

October 2026 Admission

Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences (Doctoral Course)

Application Guidebook

Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Humanities Program

[General Selection]

[Special Selection for Working Citizens I]

April 2026



HIROSHIMA UNIVERSITY

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※ All dates and times listed in this Application Guidebook are in Japan time.

◆ Admission Policy

The Doctoral Course of the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences is seeking students who have a strong motivation and passion to pursue the following objectives and who have the fundamental academic abilities required to achieve them.

① A person who is motivated to acquire, in addition to a wide range of general knowledge, an exceptional level of knowledge and research skills in the humanities, social sciences, educational sciences and other related fields and to develop a better understanding of diversity and international communication skills, and who thereby eventually aims to contribute to creating a “peace science that can lead to sustainable development” from diversified perspectives

② A person who is motivated to acquire, in addition to a wide range of general knowledge, an exceptional level of knowledge and research skills in the humanities, social sciences and other related fields and to develop a better understanding of diversity and international communication skills, and who has a willingness to address challenges currently, or potentially in the future, confronting human society in order to contribute to building a global society of diversity, freedom and peace

In order to admit such individuals, the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences selects applicants through a multifaceted and comprehensive evaluation process based on its own Diploma Policy and Curriculum Policy, using interviews, academic tests, and external examinations.

< Division of Humanities and Social Sciences >

The Division of Humanities and Social Sciences is seeking students who have a strong motivation and passion to pursue the following objectives and who have the fundamental academic abilities required to achieve them.

① A person who is motivated to acquire, in addition to a wide range of general knowledge, an exceptional level of knowledge and research skills in the humanities, social sciences and other related fields, and develop a better understanding of diversity and international communication skills; and who eventually aims to contribute to creating a “peace science that can lead to sustainable development” from diversified perspectives

② A person who is motivated to acquire, in addition to a wide range of general knowledge, an exceptional level of knowledge and research skills in the humanities, social sciences and other related fields, and develop a better understanding of diversity and international communication skills; and who has a willingness to address challenges currently, or potentially in the future, confronting human society in order to contribute to building a global society of diversity, freedom and peace

In order to admit such individuals, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences selects applicants through a multifaceted and comprehensive evaluation process based on its own Diploma Policy and Curriculum Policy, using interviews, academic tests, and external examinations.

< Humanities Program >

The Humanities Program is seeking students who have the following goals and motivations as well as the fundamental academic abilities to achieve them.

① A person who has the advanced expertise necessary to study the humanities, such as logical thinking, creativity, and language skills

② A person who has a flexible and critical mind and who is willing to independently learn outstanding expertise and conduct cutting-edge research

③ A person who wishes to broadly and deeply examine human beings, culture, history, and the environment based on original sources and historical materials

④ A person who is willing to play an active role in the world by making use of his/her outstanding expertise

In order to admit such individuals, Humanities Program selects applicants through a multifaceted and comprehensive evaluation process based on its own Diploma Policy and Curriculum Policy, using interviews, academic tests, and external examinations.

Application Fees Exemption for Prospective Students to Enter Hiroshima University

Hiroshima University will implement special measures for exemption of Application Fees in AY 2026 (for enrollment in AY 2026) in order to reduce the financial burden of those affected by natural disasters and secure opportunities for prospective students to enter the university.

If you wish to request exemption from the Application Fees, please be sure to contact us (See “7. Inquiries”) before applying for admission.

1 Entrance examinations conducted in AY 2026 for Schools, Graduate Schools, and Special Course of Special Support Education.(including examinations for re-enrollment and transfer)

2 Details of Exemption

Exemption of Application Fees

*The fees for disclosure of entrance examination results is also subject to exemption.

3 Disasters for Exemption

Any of the disasters that happened in or after August 2019 and to which the Disaster Relief Act was applied

*Entrance examinations subject to exemption from examination fees are limited to those whose application periods (the final day) are set within five years from the date on which the relevant Disaster Relief Act was applied.

4 Eligibility for Exemption

Applicants who were affected by any of the disasters that happened in or after August 2019 and to which the Disaster Relief Act was applied or who were affected in the areas to which the Disaster Relief Act was applied following the Torrential Rains in July 2018” and who fall under any of the following cases:

- (1) When the home owned by the main school expenses supporter was completely destroyed, substantially damaged, or moderately damaged.
- (2) When the main household supporter is deceased or missing.

