

School of Integrated
Arts and Sciences

Department of Integrated Global Studies

Information 2026

Undergraduate Program taught in English



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

Message from the Dean



Yamada Toshihiro
Dean, School of Integrated
Arts and Sciences

Established in 1974, the School of Integrated Arts and Sciences strives to solve various problems of individuals and societies, aiming to create a happier and more sustainable future by integrating humanities and sciences, transcending academic disciplines. Through a multidisciplinary education that includes the study of various disciplines alongside a core discipline, students enhance their skills to solve the aforementioned problems. In 2018, we began English-medium instruction and actively welcomed international students, aiming to empower students to play a significant role on the global stage. I sincerely hope you can expand your possibilities at our school.

Message from the IGS Department Head



Carolyn Funck
IGS Department Head

Do you feel that your world is limited? In IGS, we explore the world beyond borders. You will study in a group with students from around the world, each with very different backgrounds. Together, you can acquire a broad range of knowledge in humanities and social and natural sciences. Learning from different perspectives can help you develop logical and innovative thinking, as well as improve your communication skills, to become an active citizen of the world. Also, in IGS, we aim to respect our differences while actively working together to approach global and social issues. Why not challenge the borders and broaden your world with us?

Guiding Principles of Hiroshima University

Based on its founding principle "a single unified university, free and pursuing peace" and its five guiding principles, Hiroshima University fulfills its roles as a national university.

● The Pursuit of Peace

To develop intellectual attitudes which always seek peaceful solutions to the problems affecting society and the world at large.

● The Creation of New Forms of Knowledge

To evolve new systems of study which surpass existing frontiers of knowledge and encourage intellectual innovation.

● The Nurturing of Well-Rounded Human Beings

To train graduates with well-developed and multifaceted personalities by means of an education which has breadth as well as depth.

● Collaboration with the Local, Regional, and International Community

To create a university with a strong international awareness which can efficiently disseminate knowledge on a worldwide scale, in collaboration with local and regional communities.

● Continuous Self-Development

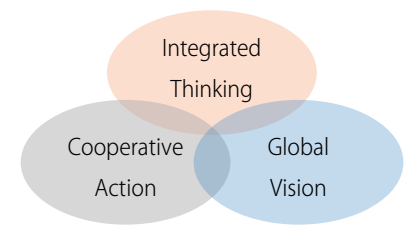
To maintain a constant readiness to re-examine established ways of acting, and a constant openness to improvement and innovation.

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IGS Study Integrated Arts and Sciences in Hiroshima, Japan

Students from all over the globe will learn together. They will develop intercultural communication competence, broad-mindedness, and cooperative skills to bring more peace to the world.



IGS Department Welcomes:

- (1) Students who would like to understand global issues with an integrative perspective to pursue world peace while respecting linguistic, cultural, and religious differences;
- (2) Students who are interested in natural sciences and would like to work towards the harmonious relationship between people and nature; and
- (3) Students who are willing to improve language skills and make a contribution to a global society.



IGS 5 Fast Facts about Integrated Global Studies

1. Full-time 4-year undergraduate program taught in English.
2. Language competence: Students will be competent in English and Japanese.
3. Interdisciplinary arts and sciences education: Students will have a wider perspective when solving problems related global issues in society.
4. Integrative perspectives and cooperative skills: Students will be able to think beyond nationality, region, religion, culture, and language.
5. Careers after graduation: Students will be ready to work in Japan or abroad, or pursue academic careers at graduate schools.



■ Degree Awarded:

Bachelor of Arts and Sciences

■ Number of Students:

40 per year

■ AY 2025 Academic Calender:

○Spring Semester (Apr.1 – Sep.30)

Apr.1 – 7 ----- Spring Vacation

Apr.3 ----- Entrance Ceremony

Apr.8 – Jun.5 ----- 1st term (Classes)

Jun.6 – Aug.1 ----- 2nd term (Classes)

Aug.2 – Sep.30 ----- Summer Vacation

○Fall Semester (Oct.1 – Mar.31)

Oct.2 – Dec.1 ----- 3rd term (Classes)

Dec.2 – Feb.6 ----- 4th term (Classes)

