

Course Number	06063
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2006 「The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP)」

～Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students～

【1. Profile of the University】

①University Department	Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba			
②President	Yoichi IWASAKI			
③Address (Headquarters)	Tennoudai 1-1-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-8571, Japan			
④Contact	Division	Master's Program in Agro-bioresources Science and Technology, Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba		
	Contactperson's Name	Prof. Teruo HIGASHI	e-mail	labsoils@sakura.cc.tsukuba.ac.jp
	TEL/FAX Number	TEL: +81-29-853-4948, 4621/FAX: +81-29-853-4605		
⑤Web-Address	http://www.life.tsukuba.ac.jp			
⑥Enrollment (only GraduateSchool)	927 (include MEXT's Sholorship Students: 246)			

【2. Outline of the Course】

①Course	International Collaborative Expert Education Program for Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development
②Degree	Degrees of Master and Doctor (5 years)
③Graduate Course, Department	Master's Program in Agro-bioresources Science and Technology
	(Address) Tennoudai 1-1-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, 305-8571, Japan
④Collaboration (Universities, Graduate courses, Departments)	Doctoral Programs in Appropriate Technology and Sciences for Sustainable Development, Biosphere Resource Science and Technology, and Life Sciences and Bioengineering, Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba
⑤Quota	15 (include MEXT's Schlorship Students: 4) (include Japanese : 0)
⑥Faculties	73 (Full-time(only for this course): 58, Full-time(at the department offering this course):10, Parttime: 5)
⑦Representative of the Course	Job Title: Professor, Provost of Graduate School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba
	Name : Isao INOUE

【3. Contents of the Course】

1) Main Purpose of the Establishment of the Course

Master's program in Agro-bioresources Science and Technology and the related three doctoral programs have devoted their continuous efforts for these 30 years to establish the international education for sustainable agriculture through their collaborative networks and various activities with the experts from several international institutions in Asia and Pacific regions and those from the exchange programs with the partner universities of University of Tsukuba. This program aims the education to be the experts in agricultural and rural development through the program linkage with JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency), International Institutions and the partner universities, contributing ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) in master's and the subsequent doctor's programs. This program has also a strong linkage with the recently established special program of "Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development" supported by JICA from August 2006.

2) Program contents and features

The most characteristic feature of this program is to provide the curriculum having the subjects selected by our collaborative international institutions and the partner universities, and to support the carrier pass of the graduate students to be professionals in the international institutions and other appropriate jobs. For this purpose, in master's program, the intensive education on ESD consisting of the course works and the supervision of master thesis are included in collaboration with JICA, UNU (United Nations University), our partner universities in Asia, and also TASAE program supported by UNESCO. Moreover in the subsequent doctor's programs, a compound major/minor education system is introduced to facilitate the on-site research activities in the student's countries and areas. Through the programs above doctoral students will have high ability to integrate both their professional fields of science and their interdisciplinary aspects, and are expected to be capable of executing the sustainable agricultural and rural development in the international perspectives.

3) Educational and teaching system

In Master's curriculum currently established subjects in collaboration with JICA, UNU, and partner universities including the preparatory and depth subjects of "Methodology for Community Development", "Livelihood Improvement Approach", "Empowerment for the Entrepreneur Activities in Rural Area", "Facilitation for Farmers Groups Assistance" and others (8 subjects of 14 credits) besides the elective subjects consisting of "Farming Systems", "Rural development Policy and Planning", "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity" and others (9 subjects of 16 credits) and the basic subjects of "Scientific Papers Writing in English for the Students of Agro-bioresources Science and Technology" and "Basic Study on Agro-bioresources Science and Technology for Foreign Students"(2 subjects of 2credits) as well as those subjects necessary for master thesis preparation including "Exercise and Research Works: I and II"(a total of 18credits for two years). To complete the course a total of 30 credits from various subjects mentioned above and the dissertation are required, Supervision for master thesis is conducted by the members of our Master's Program having much experiences and research records, which will be helpful for the students to complete the master course successfully.

In the subsequent doctor's program, a compound major/minor education system is introduced. As minor, those subjects in the recently established special program of "Sustainable Agricultural and Rural Development" supported by JICA, are intended to promote the student's ability to integrate both their professional fields and the interdisciplinary aspects. On the preferential collaboration with the partner universities following several selected research topics are supervised for the student's doctoral thesis such as "Agro-technology development for marginal and salt-affected lands", "Appropriate technology development in forested rural area", "Biotechnology use for natural products from Tropics", "Conservation and management of natural resources", "Gender in rural development and poverty", "Sustainable use and technology development of forest resources".

4) Language of Education, eligibility, application methods, and selection criteria

English is the main language of this program, and all subjects are taught in English. Eligibility and application methods will be open at our Web site (<http://www.life.tsukuba.ac.jp>). Those applicants recommended by our partner universities and also by our collaborative international institutions/organization in Asian countries including Thailand, Philippines, Indonesia and China would get the priority to be selected as the candidates in our program. Followings are the important month and the procedures for the selection of candidates.

- 1) November: Official announcement of the program (application forms and guideline will be available on our Web site (<http://www.life.tsukuba.ac.jp>) and also sent to the partner universities and other institutions/organizations.
- 2) End of January: Deadline for application.
- 3) February: First stage of the selection of applicants based on the application documents, and second stage of the selection based on the interview/correspondence will be done by our representative members of Master's program, University of Tsukuba.
- 4) End of June: Notification of the entrance acceptance for those successful candidates selected from the University of Tsukuba.
- 5) Early July: Procedural preparation on their arrival to Japan will begin in collaboration with partner universities and institutions/organization.
- 6) November: Arrival in Japan as a status of research students.
- 7) December 1: Enrolling in this Master program as a full time students.
- 8) November 30: Graduation from the Master program (on November 30 for every year).
- 9) December 1: Enrolling in Doctoral Programs.

Notes: Since our university adopts trimester system of education, the enrolling will start on December 1 and graduate in November after appropriate terms, although most of the students in master programs enter into the course in April and graduate in March.

6) Carrier path for the graduates, and the expectation from follow –up program

As the graduates from this program is highly educated in ESD program, it is strongly expected to be involved as the professionals in any universities, and institutions/organization in agricultural and rural development sector in their own countries and others. Both encouragement for and recommendation of graduate students in an suitable carrier path will be realized through our intimate communication with the staffs in international institutions/organizations. In addition the context of the subjects in our program is expected to have a international standard of ESD program, and to be extended use among developing countries and the faculty development of partner universities.

7) Evaluation and assessment of this program

(ア) Internal committee of evaluation and assessment: Annual committee including partner universities members will be held where the workshop of the achievement of the planned program execution from the viewpoints of the number of students in this master and doctor programs, faculty development, the improvement of the text of this program, especially e-learning contents. The report of the evaluation and assessment will be open on the on-line Journal of Agricultural and Forestry research Center, University of Tsukuba.

(イ) External committee of evaluation and assessment: Two members from the universities in USA and Europe, one from UNESCO, and two from other university in Japan will be organized for this purpose to judge the achievement/accomplishment of initial aims of this program.