

Course Number	06064
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2006 「The International Priority Graduate Programs (PGP)」

～Advanced Graduate Courses for International Students～

【1. Profile of the University】

①University Department	Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology United Graduate School of Agricultural Science			
②President	KOBATAKE, Hidefumi			
③Address (Headquarters)	〒183-8538 3-8-1 Harumi-cho, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo			
④Contact	Division	Student Affairs Section, United Graduate School of Agricultural Science		
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⑤Web-Address	<a href="http://www.tuat.ac.jp">http://www.tuat.ac.jp</a>			
⑥Enrollment (only GraduateSchool)	278 students(include MEXT's Sholorship Students:106 )			

【2. Outline of the Course】

①Course	Doctor's Degree Acquisition Program in the Field of Life, Environmental and Agricultural Sciences
②Degree	Doctor, Standard years required for graduation: 3 years
③Graduate Course, Department	[Department] United Graduate School of Agricultural Science [Course] Biological Production Science
	(Address) 〒183-8509 3-5-8 Saiwai-cho, Fuchu-shi, Tokyo
④Collaboration (Universities, Graduate courses, Departments)	[Course] Applied Life Science Symbiotic Science of Environment and Natural Resources Agricultural and Environmental Engineering Science on Agricultural Economy and Symbiotic Society
⑤Quota	5(include MEXT's Schlorship Students: 3 ) (include Japanese : 0 )
⑥Faculties	237 (Full-time(only for this course): 1, Full-time(at the department offering this course): 224, Parttime: 12 )
⑦Representative of the Course	Job Title: Dean of United Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology
	Name: KUNIMI, Yasuhisa

### **【3. Contents of the Course】**

#### **Intention of Program**

In developing nations, problems of population and food, as well as environmental problems, are becoming ever more important, representing urgent and crucial issues for this century. The role played by researchers, advanced technical experts, and educators specializing in fields such as food production science, biological resource science, environmental science, and the life sciences in resolving these problems is extremely large. However, the developing nations suffer from a marked lack of human expertise in these kinds of fields. This training is an important and urgent matter. The “Doctoral Program in Biological-Environmental Agriculture” was established to meet this need; it takes on outstanding post-Masters scholars from developing nations centering on the Asian region, offering advanced education and research in food production science, biological resource science, environmental science, and the life sciences, conducted in English. This program is aimed at offering these students the opportunity to acquire a doctoral degree, as well as helping cultivate human resources in developing nations.

#### **Content and Characteristics**

The “Doctoral Program in Biological-Environmental Agriculture” has developed advanced education and research in food production science, biological resource science, environmental science, and the life sciences, conducted in English, in order to cultivate the researchers and advanced technical experts required to solve the population, food, and environmental problems that developing nations face. This program, while offering the specialized knowledge and practical methodologies required of independent researchers and technical experts, also serves as a systematic educational program in coordination with another department, United Graduate School of Agricultural Science in order to foster broad perspectives in the field of biological-environmental agriculture.

#### **Education/Guidance System (Guidance & Support for Academic Papers, etc.)**

The curriculum planned for the 2007 academic year is offered over 5 subject groupings: “Common Studies,” “Interaction Studies,” “Specialized Studies,” “Thesis Studies,” and “Special Courses for International Students.” Students are required to accumulate 12 or more credit points over these subjects, as well as writing a doctoral thesis.

“Common Studies” is a subject grouping which is offered through coordinated lectures from 6 united agricultural graduate schools across the nation, using SCS, intended to cultivate broad perspectives in the field of biological-environmental agriculture. Lectures using SCS are conducted in English, enabling discussions with academic staff and international students at other universities. These lectures have proved very popular with international students.

“Interaction Studies” are subjects offered in a student’s second year, in which second-year students meet together with staff from united chairs, make presentations on the current state of their research and then engage in open discussion based on this. For students in this program, presentations and discussions are conducted in English.

“Specialized Studies” are intended to help students gain specialized knowledge connected with the united chairs to which they belong. In principle, these will be lectures conducted in Japanese. In order for international students to acquire specialized knowledge, separate “Special Courses for International Students,” conducted in English, have also been established.

The United Graduate School of Agricultural Science assigns every student 1 main academic mentor and 2 secondary academic mentors, as well as 1 staff member who acts as an assistant academic mentor, for a total

of 4 mentors, creating an extremely close and effective research mentorship system. Students are assigned to the university of their main academic mentor, and they receive academic guidance from their main academic mentor, their main secondary mentor, and their assistant mentor, but they always have access to academic guidance from their other secondary mentor, who belongs to a different university. Accordingly, since this system enables academic guidance not only within a student's own university, but also from staff from a different university, it ensures that research will proceed with a broad perspective. This academic guidance is conducted in English for international students, and is situated as "Special Research" and "Special Exercises" within the "Thesis Studies" subject group.

### **Languages Used**

For students in the Doctoral Program in Biological-Environmental Agriculture, education is, in principle, conducted in English. International students with inadequate English language ability may also enrol in the "Communication Exercises" subject within the "Common Studies" group, which is instructed by non-Japanese academic staff and aims to improve students' practical English ability.

### **Recruitment Methods, Target Countries, Internal Selection Methods, etc.**

Recruitment methods, target nations, and selection method, and so on, for international students eligible for this program will basically follow the lines of the pre-existing "Special Course," while also working to improve those guidelines. Recruitment opportunities will be public, and recruitment guidelines will be made available at sister institutions, research facilities and universities with a proven record of admissions, and diplomatic missions abroad, contributing to active recruitment for this program. Also, application material will be made available on this research department's website, promoting applications from a wide range of international students.

While there is no limitation placed on the nationality of applicants, an emphasis is placed on developing nations in the Asian region, and applications are actively sought from students in South or Central American or African nations, based on previous performance.

Internal selection will be conducted by a Selection Committee made up of 4 representatives from this research institution. Selection by this Committee will be conducted according to this research department's "International Students Special Course/National Scholarship Recommendation Ranking Determination." Basically, preference will be given to students who have a high chance of acquiring the degree within their 3-year enrolment.

Selection will be made by examination of documents and an assessment conducted by electronic mail. Document examination will evaluate the contents of each applicant's research performance and research plan with equal weight. Research performance will be evaluated by adding up points, as indicated elsewhere, based on the number and kind of papers presented (original theses, books, commentaries, conference presentations, and so on). Evaluation of research plan will rate 3 items - clarity of expression, practicality of research plan, and likelihood of acquiring the degree after 3 years study - on a 5-point scale, based on standards outlined elsewhere. On the other hand, the assessment via email will be conducted by the academic staff likely to accept the student in question, who will report to the Selection Committee on the content of the mails exchanged in the form of a "mail assessment report" document. The Selection Committee will then rank applicants for acceptance based on combined points for research performance and research plan together with the content of mail assessment report. After this, the Selection Committee draft proposal undergoes rigorous examination before the representative committee and a research department academic meeting, and the final decision is made.