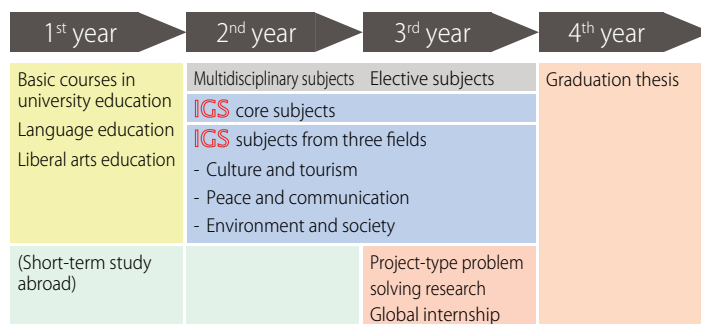
Dec.26 – Jan.5 ----- Winter Vacation

Feb.7 – Mar.31 ----- End-of Academic-Year Vacation

Mar.23 ----- Degree Conferment Ceremony

IGS Educational Program

The IGS Department provides a liberal arts curriculum to develop a diverse approach to exploring and solving current global issues by utilizing an integrative perspective incorporating humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences. Consequently, knowledge and skills learnt through the curriculum should guide students to the exploration of and possible solutions to issues that modern society is currently facing around the globe.



- (1) Language education:
 - All courses are conducted in English.
 - Those whose first language (L1) is Japanese are required to attend a study abroad program in the second year.
 - Students whose first language (L1) is not Japanese will study Japanese intensively.
 - Students are encouraged to learn a third or fourth foreign language.
- (2) Tailor-made curriculum: students create their own individual curriculum guided by their tutors.
- (3) Multidisciplinary subjects to acquire the knowledge and methodology that provide a foundation for the possible solutions to social and environmental issues.
- (4) Courses to improve debate and presentation skills in both English and Japanese.
- (5) Curricula focused on culture and tourism, peace and communication, and environment and society.
- (6) Global internship for 3rd-year students in private companies, public organizations, nonprofit organizations, and research and educational institutions in and outside of Japan.
- (7) Project-type problem solving research and graduation thesis.

You can Learn Science in IGS!

Are you willing to learn how to create more effective ways to use our limited resources and energy? Are you keen to make a contribution to solve the current environmental problems? We will pursue these important goals by ensuring that our students obtain a comprehensive and integrated education in natural sciences, social sciences, and intercultural communication.

To support our objectives, IGS has a number of professors in Physics (Physics of Complex Systems, Soft Matter Physics, etc.), Chemistry (Colloid and Interface Science, Biogeochemistry), Biology (Conservation Biology), and Geology (Climate System Science and Earth Science). These professors are involved in a variety of State of the Art research projects for the purpose of creating a sustainable, environment-friendly world.

In IGS, you will be trained to have a wide perspective necessary for investigating scientific problems while conducting scientific research in an integrated manner.

This will be accomplished by obtaining specialized knowledge from a number of different academic areas and through developing strong interpersonal communication skills which are needed to advance a peaceful integrated global society.



IGS Core Subjects from Three Fields

Culture and Tourism

Is globalization destroying regional culture? How will people's sense of place change among increasing migration and movement? Tourism is credited for improving intercultural understanding and contributing to the preservation of nature and culture. However, isn't there a danger of destroying the environment and turning culture into a mere spectacle? To tackle these questions, we will nurture the ability to discuss the relations between people and culture in a global society, between tourism and local communities, between thought and culture, and between Japanese culture and the world.



Courtesy of Hiroshima Prefecture

Study Plan 1 If you want to contribute to regional and cultural development through tourism, you are encouraged to take:

- *Tourism Studies* in order to learn the basics of tourism from different angles;
- *Japanese Tourism and Contemporary Issues in International Tourism* in order to discover the effects and problems of tourism; and
- *Japanese Popular Arts and Culture* and anthropology subjects in order to think about the relationship between culture and globalization.

Finally, consider ways tourism can contribute to regional development through fieldwork and your thesis to prepare you for a career in cultural organizations, tourism industries or in civil service.

Peace and Communication

Do we all equally receive benefits from globalization? Could it be that, as the society is globalizing, the differences in world views and values, and the conflicts relevant to economic profits and political predominance will increase? We need to overcome such issues with the collective wisdom of the human race and mutual understanding in order to establish world peace. In IGS, you will explore background causes underlying such conflicts and appreciate differences among diversified culture and language groups. Such skills are necessary in order for us to live in a peaceful and harmonious society.



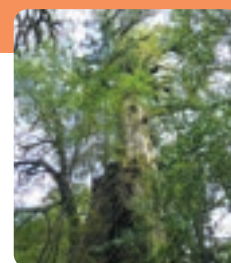
Study Plan 2 If you are interested in conflict resolution from a multi-cultural perspective, you are encouraged to take:

- *Peace and Conflict Research* and *Ethics Killing and Violence* in order to obtain background knowledge concerning military conflicts especially in Asia, Middle East, and Africa; and
- *Cultural Psychology, and World Englishes* in order to be aware that other have distinct world views and values as well as cultural and linguistic diversity.

