitive neuroscience. I am interested in how human brain represents the higher-cognitive functions such as the visual perception, attention, and social interactions. I would like to make it clearer through brain imaging techniques and experimental psychological methods. I am also interested in the effects of emotional stimuli on cognitive process.

Tomoko TATSUMI, Associate Professor

Research fields: Child language acquisition, psycholinguistics. I am studying young children's language learning by using experimental and corpus-analysis methods. I am especially interested in how our linguistic experience is processed and organized into a grammatical knowledge.

Computers and Communication

The Computer Communication course is a course on using information technology, such as computers and the Internet, for teaching and research. This course teaches the latest online information skills, collection, analysis and sorting of communicative information on computers, and other such immediately useful high-level information processing skills, which will also allow more effective communication in future.

Students' research themes

Analysis of the forms of study in branches of information, Automated classification of literature XML searching method Learning system for IT specialists Error-checker in foreign language learning systems, Utilization of memory mechanism in learning systems, Bottom-up question support system, Communication-based city rating, Reverse onomatopoeia dictionary, User interface, Communication assistance

Teaching staff

Min KANG, Professor

Subjects: Computer Simulation

Research fields: The adaptation of information communication technology to computer education and foreign language education. In particular, I am focusing on using statistics-based approaches to extract the user's preferences and give them the information that suits their needs.

Hidenari KIYOMITSU, Professor

Subjects: Information Systems and Databases

Research fields: I aim to use data at a higher level, through web information systems and databases. The theme is being able to personalize output for each user based on time, place, user profile, access history and so forth.

Takeshi NISHIDA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Applied Computer Science

Research fields: I am researching human-human interaction using info-communication technology, as well as human-computer interaction. In particular, I put focus on (1) developing systems based on reflection of common communication problems such as the difficulty of reaching consensus, giving criticism, or talking in foreign languages, and (2) learning from testing systems developed in actual situations.

Hajime MURAO, Professor

Subjects: Social Systems Science

Research fields: Using "soft information processing" technology and multi-agent systems to research the intelligent actions of humans and other groups of living things, analyzing and adapting the results. The targets include small groups of individuals, society, the economy, and the Internet.

Makiko OYAMA, Associate Professor

Subjects: to be opened in 2024

Research Fields: Educational technology research in university education. In particular, I am focusing on reflection as a form of thinking that deepens learning, analyzing the impact of reflection on learning effectiveness, and developing tools to promote reflection.

Systems of Second Language Education

The graduate program in the Systems of Second Language Education is committed to analyzing a diversity of linguistic phenomena through different modes of inquiry. We examine language through its phonetic systems, acquisition, use in context, and via psycholinguistic models. By valuing the legitimacy and relevance of research at every level of analysis, we aim to help students to build a foundation for language studies. Specifically, we focus on:

- researching language pedagogy by applying knowledge in linguistics, psychology, and related fields
- exploring learners' second language developmental processes from SLA perspectives
- investigating the psycholinguistic and cognitive processes involved in language learning
- researching a range of methods and approaches for teaching literary works
- exploring the environment for language teaching and learning with ICT

Students' research themes

Master's program: Use of Lexical Stress Information in Silent Reading and Speech Production by Japanese Learners of English: Evidence from Eye Movements and Naming Tasks, The Effects of Short-Term Overseas Training and Corrective Feedback on Second Language Writing of Japanese Learners of English

Doctoral program: The automatization of grammatical encoding process during oral sentence production by Japanese EFL learners: A syntactic priming, An investigation of the automaticity in parsing for Japanese EFL learners: Examining from psycholinguistic and neurophysiological perspectives

Teaching staff

Atsuhisa SHIMAZU, Professor

Subjects: Language and Cultural Representation

Research fields: Modern American literature. I am particularly interested in Jewish American literature, and am attempting to decipher Bernard Malamud's novels and short stories from the perspective of expression.

Yasunori TAKAHASHI, Associate Professor

Subjects: Contrastive Linguistics and Cognition

Research fields: Chinese linguistics, phonetics and phonology. I have researched tonal phenomena in Chinese dialects from both phonetic and phonological viewpoints.

Mayu HAMADA, Assistant Professor

Subjects: Language Learning Environments

Research fields: My area of research is psycholinguistics, and I am trying to explore the cognitive mechanisms of L2 comprehension and production especially focusing on syntactic processing in terms of the learners' input and output. I would like to use and adopt findings to classroom teaching.

Daichi HIROTA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Language and Culture I

Research fields: French literature. My object of study is modern French poetry represented by Baudelaire, and I am trying to describe his poetics from a linguistic viewpoint. In addition, I am interested in literary criticism and language teaching through the use of computers and the Internet.

Sachiko YASUDA, Professor

Subject: Linguistic Science (Second Language Acquisition & Foreign Language Pedagogy)

Research fields: My main area of research is in second language writing, particularly longitudinal development of academic literacy of EFL learners.

