

**SPECIAL COURSE FOR  
DEVELOPMENT POLICY  
(MASTER'S COURSE)**

**Enrollment for the academic year  
beginning in October 2025**

**Graduate School of  
International Cooperation Studies  
(GSICS)**

Note:

As of 4 December 2024, the announcement date of results has been changed on page 4 "**8. Admission Process and Results**" as follows;

From May 14, 2025 to May 21, 2025

## **1. Overview and Number of Students Admitted**

Our master's program has a dual structure; the Japanese program starts in April and the English program (i.e., Special Course for Development Policy) starts in October. Accordingly, we have two enrollment periods: April and October. For a single academic year (from April to March), a total of 70 students are admitted. Generally, the October admissions account for one-third to one-half of incoming students.

## **2. Study Requirements and Degrees Granted**

Most students require two years to meet the degree requirements, but exceptional students may only need one year. The following requirements must be met: earn at least 30 credits (those who understand Japanese can take up to 12 credits from the subjects offered in the GSICS Program in Japanese), complete a master's thesis in English, and pass a final interview. Students who successfully complete these requirements are granted one of the following degrees: Master of International Studies, Master of Economics, Master of Laws, or Master of Political Science.

## **3. Eligibility for General Admission**

Only applicants who are not of Japanese nationality and can obtain a student visa for enrollment may apply to the Special Course for Development Policy. Categories of eligible applicants are as follows:

- (1) Those who have graduated from an accredited Japanese university, or will graduate it by the end of September 2025.
- (2) Those who hold a bachelor's degree according to the provisions of Article 104.4 in the School Education Act (No.26 of 1947), or will obtain one by the end of September 2025.
- (3) Those who have completed 16 years of academic education outside of Japan, or will complete it by the end of September 2025.
- (4) Those who have completed 16 years of formal education in foreign countries by taking a correspondence course through a non-Japanese university while residing in Japan, or will complete it by the end of September 2025.
- (5) Those who have graduated from a university in Japan that is a recognized university belonging to the system of higher education of a foreign country and is approved by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (only those who have completed at least 16 years of formal education), or will graduate it by the end of September 2025.
- (6) Those who have obtained a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree by attending an overseas university or other overseas school (limited to those whose education and research activities have been evaluated by persons who have been certified by the relevant country's government or a related institution, or have been separately designated by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology as being equivalent to such) and graduated from a program that requires three or more years to complete (including graduating

from a program implemented by the relevant overseas school while residing in Japan through distance learning, as well as graduating from a program implemented by an educational facility established with the relevant overseas country's school education system and has received the designation mentioned above).

- (7) Those who have graduated from a post-secondary course of a specialized training college recognized by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to applicants who have attended for at least 4 years, and to those who have fulfilled requirements as approved by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).
- (8) Those who have been approved by the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Ministry Notice No. 5 of 1953).
- (9) Those who are at least 22 years of age by September 30, 2025 and are recognized as possessing an academically ability suitable for graduate studies by GSICS.

#### Note

Applicants in the eligibility category 3(6), 3(7), 3(8) or 3(9) above must contact the GSICS Academic Affairs Office about eligibility. All inquiries must be accompanied with the following documents: curriculum vitae, official transcript from the last university attended (if any), and an explanation of the reasons for applying, including additional supporting evidence of eligibility. The documents outlined above must be received by February 5, 2025.

#### **4. Eligibility for Special Admission**

Applicants must satisfy the requirements for general admission. However, those who apply in accordance with the double degree programs established by GSICS or those who have been granted a scholarship from the following programs are eligible for special admission (See Section 6(6)).

- (a) Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS)
- (b) ADB-Japan Scholarship Program (ADB-JSP)

#### **5. Other Requirements**

Applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- (1) English proficiency: Applicants will need a sufficient command of English for graduate studies.
- (2) Accepted applicants must appear at the GSICS Academic Affairs Office no later than October 1, 2025 (i.e., before classes begin in the fall semester).