Possible future career opportunities include becoming an international civil servant, a diplomatic official or other positions at internationally- deployed private enterprises including travel industries and media.

Environment and Society

The world population is expected to grow to 10 billion by the end of the 21st century, which will aggravate the shortage of natural resources. Therefore, we must intensify our efforts to develop human- and environment-friendly technology that can promote a civilized and comfortable life for all mankind and protect our natural environment. In IGS, you can major in science while studying global environmental issues.



Study Plan 3 If you are interested in working as a environment-friendly scientist or engineer, you are encouraged to take the following courses:

- *Experimental Methods and Laboratory Work in Science for IGS* as well as *basic subjects in science* in order to gain solid knowledge required in scientific research;
- *Topics in History of Science, Studies on Japanese Companies and Social Entrepreneurship, and Cross-cultural Negotiation; and Graduation Thesis in a scientific field* to get trained as a scientist or an engineer.

These courses should widen your perspective on the Environment and Society and help you grow as a global-minded scientist.

Carolyn Funck



Position Professor

Research Area Tourism Geography

Research Topic My research focuses on sustainable tourism development. For example, I am investigating what kind of merits and problems the recent rapid increase in international tourists in Japan creates for destinations. I am also looking into possibilities for local communities to promote tourism based on their culture and resources rather than "being developed" from outside.

Message I myself came to Japan as an exchange student many years ago. In the place I lived, I experienced how interesting intercultural exchange can be and how important language is for us. Tourism, my object of research, also is an activity that draws pleasure from the encounters between people and cultures. I hope that IGS will become a place for many encounters and a starting point for new discoveries.

Villeneuve Masumi



Position Professor

Research Area Colloid and Interface Science

Research Topic My specialized area of research involves interface science. An interface is an extremely thin layer of a few molecules thick that only exists between two adjacent phases, nevertheless it is one of the most dominant factors comprising of various phenomena in nature such as the generation of clouds, material transport across cell membranes, sticky gecko feet, and the nature of soil colloids. It also affects stability of entire systems. I have been fascinated by these intriguing however invisible interfacial regions and now investigate this area of research through thermodynamics.

Message Environmental issues are generally made up of various complex factors. For those who are ambitious to confront such complexities, basic academic knowledge and skills are essential. Let us help you develop as a scientist or engineer who can relate your specialized area of interest to the surrounding fields and work with people of different research backgrounds.

Katayanagi Mari



Position Professor

Research Area Peacebuilding

Research Topic Armed conflicts harm people, things and society. My research is about how to overcome the damage from a battle and build a peaceful society. Currently I am involved in a number of research projects and their themes include human rights-based peacebuilding, peacebuilding through business, second chance of education (after an interruption to schooling due to an armed conflict), security governance and migration.

Message In the era of globalization, we share various challenges beyond borders. Peace is one of them. It is not given, but requires our constant effort to preserve it. You can join network-building for peace through your studies of peacebuilding and multi-cultural communication here at Hiroshima University.

Shibata Miki



Position Professor

Research Area Foreign Language Learning and Second Language Acquisition

Research Topic Learning a foreign language is not just about the differences between your native language and the new one; it also involves how factors like your emotions, beliefs, and the world around you affect your ability to learn. You might think things like, 'I want to learn, but I can't keep going,' 'I'm working hard, but I don't seem to improve,' or 'Why do I even have to study English?' I have looked into these concerns from both a social and psychological perspective to better understand how we learn a foreign language.

Message Learning is exploring plausible reasoning for 'Why?', but not finding a correct answer for it. Considering previous studies, you further investigate, think, and come to your own conclusion. Such a process is the essence of learning. Why don't you pursue your academic interests within IGS?

Seki Koki



Position Professor

Research Area Cultural Anthropology, Urban Development and Politics, Social Policy, Area Studies of the Philippines

Research Topic My research deals with various aspects of contemporary globalization and development focusing particularly on the Philippines. Current researches are on social policy, civil society and welfare state as a modern institution of governmentality, and how these influence people's mode of life and identity. Specific topics are: urban development and politics in Global South, poverty, land tenure security and social housing projects in slum communities, natural resource management and political ecology in rural communities, and transnational migration.

Message If you are interested in exploring contemporary society and culture of Japan, Asia, and beyond by experiencing fieldwork in a local community, then IGS can be the best place for you!

Nishi Makoto



Position Professor

Research Area Cultural Anthropology, Medical Anthropology, Global Health

Research Topic My research focuses on how illness experiences of people in different parts of the world are shaped by socio-cultural factors including gender, power, and violence.