Rei YASUDA, Lecturer

Subjects: Language and Culture II

Research fields: phonetics in language teaching, contrastive phonetics. I am interested in teaching German pronunciation and currently working experimentally on how Japanese learners pronounce German.

Hirokazu YOKOKAWA, Professor

Subjects: Psycholinguistics and Language Teaching

Research fields: English education studies and psycholinguistics. My main research themes are L2 reading, writing, speaking and listening as well as the cognitive mechanisms for vocabulary, and how all of this might be adapted for practical applications in classes.

Contents in Second Language Education

The aim of the Contents in Second Language Education course is to actively contribute to innovations in language education by training researchers in the methods and directions of Applied Linguistics. In this course, we work with an academic base of linguistics (corpus linguistics, cognitive linguistics, pragmatics, conversation analysis, speech science, grammar, educational science and class theory) and emphasize research with a focus on practical use in the field of education. Through a multifaceted approach to the challenges of teaching other languages, students in this course will be sought after by education agencies all over the world. Even if you haven't specialized in linguistics in your undergraduate studies, we welcome any student with a desire to contribute to the globalization of society through second language education.

Students' research themes

Master's program: English intensifiers, English collocation, English causative verbs, English activating expressions, First and third person German verbs, Japanese katakana, shadowing, phonics rules, Focus-on-form pronunciation aids, English/Japanese code-switching

Doctoral program: Identity and second language use, Developing tests for elementary school English teacher suitability, Formulation in interaction, Japanese compound verbs, Similar forms in Chinese and Japanese, Developing interactional competence

Teaching staff

Shin'ichiro ISHIKAWA, Professor

Subjects: Applied Linguistics II

Research fields: My research fields cover applied linguistics, corpus linguistics, psycho-linguistics, and TESOL (especially vocabulary learning, development and analysis of teaching materials, and language teaching methodologies). I welcome any students who want to consider languages and language educations from a scientific perspective.

Harumi KASHIWAGI, Professor

Subjects: Second Language Learning and Technology

Research fields: Recently, I have been interested in developing a learning system by using the position information of learners and objects in real space. I am also interested in developing a listening-based learning system and a system with an interactive whiteboard. I welcome any students who are interested in developing a learning system with new technology. If you have any questions, e-mail me.

Emiko KIHARA, Associate Professor

Subjects: Second Language Pedagogy

Research fields: My research relates to Cognitive Linguistics, especially to constructions in English. I have focused on the correlation between form and meaning in English (written by the native speaker), and currently I am studying constructions spoken by L2 learners (Japanese college students).

Tim GREER, Professor

Subjects: Second Language Pragmatics

Research fields: I am interested in the relation between linguistic expressions and the way they are used. I specialize in L2 pragmatics, using qualitative investigation methods and detailed, empirical analysis of conversations. I research social activities involving words that come up in ordinary and bilingual conversation, as well as conversation in oral English ability tests. Additionally, I also research conversation analysis, identity construction and interactional competence.

Takeshi SATO, Professor

Subjects: Applied Linguistics I

My research focuses on the cognitive processes of second and foreign language acquisition and aims to apply this perspective to pedagogical recommendations such as the development of teaching materials and instructional design. My research takes a cognitive-linguistic approach, but more recently I have also adopted a socio-cultural approach.

Madoka SERIZAWA, Assistant Professor

Subjects: Applied Contrastive Linguistics I

My main area of research is historical pragmatics, and I especially analyze colloquialism/literary style, construction and vocabulary in print media in early modern Germany. Lately I am also interested in the relationship between text and images.

Xiao CHEN, Lecturer

Subjects: Applied Contrastive Linguistics II

My research interests lie primarily in Chinese syntactical and phonological history, with a special focus on Beijing Dialect in Qing Dynasty. I analyze the vocabulary, grammar, phonetics, and historical changes of Beijing dialect, using materials such as Manchu-Chinese translation textbooks and Chinese textbooks of the Meiji Period.

Advanced Communication (Joint Research Course in Doctoral Program)

The increasing problem of cultural friction as well as the matter of coexistence with robots, which is a concern we will face in the near future, is nothing if not a communication issue. What is human communication and what cultural differences does it reflect? What roles do languages, nonlinguistic actions, body language and paralinguistics play in communication? How can we make use of these in studying foreign languages? The Advanced Communication course is dedicated to using the latest technology to examine these issues, opening new possibilities for communication.

Joint Research with: Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International (ATR)

Students' research themes

Doctoral program:

- Effects of pronunciation training on foreign language learning
- The role of presenting visualized articulatory gesture in English education

Teaching staff

Akira UTSUMI, Invited Professor

Subjects: Advanced Communication

Research fields: Computer vision, gaze tracking, human-computer interaction

Hidenobu SUMIOKA, Invited Associate Professor

Subjects: Advanced Communication

Research fields: Communication between humans and robots

Carlos Toshinori ISHI, Invited Professor

Subjects: Advanced Communication

Research fields: Multimodal speech communication, paralinguistics, human-robot dialogue interaction.