#### Note

Admission may be revoked:

- (1) If accepted applicants are not in Japan by the date specified above in 5(2) or
- (2) If accepted applicants fail to graduate from a university by the end of September 2025.

## 6. Application Documents (Application documents cannot be returned)

The following documents must be submitted: (by post)

(1) Application form (form enclosed)

A recent (within the last three months) photograph (4.5 cm × 3.5 cm) must be glued to the completed application form.

(2) Official transcript of undergraduate studies in English (Photocopy is not accepted)

If not in English, a translation should also be included.

(3) Official certificate of bachelor's degree in English (Photocopy is not accepted)

Applicants who have not yet graduated must provide an official letter from the university in which they are currently enrolled affirming the applicant's expected graduation and degree conferment by the end of September 2025.

If not in English, translation(s) should also be included.

(4) Research proposal (form enclosed)

(5) Letter of recommendation (form enclosed)

An original letter must be submitted; copy, in any form, is unacceptable. The letter should be from a person familiar with the applicant's academic work and English ability.

Instead of posting the letter, it may be sent directly to us ([gsics-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:gsics-kyomu@office.kobe-u.ac.jp)) by the email address from the institution of the person providing the recommendation.

[Email subject: Letter of Recommendation]

- Make sure that the letter must be sent by email within the application period.
- If the letter is sent directly from your recommender, enclose a note stating so, along with the other application documents.

(6) Letter of consent (form enclosed)

A letter of consent must be obtained from a prospective academic advisor.

\*1 Refer to the list of teaching staff (page 9-10)

\*2 This document is not required for those applying for special admission under the eligibility specified in Section 4 (a).

(7) Application fee: 30,000 yen (fee subject to change)

Please print the incoming email of payment completion and attach it to the application form (Refer to page 11)

Remittance charge (if any) is the responsibility of the applicant.

(8) Photocopy of the passport personal information page

\*1 Applicants residing in Japan must also submit a photocopy of their residence card.

\*2 Applicants without a passport at the time of application must submit a photocopy of a citizenship certificate instead.

(9) Official TOEFL or IELTS score report (if available).

Applicants from undergraduate programs not conducted in English are strongly encouraged to submit their official TOEFL or IELTS scores.

**TOEFL**

Submit an official "Test Taker (Examinee) Score Report" (Photocopy is not accepted) or request that ETS forward an "Official Score Report" to GSICS to be received no later than April 16, 2025 (DI Code:3341, Department Code: 80). TOEFL-ITP is not accepted.

Only if you submit the Score Report through ETS Data Manager, please enclose a

photocopy of the Score Report.

**IELTS**

Submit an official “Test Report Form” (Photocopy is not accepted) or request that the testing center forward an original “Test Report Form” to GSICS to be received no later than April 16, 2025.

**Note**

Applicants who have graduated or will graduate from a university in China, if admitted, must apply for the certificate of their bachelor's degree and transcript provided by China Higher Education Student Information (CHSI) without delay. Details will be communicated to each successful applicant in this category after the admission decision.

**7. Application Deadline**

All application documents must be submitted as a single packet to the GSICS Academic Affairs Office by registered mail.

Application documents must be received by GSICS between April 2, 2025 and April 16, 2025.

Application documents brought in directly cannot be accepted.

**8. Admission Process and Results**

Admission decisions will be made based on the submitted application. On May 21, 2025, the results will be posted on the GSICS website and an official letter be sent. No telephone inquiries will be accepted.

**9. Registration**

- (1) All necessary documents for the admission procedures will be mailed to successful applicants along with the notification of the application result.
- (2) The fall semester begins on October 1, 2025. All entering students must obtain a student visa and attend the GSICS New Student Guidance.
- (3) Fees (subject to change): Entrance fee: 282,000 yen.  
Tuition fee: 535,800 yen/year (267,900 yen/semester).

**10. Additional Information**

- (1) Incomplete application cannot be accepted.
- (2) Application documents cannot be altered after submission.
- (3) The application fee is non-refundable.
- (4) To obtain a letter of consent, applicants for general admission are advised to contact a prospective academic advisor well in advance.