Message While health is a universal human concern, how certain illness is experienced by people can be strikingly different. Thus, exploring the issues concerning health and illness is to think about the commonalities and differences of the peoples around the world.

Hosaka Tetsuro



Position Professor

Research Area Ecology, Entomology, Human-nature interaction

Research Topic I have been working on the diversity and role of insects in various ecosystems from tropical forests to urban settings. I am also interested in the interactions between human and nature, such as nature-based tourism, children's nature play and conflicts with wildlife, from the perspective of ecosystem conservation.

Message Fascination of studying is to make our world view broader or totally new by understanding things deeper. I look forward to seeing students who are full of curiosity.

Yamada Toshihiro



Position Professor

Research Area Conservation biology, Forest ecology

Research Topic We can see a great diversity of living organisms (biodiversity) on the earth. I am intrigued by the questions how and why the earth has such a tremendous biodiversity. On the other hand, this great biodiversity is rapidly being lost by anthropogenic impacts. I would like to contribute to building an international framework in order to conserve our current biodiversity.

Message What knowledge do we need to conserve the biodiversity of our planet? Of course, ecology is essential to the accomplishment of this goal. In addition, we have to be knowledgeable of a number of fields including ethics, economics, sociology, and jurisprudence. You can learn all these essential subjects in our IGS Department so you can act on biodiversity conservation. IGS is the best place to learn and practice the conservation of biodiversity!

Amano Shuichi



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Applied linguistics, Phonetics

Research Topic My research background is in applied linguistics and phonetics. I am particularly interested in implicit learning of lexical stress patterns in English as a foreign language. I am also interested in the other fields of language teaching such as writing and pronunciation.

Message I wish you an excellent academic experience at Hiroshima University. Enjoy the diversity at IGS! I look forward to meeting you.

Iwamoto Yoko



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Atmospheric Chemistry, Chemical Oceanography

Research Topic I am studying tiny particles (aerosol) suspended in the atmosphere. Aerosol can act as nucleus of cloud particle. In other words, clouds and raindrop cannot be formed without aerosol. In order to grasp the role of aerosol in climate change and biogeochemical cycles, I am measuring physical and chemical characteristics of aerosol in various places such as ocean, mountains, urban, rural site and so on.

Message In order to deal with global environmental problems, it is important to highly appreciate your expertise and to have an interdisciplinary / international perspective. I am happy if I can conduct field observations with the students who gained broad perspective and high communication skills at IGS in the future.

Kakee Tomoko



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Conflict Resolution, International Law

Research Topic I am interested in international conflicts on historical issues and post-war compensation. My research has covered various international law topics such as the UN and the use of force, environmental rules for deepsea mining. I am researching ways for conflict resolution and conflict transformation through legal and nonlegal approaches using Nonviolent Communication (NVC).

Message Conflicts, from international to personal ones, can provide opportunities to learn various things. I hope, through the conflict resolution study, we can recognise our bias and habit of interpretation and discuss elements necessary for resolving conflicts.

Kawamoto Naoe



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Social welfare and education for international students

Research Topic I am researching welfare issues related to children and elders who are foreign minorities in Japan and Japanese nationals whose origin is from outside of Japan. I have also been conducting research on welfare and long-term care of war-displaced Japanese returning from China. In addition, I investigate how students acquire academic skills from the viewpoint of different learning environments.

Message I am very happy to teach students with diverse cultural differences in IGS. I hope to discuss these cultural similarities and differences in our classes. I believe learning and discussing differences is the first step to mutual understanding. Let's enjoy our experiences together!

Maria Mihaela Grajdian

Position Associate Professor

Research Area Media Studies, Cultural Anthropology

Research Topic In my research, I am focusing on the ambivalent interaction between media and its messages in phenomena of mass entertainment, such as Takarazuka Revue or Studio Ghibli, and more recently, Shinkai Makoto or Murakami Haruki. At the core of my scientific endeavors, the human being as both producer and consumer of socio-cultural merchandises is located, beyond economic-political compulsions and limitations.

Message I am driven, privately and professionally, by a firm faith in the human being's ability to serve the world with kindness. Furthermore, Mahatma Gandhi's words decades ago "Become the change you want to see in the world" are a permanent reminder of my duty to do my best, and to inspire those around me to do their best, as well. Let's do our best together!