*For details on the areas covered by the Disaster Relief Act, access the Cabinet Office website:

http://www.bousai.go.jp/taisaku/kyuujou/kyuujou_tekiyou.html (Japanese text only)

5 How to Apply

Please contact us as directed at “**8. Inquiries**” in advance, and then submit the documents required for exemption, together with other admission application documents.

Note: In this case, please do not pay the application fees when applying for admission.

6 Required Documents

(1) “Application for Exemption of Application Fees” which can be downloaded from the Hiroshima University website.

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/nyugaku>

(2) Disaster damage certificate (photocopy is also acceptable) [Those who fall under 4 (1)]

(3) Document certifying that the main household supporter is deceased or missing (photocopy is also acceptable) [Those who fall under 4 (2)]

7 Online Application Procedures for “Application Fee Exemption”

Please refer to the PDF file posted on the university website.

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/system/files/131856/Online%20application%20procedures%20for-Application%20Fees%20Exemption.pdf>

8 Inquiries

Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) in the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University

1-2-3, Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima City, Hiroshima, Japan (Zip 739-8522)

TEL: (082)424-6615 +81-82-424-6615 E-mail: bun-gaku-sien@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University, is accepting Doctoral Course-seeking applicants for October 2026 Admission in the following programs.

※The examination date and method of selection may be changed due to the effects of infectious diseases, etc.

The changes will be announced on the website of Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University.

1. Number of Students to be Admitted and the Examination Venue

Division Program	Type of Selections / Number of Students	Particular Field	Examination Venue Inquiries and Submission
Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Humanities Program	General Selection / Several Special Selection for Working Citizens I / Several	Comparative Studies of Culture / Western Philosophy / Indian Philosophy and Buddhist Studies / Ethics / Chinese Philosophy / Japanese History / Asian History / Western History / Japanese Language and Literature / Chinese Language and Literature / American and British Literature / English Language / German Language and Literature / French Language and Literature / Linguistics / Language and information Studies / Geography / Archaeology / Cultural Heritage	(Examination Venue) School of Letters, Hiroshima University (Inquiries and Submission) Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) 739-8522, Japan 1-2-3 Kagamiyama, Higashi- Hiroshima Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University Tel : +81-(0)82-424-6615 bun-gaku-sien@office.hiroshima- u.ac.jp

◇ Admission Capacity for Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences / 82

Estimated quota of Each Program / Humanities Program 31, Psychology Program 8, Law and Politics Program 4, Economics Program 5, Management Sciences Program 12, International Peace and Co-existence Program 6, International Economic Development Program 2, Integrated Arts and Human Sciences Program 14.

2. Eligibility for Application

[General Selection]

Those who meet any of the following criteria or who are expected to meet them by September 30, 2026 for those applying for admission in October 2026:

- (1) Holders of a master's or a professional degree;
- (2) Holders of an academic degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree conferred by a university outside Japan;
- (3) Those who have got an academic degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree in the educational system of another country by completing in Japan a correspondence course operated by an educational establishment instituted in the other country;
- (4) Those who have completed an applicable curriculum and got an academic degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree in an educational establishment that is located in Japan, that is recognized as offering graduate courses in the educational system of another country, and that is designated as such by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan;
- (5) Those who have completed a course offered by the United Nations University and got an academic degree equivalent to a master's;

(6) Those who have taken an educational curriculum at a school in a foreign country, an educational institution designated under Item 4, or the United Nations University, who have passed an examination and screening equivalent to those prescribed in Article 16-2 of the Graduate School Establishment Standards, and who have been recognized as having academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a person with a master's degree;

* Item 4... An educational institution that is positioned as having a course of a foreign graduate school under said foreign country's school education system

(7) Those appointed by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan;

(8) Those who have been recognized through an individual admission screening process by the relevant Graduate School of Hiroshima University as having academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a person with a master's degree or a professional degree and who are 24 years or older as of September 30, 2026 for those applying for admission in October 2026.

[Note 1] Applicants falling under categories (8) are required to contact the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) and submit the necessary documents by Friday, May 1, 2026.