- (5) Financial support, including scholarships and accommodations for international students, is not guaranteed. Applicants should make separate arrangements.
- (6) Teaching staff who have their primary appointment in other faculties of Kobe University may only accept a limited number of students.
- (7) Successful applicants who have not completed their undergraduate study at the time of application must obtain a bachelor's degree by the end of September 2025. Otherwise, the admission will be cancelled.
- (8) If incorrect information is found on application, the admission will be cancelled.
- (9) Applicants who are in need of additional support to take an entrance examination and/or to conduct academic work should contact us by February 5, 2025.
  - \* This is for us to make every effort to ensure that all qualified applicants take full advantages of our programs and is not to restrict their application or study. If you need to take the entrance examination using adaptive equipment such as a hearing aid, crutches, and a wheelchair, please contact us in advance.

For further inquiries, please contact:

Academic Affairs Office

Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies, Kobe University

2-1 Rokkodai-cho, Nada-ku, Kobe 657-8501, JAPAN

Phone: +81-78-803-7267

Fax: +81-78-803-7297

URL: <http://www.gsics.kobe-u.ac.jp/>

## 11. Control and Prevention of Infectious Diseases

### Submission of a certificate demonstrating inoculation and an antibody test against measles and rubella:

Kobe University has implemented the *Measles and Rubella Registration Policy*, and all newly enrolled Kobe University students must submit one of the following three certificates (①, ②, or ③) to prevent a possible outbreak of measles and rubella on campus.

Please note that students admitted to the following schools are required to submit either ① or ③: School of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, or the Graduate School of Health Sciences.

① A vaccination certificate to prove that you have received two doses each of the measles and rubella vaccine after turning one year old (recommended)

② A vaccination certificate to prove that you were inoculated with measles and rubella vaccines each within the last five years (since April 2020).

③ An antibody certificate to prove that you have sufficient antibody titer in your blood (refer to the chart next page) to prevent the development of measles and rubella, based on the results of an antibody test performed within the last five years (since April 2020)

\* For ① and ②, a combined vaccine against measles and rubella (e.g., MR vaccine) is permissible.

\* For ① and ②, the certificate must be issued by an accredited medical institution and state the type of vaccine and the date of inoculation.

\* If you have a history of measles or rubella, please submit ③ or receive a vaccination and submit ① or ②.

\* For ③, the certificate must specify the measuring method and the measured values of antibody titer in your blood (refer to the next page), and it must satisfy the judging standard listed in the chart. A blood test report sheet itself can be accepted for submission.

If the antibody titer in your blood is insufficient, you must receive the necessary vaccination, and submit either ① or ②.

\* You may submit a combination of ①, ②, and ③ (e.g., ① for measles and ③ for rubella).

\* If your antibody titer level is below the threshold, yet you are unable to receive the vaccinations due to certain circumstances (such as illness or specific body conditions), please provide an official document (like a medical certificate) that explains the reason.

Procedure, deadline, and location for submission

- All successful undergraduate and graduate applicants enrolling in April (except the Graduate School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Health Sciences and the Graduate School of Maritime Sciences):

Please submit at the time of the medical checkup for new students scheduled in April.

• All successful graduate applicants enrolling in April (the Graduate School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Health Sciences, and the Graduate School of Maritime Sciences):

Submit the certificate to the following institution by the designated date:

- Students of the Graduate School of Medicine should submit directly to the Medical Center for Student Health, Kusunoki Branch, by April 21.
- Students of the Graduate School of Health Sciences should submit directly to the Physical and Mental Health Consultation Office (Myodani Campus), by April 21.
- Students of the Graduate School of Maritime Sciences should submit the form at the medical examination site on the day of the medical check-up for maritime sciences students.

• Successful applicants enrolling in October:

Please submit the form at the time of the medical check-up for students entering in October.

(Only for the Graduate School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Health Sciences):

Submit the certificate by end of December of your first year to the following:

- Students of the Graduate School of Medicine should submit directly to the Medical Center for Student Health, Kusunoki Branch.
- Students of the Graduate School of Health Sciences should submit directly to the Physical and Mental Health Consultation Office (Myodani Campus).