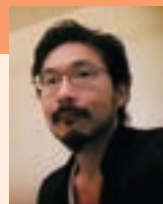
Kondo Masayuki

Position Associate Professor

Research Area Greenhouse gases dynamics, Climate systems

Research Topic I conduct research on climate change and greenhouse gas dynamics. Even though "climate change" has become widely known in recent years, there are still many aspects we do not understand. What keeps the Earth's climate habitable? What are the potential consequences if global warming continues? I am investigating the mysteries of the habitable climate through integrated analysis using numerical models, as well as ground and satellite observations.

Message I oversee one of the few laboratories in Japan that specialize in greenhouse gases, focusing on atmospheric chemistry, atmospheric physics, and geophysics. Let's start with the basics of climate change and greenhouse gases and then consider together the possibility of achieving carbon neutrality.



Jang Kyungjae

Position Associate Professor

Research Area Tourism Studies, Contents Tourism

Research Topic Why do people travel? My research focuses on tourism induced by popular culture, called "contents tourism." Contents tourism is a travel behavior motivated fully or partially by elements of popular culture forms, including film, television dramas, manga, anime, and novels. I am examining why people are visiting popular culture related places, and how destinations obtain the authenticity by contents tourism.

Message Life is all about chances and opportunities, but "opportunity seldom knocks twice". I am sure that IGS provides excellent opportunities to broaden your multicultural horizon, expand your knowledge, and discover new things.



Shirakawa Toshiyuki

Position Associate Professor

Research Area Research of Social Stratification, Sociology of Education, Social Research/Survey Methods

Research Topic The study of social inequality focuses on the fact that people are divided into several stratum according to their education and income. Regarding occupation, it is also possible to assess whether it is high or low once you have determined the rule. The position that is supposed to be high is limited in number and not everyone can reach there. I investigate the influences of gender and parents' status on people's educational decision making or occupational choice by using statistical analysis. Parents' education correlate highly with their offsprings' university entrance rate. Despite the increase in women in tertiary education, men and women are still concentrated in different study programmes. To clarify the social mechanism creating such a difference is my research motivation.

Message Studying at university often does not give simple answers, but here is also interesting point. I would like us to explore the various unsolved problems together.



Taguchi Yoko

Position Associate Professor

Research Area Cultural Anthropology, South Asian Studies

Research Topic Inspired by the anthropology of personhood and morality (What is human? What is good?), I have explored these concepts through fieldwork on civic movements and care work in India. Drawing on anthropological cases and theories, I'm researching diverse possibilities for humans as mutually dependent beings.

Message Anthropology teaches us that what we consider "normal" is not normal at all in other socio-material contexts. If such differences exist, things that seem unchangeable to us might also be changed by tinkering with the details. Let's explore human possibilities and try out new ideas!



Tanaka Shinpei

Position Associate Professor

Research Area Physics of Complex Systems

Research Topic I study complex systems where many elements interact with each other. Even if each element is simple, their behaviors as a whole can be very complex. Moreover, the system sometimes determines the behaviors of its elements. Thus, the elements and the system are in an interwound relationship. I conduct both experiments and computer simulations to tackle this complex relation.

Message Anything can be the target of physics. Physics is an attempt to understand the general mechanisms of everything from materials to living things, natural environments, human societies, or even the Internet. There, the elements and the system are mutually and complexly entangled. We welcome anybody who has a keen mind and a broad interest in any complex phenomena.



Robert H. Taferner



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Applied Linguistics, Second Language Acquisition, Pragmatics

Research Topic My main research areas include Psycholinguistics and Pragmatics. Within the area of Psycholinguistics I am interested in second language learning through investigating bilingualism, cognition, and crosslinguistic influences. In particular, I am currently developing a Crosslinguistic Image Schema Differential (CISD) hypothesis that tries to address the difficulties learners have in acquiring spatial and temporal adpositions (e.g., prepositions and particles). I have also been interested in Pragmatics (Language in Use) since the beginning of my teaching career. Currently, I am contributing to research on intercultural sensitivity development in order to help international students acculturate to their new learning environments. Furthermore, I am addressing English as a Lingua Franca as part of my investigation of Workplace Pragmatics within our IGS Internship Program.

Message I came to Japan to practice martial arts and learn about Japanese culture. Through studying Japanese, I began to understand the difficulties in learning and acquiring a new language. With this in mind, I hope I can help you brighten your future as part of the IGS community.

Yamane Tatsuo



Position Associate Professor

Research Area International Relations

Research Topic My research is concerned with how contemporary armed conflicts occur and how international society provides approaches for conflict resolution and peacebuilding to respond to those conflicts. From the academic field of International Relations, I am examining the challenges of peace and conflict, such as the causes of conflicts related to state failure, and the possibilities and limitations of liberal peacebuilding.

