

Course Number	06051
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2006 「The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP)」

～Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students～

【1. Profile of the University】

①University Department	University of the Ryukyus, Graduate School of Engineering and Science		
②President	MORITA Moshin		
③Address (Headquarters)	1 Senbaru, Nishihara, Okinawa, 903-0213, Japan		
④Contact	Division	Faculty of Science, Academic Affairs Unit	
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⑤Web-Address	http://www.u-ryukyu.ac.jp		
⑥Enrollment (only Graduate School)	124	(include MEXT's Scholarship Students: 81)	

【2. Outline of the Course】

①Course	Okinawa International Marine Science Program
②Degree	Master's program + Doctoral program (2 + 3 years)
③Graduate Course, Department	Graduate School of Engineering and Science Doctoral Program: Marine and Environmental Sciences
	(Address)1 Senbaru, Nishihara, Okinawa, 903-0213, Japan
④Collaboration (Universities, Graduate courses, Departments)	University of the Ryukyus Graduate School of Engineering and Science Master's Program: Mathematical Sciences, Physics and Earth Sciences, Chemistry, Biology and Marine Sciences Graduate School of Education
⑤Quota	Master's Program: 10 (include MEXT's Scholarship Students: Ms. 7) Doctoral Program: 7 (" : Dr. 4) (include Japanese : 0)
⑥Faculties	56 (Full-time(only for this course):55 Full-time(at the department offering this course):1 Part-time:0)
⑦Representative of the Course	Job Title: Faculty of Engineering, Professor
	Name: MIYAGI Hayao

【3. Contents of the Course】

1. Scope

The University of the Ryukyus launches a new English-based graduation course called the Okinawa International Marine Science Program (OIMAP) from October 2007. The OIMAP provides state-of-the-art education in the area of subtropical marine sciences that covers biological sciences, environmental sciences, earth sciences, physics, chemistry and mathematical sciences.

Okinawa, a subtropical island prefecture, is famous for its unique natural environment. There are many unique indigenous types of flora and fauna, making it a fascinating place for biodiversity. Okinawa has been referred to as “The Galapagos of the Orient.” The Graduate School of Science at University of the Ryukyus has focused on interdisciplinary sciences, as well as basic sciences, to explore this unique environment. As a part of our research activities, we launched a “Comprehensive analyses on biodiversity in coral reef and island ecosystems in Asia and Pacific regions” program, which is supported by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) as part of its 21st Century Center of Excellence (COE) initiative. The excellent research standards associated with the COE program ensures the success of the OIMAP.

Okinawa shares many characteristics in nature, culture and tradition with Asian-Pacific countries, which is one of the greatest advantages for international students who study in the University of the Ryukyus. Since 1989, we have supervised more than 150 international students who are all active in their home countries. It is our goal to help foster world-leading scientists on the basis of our achievements at University of the Ryukyus.

2. Course

The OIMAP offers three major courses for international students, i.e. Biosciences, Environmental Sciences, and Physics, Chemistry and Mathematical Science courses. The Graduate School faculty offers a comprehensive range of science classes and supervises research activities in the OIMAP. Each student will study under the supervision of three supervisors: a senior supervisor, an associate supervisor and an assistant supervisor.

(1) Biosciences course

The flora and fauna of the Ryukyu Archipelago evolved out of a long geological process from the existence of a land bridge 200,000 years ago, through its fragmentation, and beyond. They have been influenced by a mild and moist climate caused by the “Kuroshio” ocean current and Asian Monsoon. By exploring unique plants, animals and microbes inhabiting Okinawa, students will study the fundamentals of Biosciences from a molecular level to a global scale.

(2) Environmental Sciences course

This state-of the-art course in environmental sciences is designed to provide students with a deeper understanding of subtropical islands-ocean environments. They will be involved in a comprehensive field of research covering areas such as oceanography, marine sciences, atmospheric sciences, earth sciences and biological production.

(3) Physics, Chemistry and Mathematical Sciences course

Students on this course will study the fundamental sciences. The course includes marine natural product chemistry, marine natural resources, mineralogy, functional compound chemistry, condensed matter physics, theoretical physics, computational physics, mathematics and logic.

3. Scholarship

We will accept 10 students for the master's and 7 students for the doctoral courses each year. Among them, MEXT scholarships are available for 7 students on the master's course and 4 students on the doctoral course.

Master's course (two years)

10 students (7 scholarship students and 3 non-scholarship students)

Doctoral course (three years)

7 students (4 scholarship students and 3 non-scholarship students)

Please Note: there are entrance examinations for both courses. An entrance examination for the doctoral course is required, even if the student concerned has completed the master's course at the University of the Ryukyus.

4. Application

Applicants can choose one of the following methods: direct submission from the applicant, or by recommendation from a university that has an existing international exchange agreement with the University of the Ryukyus. A list of universities with existing international exchange agreements with the University of the Ryukyus can be found on our web page. All applicants are requested to undergo internet-interviews through e-mail communication. Interviewers will appraise and mark the applicant's research capabilities, English abilities, as well as the appropriacy of the applicant's proposed research area. Please Note: if the applicants' mother tongue is not English, she or he must have attained a "TOEFL" score higher than 550. For further details, see the URL below:

<http://www.u-ryukyu.ac.jp>