#### Measuring methods and judging standards for blood antibody titers

	Measuring Method	Judging Standard	Remarks
Measles	IgG — EIA method	8.0 $\leq$ positive (16.0 $\leq$ ) *	Positive result by one of these three methods. * For the School of Medicine (both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences: Positive result by one of these three methods, and must achieve values shown in brackets.
	PA method	256x $\leq$ positive (256x $\leq$ ) *	
	NT method	4.0x $\leq$ positive (8x $\leq$ ) *	
Rubella	HI method IgG—EIA method	32x $\leq$ positive 8.0 $\leq$ positive	Positive result by one of these two methods. (HI method is recommended)

- \* Antibody testing is not required if the vaccination history meets the requirements or if additional vaccinations are given.
- \* Make sure the above methods are followed when the antibody titer is measured in your blood.
- \* The protective antibody value differs according to the measuring method used. Please note that **the judging standards are higher than the usual standards used at medical institutions.**

Students who wish to enter the School of Medicine (the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences



should note that they are required to have a higher level of protective antibodies against measles, as indicated in brackets.

\* Before visiting a medical institution, please confirm in advance whether you can receive the necessary antibody tests and/or the vaccinations.

When you visit a doctor at a medical institution, make sure to present this document to obtain the necessary certificate(s). (In particular, when taking an antibody test, please ensure the measurement methods meet the above criteria.)

\* Points to consider when submitting a certificate:

- ① Please bring the original certificate along with one copy (A4 size).
- ② If the certificate is written in a language other than Japanese or English, please attach a document showing the Japanese or English translation.

<p>For further information, please refer to: Medical Center for Student Health, Kobe University      Tel: 078-803-5245 Student Support Division, Student Affairs Department, Kobe University Tel: 078-803-5219</p>
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## List of Teaching Staff

- Abbreviations under each name are the degrees students can apply for under the supervision of that person.
  - ◇ E: Master of Economics, Doctor of Philosophy in Economics
  - ◇ IS: Master of International Studies, Doctor of Philosophy
  - ◇ L: Master of Laws, Doctor of Laws
  - ◇ PS: Master of Political Science, Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science
  
- Faculty members whose names are followed by an asterisk (\*) have their primary appointment in other faculties of Kobe University, and may only accept a limited number of students.

### International Studies Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
NISHITANI Makiko PS, IS	Professor	International Relations, Global Governance, International Norms	International Relations, Special Seminar
AKAHOSHI Sho PS, IS	Associate Professor	International Institutions, Global Governance, Forced Migration Studies, Human rights and Humanitarianism	Issues in Peace and Development I, Special Seminar
OGAWA Keiichi E, IS	Professor	Economics of Education, Education Finance, Education Policy and Planning	Human Capital Development, United Nations and SDGs, World Bank and SDGs, Special Seminar
SAKURAI Aiko E, IS	Professor	Soft Countermeasures of Disaster Risk Reduction, Disaster Education, Disaster Risk Communication	Development Management, Special Seminar
SAKAUE Katsuki E, IS	Associate Professor	International Educational Development, Economics of Education, Evaluation of Education Policy	Social Research Methods for Development, Special Seminar
NAKAZAWA Minato * IS	Professor	Global Health, Public Health, Human Ecology and Demography	Demography, Medical Anthropology, Environmental Health, Special Seminar
KAMEOKA Masanori * IS	Professor	Global Health, Virology	Special Seminar
KONDO Tamiyo* IS	Professor	Housing Policy, Planning for Built Environment, Housing Recovery	Post-Disaster Recovery Planning, Special Seminar

### Development and Economics Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
TAKAHASHI Shingo E, IS	Professor	Labor Economics, Personnel Economics, Applied Econometrics	Statistics, Special Seminar
ITO Takahiro E, IS	Associate Professor	Development Economics, Applied Econometrics	Microeconomics, Special Seminar
UCHIDA Yuichiro E, IS	Professor	Development Economics, Economic Development in East Asia, Applied Economics/Econometrics	International Economics, Growth Theory, Special Seminar
KODAMA Masahiro E, IS	Professor	Development Macroeconomics, Structural Transformation	Macroeconomics, Special Seminar
KAWABATA Koji E, IS	Associate Professor	Applied Econometrics, Economic Development, Industrialization	Econometrics, Special Seminar