Message Why don't you make the choice to enter IGS to become a person who can profoundly speak about a number of important topics through your first language as well as foreign languages.

Curtis Andrew Rigsby



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Japanese Religion and Culture, Philosophy, Comparative Thought

Research Topic My research focuses on Japanese philosophy, especially modern developments such as the Kyoto School surrounding Kitarō Nishida. In particular, I have examined Japanese theories of ultimate explanation, such as the character of divinity, including practical ramifications. Correspondingly, I examine dialogue between traditions and the potential contributions they can make to solving real problems in contemporary life.

Message What are the foundations of reality? What is beauty and value? How should we live? Why do people see the world differently and why do people form different ways of living? Are there commonalities between different cultures and religions? Are differences between people impediments or strengths? My own efforts struggling with these questions are at the core of why I think university experience is so precious, and are also a primary reason why I have studied Japan.

Watanabe Chiho



Position Associate Professor

Research Area Soft Matter Science, Biophysical Chemistry

Research Topic Our body is composed of many cells. Cells are composed of many molecules which often called biomolecules. From experiments using artificial cells made of such molecules, I aim to understand complex biological phenomena from simplified systems.

Message I hope that you will enjoy your time as a university student to the fullest and cultivate the strength to live through various experiences, even in the current global difficulties.

Kawaguchi Kenta



Position Assistant Professor

Research Area Earth Science, Applied Geology, Geology

Research Topic My research topic is Earth Science. I am currently investigating the formation mechanism of the Asian continents, including the Japanese Islands, through fieldwork and analytical studies.

Message Earth Science integrates geological, physical, and chemical techniques and knowledge. In other words, we can attempt to solve the unsolved problems using our respective areas of expertise. Let's enjoy Earth Science with a broad perspective and specialized fields of study!

Komada Natsuki



Position Assistant Professor

Research Area Plant taxonomy, Forest ecology

Research Topic We can find various types of plants on Earth, but we still do not fully understand where and which species of plants grow and how they maintain diversity. I have been conducting research to answer these questions, focusing on plant taxonomy and ecology, primarily studying plants in tropical rainforests. My primary focus is on "epiphytes," which are a group of plants that grow on trees and are important for maintaining diversity. Forests are crucial ecosystems for sustainable development, yet they are also facing serious threats of environmental destruction. I hope that my research can contribute to a better understanding and conservation of forests.

Message For field surveys overseas and studies with a global perspective, it is important to acquire a broad knowledge base that transcends disciplinary boundaries and to develop communication skills. I believe that IGS provides a good environment for developing these abilities. I look forward to engaging in research that utilizes your diverse ideas, talents, and curiosity.

Simona Zollet



Position Assistant Professor

Research Area Sustainable agriculture and food systems, rural sociology

Research Topic My research focuses on creating more sustainable farming landscapes through organic agriculture and agroecology, as well as developing new ways to connect producers (farmers) and consumers (eaters) and rural and urban areas within local food systems. I also research the socioeconomic and environmental sustainability of rural communities and peripheral areas (such as islands) in Japan and Europe (mainly Italy). This includes examining rural in-migration (people moving from urban to rural areas), small business creation and social entrepreneurship, the use or creation of local food and farming heritage in innovative ways, and policies related to rural revitalization.

Message I came to Japan for the first time as an exchange student myself, and the period I spent studying abroad changed my life in many ways, providing me with opportunities that I could have never imagined before. I wish you an enjoyable time in IGS, and I hope you make the most of the many new experiences and encounters you will have here!

Yoshida Mariko



Position Assistant Professor

Research Area environmental anthropology; blue humanities; food chain politics; multispecies ethnography; science and technology studies (STS)

Research Topic Mariko Yoshida is an anthropologist whose research focuses on ecological uncertainty and precariousness intertwined within the metabolic dynamics of the underwater realm. She is currently working on her first monograph, tentatively titled "Metabolic Thinking with Oysters in the Anthropocene," which examines the life of Pacific oysters to understand emergencies, alterations, and disruptions that occur at organismal, societal, and planetary scales. Drawing upon the inter- and intraspecies practices of Japanese aquaculture, Yoshida explores how these filter feeders, which sequester nutrients and chemicals, reshape the intersections of nature and culture—wild and domesticated, native and invasive, and from hermaphrodite origins to bioengineered spawnless commodities. Yoshida teaches a wide range of courses on environmental anthropology, political economy, feminist STS, the blue humanities, and multispecies ethnography. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from the Australian National University and holds M.A.s in Anthropology from Columbia University of New York (awarded the Best MA Thesis Prize) and in Media and Governance from Keio University. She has been a recipient of grants from multiple funders, including the Fulbright Program (2011-2013), the Konosuke Matsushita Memorial Foundation (2019-2020), and the Lotte Foundation (2024-2026).

