

Course Number	06053
---------------	-------

2006 「The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP)」

～Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students～

【1. Profile of the University】

①University Department	National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) Graduate School of Policy Studies			
②President	YOSHIMURA Toru			
③Address (Headquarters)	7-22-1, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8677 JAPAN			
④Contact	Division	Admissions Office		
	Contact person's Name	MURAKAMI Natsuko	e-mail	admissions@grips.ac.jp
	TEL/FAX Number	+81-3-6439-6046 FAX: +81-3-6439-6050		
⑤Web-Address	http://www.grips.ac.jp			
⑥Enrollment (only Graduate School)	182 *as of Oct. 1, 2006			
	[breakdown] MEXT scholarship recipients 41 (Master: 36, Ph.D.: 5) Other scholarship recipients etc. 141 (Master: 122, Ph.D.: 19)			
	Example of other scholarships:	ADB, IDB, IMF, JICA, Japan Foundation, WB and WCO etc.		

【2. Outline of the Course】

①Course	Public Policy Program			
②Degree	Master (1 year) + Doctor (3 years)			
③Graduate Course, Department	Graduate School of Policy Studies			
	(Address) 7-22-1, Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8677 JAPAN			
④Collaboration (Universities, Graduate courses, Departments)	not applicable			
⑤Quota	50	(including MEXT's Scholarship Students: Master: 20, Ph.D.: 3) (including Japanese : 0)		
⑥Faculties	65	(Full-time(only for this course):31 Full-time(at the department offering this course):0 Part-time:34)		
⑦Representative of the Course	Job Title	Dean of Graduate School of Policy Studies		
	Name	OYAMA Tatsuo		

【3. Contents of the Course】

1. Objectives of the Public Policy Program

The National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) was established in 1997 with the aim of strengthening democratic governance in both Japan and the world as an international center of excellence for the education of future leaders in the political arena. The Institute's distinctive characteristic is its systematic fostering and education of personnel such as policy analysts and administrative officials for strengthening policy planning.

The Public Policy Program at GRIPS is geared toward young officials in government organizations; it aims to foster future national leaders. Lectures and research guidance are given solely in English, so international students can pursue their study for a master's degree without any knowledge of Japanese language. To accommodate international students who are unable to leave their countries for a long period due to their work, the Program has been designed to be intensive so that students can acquire a master's degree in one year.

The Program provides students with the opportunity to improve their skills in policy analysis and policy planning to contribute to policy developments in their own countries. At the same time, students deepen their understanding of Japan through policy research based on Japanese experiences. Thanks to the diverse student body, the Program also broadens the international network among government officials worldwide. By equipping these officials with the knowledge and skills they need, GRIPS intends to contribute to the growth of the international policy community as well as to take active leadership in the formation of an international network of administrative officials.

2. Experience

GRIPS' predecessor is the Graduate School of Policy Science (GSPS) at Saitama University, which started providing special programs in English for international students in 1984. Conducting these programs allowed GSPS to accumulate experience and knowledge in managing and delivering graduate programs. Its 1,000 alumni, as shown below, assume key posts of the government in more than 60 countries. Owing to the closely supervised educational setting and systematic student support, almost 100% of students successfully acquire a degree. The performance of its programs has brought GRIPS international recognition from national governments and governmental organizations as an international center for the education of future leaders in the policy studies.

Country	Current position, Organization
Indonesia	Deputy Chairman for Scientific Cooperation and Services, Indonesian Institute of Sciences; Director of Trade Department, Indonesian Economic and Trade; Deputy Director of Corporate Tax Audit, Directorate General of Tax, Ministry of Finance; Director, Agency for Economic and Financial Analysis and International Cooperation, Ministry of Finance; etc.
Philippines	Assistant Governor, Central Bank of the Philippines; Deputy Executive Director, Institute for Labor Studies, Department of Labor and Employment; etc.
Thailand	Vice President, New Bangkok International Airport; Team Executive, Training Institute, Bank of Thailand; etc.
Malaysia	Deputy chief, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy; etc.
China	Assistant Director General, Bureau of Science and Technology Policy, Chinese Academy of Sciences; etc.
Mongolia	Director General, Fiscal Policy Department, Ministry of Finance; Director, Treasury Department, Ministry of Finance; Director of Macro Economic Policy Division, Ministry of Finance, Economic Policy Department; etc.

3. Alumni Association

GRIPS places importance on organizing its Alumni Association, as the alumni are expected to develop a policy community and the networks among various governments and Japan. To this end, Local Alumni Groups are currently operating in 47 countries; these groups provide an extensive network to help alumni keep in touch with each other and GRIPS, and to assist GRIPS recruit outstanding students.

Specialized staff in the Alumni Office follows up on the alumni, organizes the Alumni Association, and provides various services including an online alumni directory, permanent GRIPS e-mail addresses, and an online newsletter.

4. Uniqueness of Program and Research Guidance System

The approach of the Public Policy Program is multidisciplinary, combining both micro- and macro-level analysis that links theory with practical skills and research with implementation skills. The Program is flexible and offers elective courses on a wide range of topics, allowing students to design their own “tailor-made” curricula. In accordance with the courses selected, students can specialize in one of the following fields: economic policy, international relations, domestic public administration, or development studies.

In order to assist students’ academic writing in English, the Academic Writing Center (AWC) was established. There, faculty members who have doctoral degrees conduct workshops and individualized tutorials to provide assistance in such areas as developing skills for formulating paper topics and research questions, using general conventions of academic and professional writing, and making presentations. From the time of orientation for new students, the AWC provides special courses for the Program; courses to further improve students’ English language ability are also provided throughout the year.

A. Master’s programs

The Master’s degree programs provide a unique combination of a broad disciplinary curriculum, an applied research focus, and a commitment to international, state and regional policy issues. This multifaceted approach provides a basis for a comprehensive and integrated understanding of economic development and socio-political change. When writing their theses, students receive help and advice from their faculty supervisors whenever necessary. Their main advisor is decided based primarily on their selected thesis topic, but each student’s preference is also considered.

B. Doctoral program

The doctoral program at GRIPS, which started in 2002, seeks to train public administrators and highly qualified researchers in the field of policy sciences with professional expertise and academic skills in policy analysis. For completion of the doctoral degree, the doctoral student should first submit a thesis proposal and then pass the Qualifying Exam for the Doctoral Dissertation. Eligibility to take the Qualifying Exam is decided at the discretion of the student’s supervisor in light of the student’s individual progress during the academic year, prior academic performance, and the quality of the doctoral thesis proposal.

C. Faculty with diverse backgrounds

The GRIPS faculty is distinguished by its unique combination of members with strong academic backgrounds and practitioners with extensive experience in the civil service and private and public management. GRIPS brings together the enormous resources of the faculty already engaged in research and provides a home for the exchange of ideas in interrelated areas.

5. Research and Education Environment

GRIPS, as a center of excellence for policy studies, promotes close intellectual exchange and exchange of personnel with international and Japanese government organizations. The GRIPS campus is located in the heart of Tokyo, near the foreign embassies and the central government offices, where the Japanese policies are formed. This geographic advantage ensures effective and efficient access to policy-related organizations.

Individual desks are provided in the student rooms, and each student is loaned a lap-top computer for the duration of his or her study. The Program is administered by the Academic and Student Affairs Division, which deals with acceptance of students, enrollment management, and general guidance entirely in English. The Student Office also assists students in their daily life in Japan. Support offered by the office includes arranging accommodation and obtaining visas.