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
INOUE Takeshi E, IS	Associate Professor	Development Finance, Financial Inclusion, Remittances	Monetary Theory, Special Seminar
ZHAO Laixun * E, IS	Professor	International Trade, Foreign Investment, Multinational Labor-Management Relations, Cross-Border Pollution, International Merger	Special Seminar
KITANO Shigeto * E, IS	Professor	International Macroeconomics	Special Seminar
HAMAGUCHI Nobuaki * E, IS	Professor	Latin American Economy, Regional and Spatial Economics	Special Seminar
SATO Takahiro* E, IS	Professor	Indian Economy	Special Seminar

### International Law /Law and Development Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
SHIBATA Akiho L, IS	Professor	International Law	Introduction to International Environmental Law, International Polar Law II, Special Seminar
HAYASHI Mika L, IS	Professor	International Law	Introduction to International Cooperation Law, International Security and International Law, Special Seminar
YOTSUMOTO Kenji L, IS	Professor	Asian Constitutional Law	Law and State Building, Special Seminar
KANEKO Yuka L, IS	Professor	Law and Development, Comparative Law in Asia, Law in Disasters	Law and Economic Development, Special Seminar
SAITO Yoshihisa L, IS	Associate Professor	Social Law in Asia and Transition Economies	Law and Social Development, Special Seminar

### Political Science and Area Studies Program

Name	Position	Research Fields	Courses
MATSUNAMI Jun PS, IS	Professor	Comparative Study of Deregulation, Privatization and Local Governments	Japanese Politics, Local Government, Special Seminar
KIMURA Kan PS, IS	Professor	Korean Nationalism and Historical Disputes in Northeast Asia	Introduction to Political Analysis, Special Seminar
KAWAMURA Yusuke PS, IS	Associate Professor	Politics in the Middle East and North Africa, Social Policy in Authoritarian Countries	Principles of Political Research, Special Seminar
MINOHARA Tosh * PS, IS	Professor	US-Japan Relations, Diplomacy, International Politics, Intelligence, and Security Studies	Special Seminar

## 検定料のお支払いについて

下に表示のURL、または二次元コードから神戸大学検定料決済システムへアクセスし、クレジットカードまたはAlipayでお支払いください。  
 クレジットカードの名義人は出願者本人である必要はありませんが、お客様情報欄には、必ず出願者本人の情報を入力してください。  
 お客様情報欄に入力する氏名は、出願書類の氏名・表記と必ず一致させてください。  
 支払い完了の受信メールを印刷し、出願書類に添付してください。

学生種別	学部/研究科	支払金額	URL	QR code
大学院博士課程前期課程(修士)	国際協力研究科	¥30,660	<a href="https://univa.cc/VB2YuL">https://univa.cc/VB2YuL</a>	

内訳  
 ¥30,000 【検定料】  
 ¥660 【システム利用料(手数料)】

【神戸大学検定料決済システムの取り扱いクレジットカード等】



## Application fee payment method

Please access the Application Fee Payment System of Kobe University from the URL shown below or the QR code, and pay with a credit card or Alipay.  
 The credit card holder does not have to be the applicant, but please be sure to enter the applicant's information in the Customer information field.  
 Please make sure that the name you enter in the Customer information field matches the name and notation on the application form.  
 Please print the Incoming email of payment completion and attach it to the application form.

Student type	Faculty/Graduate	Amount of money	URL	QR code
Master's Program	Graduate School Of International Cooperation Studies	¥30,660	<a href="https://univa.cc/CMJDvx">https://univa.cc/CMJDvx</a>	

items  
 ¥30,000 【Application fee】  
 ¥660 【Remittance fee】

【Handling credit cards, etc. at the payment system of Kobe University】