Message Cultural anthropology has been defined as "the most humanistic of the sciences and the most scientific of the humanities" (Kroeber 2003). I encourage students to critically examine the underlying modes of knowledge production inherent in both "science" and "humanism" in order to address the challenges posed by the Anthropocene/Capitalocene.

Wang Chujun



Position Assistant Professor (Special Appointment)

Research Area Tourism studies, Heritage tourism

Research Topic My research interest is in heritage tourism. Heritage is not only something to be inherited but also created. By creating heritage, we connect the past, present, and future. Tourism not only commodifies heritage as a resource but also helps transform and create it. I focus on topics such as the components of desirable heritage tourism, the reasons for creating heritage, and how heritage tourism contributes to sustainable regional development. Recently, I have been researching value-based heritage tourism.

Message There is a saying, "Others are a mirror reflecting oneself." Encounters with others and different cultures prompt individuals to contemplate "What kind of person am I?" and "What kind of person do I want to be?". In university, it is important to engage with diverse cultures, reflect on oneself, and cultivate the abilities to create a future society. I believe IGS can provide such a place for you.



IGS Admission Information

1. Date of Admission: April 2026

2. Candidate Selection System

Selection System		Number of Students to be Admitted	Main Target	Time Period
A	Overseas Entrance Interview Examination for International Applicants in July	4	International applicants who take the examination within their own country	Application: June
				Document Screening: July
				Interview Examination: July
				Result Notification: August
B	Overseas Entrance Interview Examination for International and Japanese Applicants in November	10	Applicants of all nationalities who take the examination within their own country	Application: October
				Document Screening: October
				Interview Examination: November
				Result Notification: December
C	On Campus Entrance Interview Examination for International and Japanese Applicants in November	6	Applicants of all nationalities who take the examination in Hiroshima	Application: October
				Document Screening: October
				Interview Examination: November
				Result Notification: December
D	On Campus Entrance Interview Examination for International Applicants in February	Limited	International applicants who take the examination in Hiroshima	Application: December-January
				Document Screening: January
				Interview Examination: February
				Result Notification: March

Note: In the selection system A and B, applicants are not required to come to Japan for their interview. The applicants are requested to take the online interview in English. In the selection system C and D, applicants are required to take their interview in English at the Hiroshima University Higashi-Hiroshima campus.

3. English Proficiency Requirements

Applicants must submit any one of the following English proficiency certificates as an application requirement.

English Proficiency Test	Application Requirements	
	Selection System A, B and D	Selection System C
1) Cambridge English ※1	160 or above in overall score	140 or above in overall score
2) EIKEN	A passing Pre-1 st grade or above	A passing 2 nd grade or above
3) GTEC (CBT Type and Authorized Version)	1180 or above	930 or above
4) IELTS™ (Academic Module)	5.5 or above	4.0 or above
5) TEAP (4 skills)	309 or above	225 or above
6) TEAP CBT (4 skills)	600 or above	420 or above
7) TOEFL iBT®	72 or above	42 or above
8) TOEIC® L&R and TOEIC® S&W This score is determined by multiplying your S&W score by 2.5 and adding your L&R score	1560 or above	1150 or above

Note: Applicants who satisfy either one of the following two requirements are not required to submit the above-mentioned English proficiency certificates.

- (1) Applicants who have undertaken three years or more of their secondary education (Senior high school, Junior high school, etc.) in English as their primary language of instruction.
- (2) Applicants who are taking or have taken the International Baccalaureate Diploma with English as the language of instruction. DLDP (Dual Language IB Diploma Programme) is excluded since the language of instruction is not entirely in English.

※1 Only "Schools" and "General and higher education" modules are accepted.

For more details, please see the application guide.

Scholarship for IGS International Students

We offer full or partial scholarship opportunities to international students enrolled in IGS bachelor's program to help student succeed academically. Prospective students may apply for these scholarship programs through the IGS Office.

These scholarship programs are offered to students who do not have a Japanese nationality and have/will have "Student" status of residence. Updated information should be obtained from IGS website and emails from the IGS office.

1. Japanese Government (MEXT*) Scholarship (University Recommendation)

*Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Type	Government (MEXT)
Award	- Monthly allowance of JPY 117,000 - Full waiver of all school fees - Air ticket to and from Japan
Term	Four years
Eligibility	- Not having Japanese nationality and not living/studying in Japan - Success in IGS admissions for April 2026 intake - High academic performance in the previous education institution - Under 24 years old at the time of enrollment
Application	December - candidates will be contacted by IGS office.
Decision	March

2. Reservation Program for Monbukagakusho Honors Scholarship for Privately-Financed International Students by Pre-arrival Admission (University Recommendation)

Type	Government (MEXT/JASSO)
Award	Monthly allowance of JPY 48,000
Term	One year
Eligibility	- Not having Japanese nationality and not living/studying in Japan - Success in IGS admissions for April 2026 intake - High academic performance in the previous education institution
Application	Candidates will be contacted by IGS Office in March
Decision	April

3. IGS Scholarship

Type	University (Hiroshima University)
Award	JPY 300,000 for the amount of full year for the first-year students. From the second-year onward, scholarship recipients and the amount of the scholarships will be determined based on student's academic records and financial circumstances.
Eligibility	- Not having Japanese nationality - Success in IGS admissions for April 2026 intake (International applicants who live in Japan are eligible to apply.)
Application	After the announcement of successful applicants of IGS program
Decision	April

Please note that the information above applies only to the new students of April 2026 intake and that the available scholarship opportunities for students enrolled in and after 2027 are subject to change.

IGS Fees

Required Enrollment Expenses (as of April 2025)

Undergraduate students must pay the following application, enrollment, and tuition fees:

Application Fee	Enrollment Fee	Tuition Fee
JPY 17,000	JPY 282,000	JPY 535,800 (per year)

(If tuition is revised while you are a student, you will pay the new tuition rate after the revision.)

Living Expenses in Higashi-Hiroshima

The average monthly living expenses for international students, is approximately JPY 147,000. Note that living expenses in the area around Hiroshima University are cheaper than metropolitan areas. (The national average is JPY 171,000.)

Source: Lifestyle Survey of Privately Financed International Students, 2023 (JASSO)

IGS Careers after Graduation

After your graduation, you have various career options available to you, depending on the focus of your studies. If you study mainly humanities and social sciences subjects, you may be able to pursue a career in the tourism industry, mass media, a non-governmental organization, a consulting firm, a think tank, etc. If you study mainly natural science subjects, you may be able to pursue a career as a scientist, an engineer, a designer, or even an entrepreneur. About 70% of our third and fourth graduates got a position in private companies including Bangkok Bank, Fast Retailing Co.,Ltd., Konami Group Corporation, Micron Memory Japan,K.K., Nissin Foods Holdings Co.,Ltd., ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Tsuneishi Shipbuilding Co., Ltd.. About 15% of graduates went on to graduate schools. (As of March 2025)



IGS Campus Life

A Friendly and Supportive Environment

Our campus is full of greenery where you can enjoy vibrant student activities and also get involved in local Japanese life. Students will meet each other through the freshmen orientation in April. This should be a great opportunity to make new friends. Various support for your studies and lifestyle are available. In addition, there are many events and activities on campus such as the *Yukata Festival* (people wear a special summertime *kimono* during this festival). Students can make their campus life more enjoyable by participating in such social activities.



Accommodations

All successful applicants will be eligible to stay in the Ikenoue Student Dormitory for their first two years of study.

Ikenoue Student Dormitory (Higashi-Hiroshima City, Kagamiyama 2-812-62)

Ikenoue was founded for the dual purpose of providing appropriate housing to students and giving students the chance to experience student life as a responsible adult. To promote mutual understanding and international exchange, accommodations in the dormitory are offered to both Japanese and international students. Rent including common expenses ranges from JPY 6,700 to JPY 16,200 per month, depending on the room type.

From students' third year, there will be help available when they move to private apartments. Most apartments include a kitchen, bath, and bathroom, and rent ranges from JPY 20,000 to JPY 50,000 per month, depending on the size of the apartment. The co-op shop on campus is also a good place to search for an apartment.



IGS Campus Location



Hiroshima University is situated in Higashi-Hiroshima City, a regional hub about 30 minutes by train from Hiroshima City. The area surrounding the campus is a beautiful natural area that has long been famous for the brewing of sake, Japanese rice wine. Saijo, the area in which Hiroshima University is located, has all the big city amenities while keeping its rural appeal. Every October, Saijo holds the Sake Matsuri, an energetic festival celebrating the area's long history of sake brewing. Higashi-Hiroshima City and Saijo provide a beautiful place to study while catering to all the needs of university students.



Contact



Hiroshima University
School of Integrated Arts and Sciences
Department of Integrated Global Studies

1-7-1 Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima City
Hiroshima, Japan 739-8521
TEL: +81-82-424-7988
E-mail: igs@hiroshima-u.ac.jp
<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/igs/>



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