[Special Selection for Working Citizens I]

Those who are eligible for applying for Special Selection for Working Citizens I must have Japanese nationality and must have at least two years of professional background or other social experiences at the time of admission after obtaining qualifications such as completion of the master's course of a graduate school through any of the following means.

(1) Holders of a master's or a professional degree;

(2) Holders of an academic degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree conferred by a university outside Japan;

(3) Those who have got an academic degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree in the educational system of another country by completing in Japan a correspondence course operated by an educational establishment instituted in the other country;

(4) Those who have completed an applicable curriculum and got an academic degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree in an educational establishment that is located in Japan, that is recognized as offering graduate courses in the educational system of another country, and that is designated as such by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan;

(5) Those who have completed a course offered by the United Nations University and got an academic degree equivalent to a master's;

(6) Those who have taken an educational curriculum at a school in a foreign country, an educational institution designated under Item 4, or the United Nations University, who have passed an examination and screening equivalent to those prescribed in Article 16-2 of the Graduate School Establishment Standards, and who have been recognized as having academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a person with a master's degree;

* Item 4... An educational institution that is positioned as having a course of a foreign graduate school under said foreign country's school education system

(7) Those appointed by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan;

(8) Those who have been recognized through an individual admission screening process by the relevant Graduate School of Hiroshima University as having academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a person with a master's degree or a professional degree and who are 24 years or older as of September 30, 2026 for those applying for admission in October 2026.

[Note 1] Applicants falling under categories (8) are required to contact the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) and submit the necessary documents by Friday, May 1, 2026.

[Note 2] Applicants who wish to receive a special exception under Article 14 of the Graduate School Establishment Standards are required to notify to that effect the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) by Friday, May 1, 2026

3. Application Procedure

(1) Application period

Item	Period
Data entry and application fee payment	From Friday, June 5, 2026 to 4:59 pm on Friday, June 12, 2026

Submission of application documents which must be mailed	<p>【 Submission by mail 】</p> <p>From Friday, June 5, 2026 to 5:00 pm on Friday, June 12, 2026, without exception</p>
	<p>【 Submission in person 】</p> <p>From Friday, June 5, 2026 to 5:00 pm on Friday, June 12, 2026</p> <p>(Inquires accepted from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm)</p> <p>(Except Saturday and Sunday)</p>

(2) Application Fee 30,000JPY

Applicants will pay Application Fee by Online Application System.


Payment is not required for the applicants eligible for Application Fee exemption on pp. 2-3, Japanese Government Scholarship students, and Expected graduates from the Graduate School (Master's Course), Hiroshima University as of September in 2026.

(3) Application Procedures

Complete the following six steps within the application period stated below:

Step 1: Access the online application system

Access the online application system from the Hiroshima University Admissions Information web page:

<p>Hiroshima University Admissions Information Web Site</p> <p>https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/nyugaku</p>	
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<For inquiries concerning online application system and UCARO website>	
<p>Help Desk (Japanese Speaking Only)</p>	<p>TEL +81-3-6634-6494</p> <p>Inquires accepted from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm</p> <p>(Except Saturday, Sunday and national holidays until July 31)</p> <p>(Except from December 30 to January 3)</p>

For inquiries concerning the examination, please ask the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) in the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University.

E-mail: bun-gaku-sien@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp Office hours: 8:30 am to 5:15 pm on weekdays, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays and year-end and New Year holidays (December 29 to January 3).

Step 2: Select 'Membership Registration' on the UCARO log in screen.

Account registration for UCARO is required for all applicants (free of charge) and it enables applicants to use the above online application system and complete the enrollment procedures.

Step 3: Enter the Account (Only for those who are exempt from the Application fee)

For the applicants eligible for Application Fee exemption as specified on page 2 and Japanese Government Scholarship students, and the applicants who are expected to complete the master's course of the relevant Graduate School of Hiroshima University at the end of September 2026 for those applying, enter from the screen of "Applications not required to pay application fee."

If you are eligible, contact the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) in advance to request the issuance of an account.

Step 4: Input your application data into the Internet application system

Follow the instruction on the screen and enter your name, address, telephone number, email address etc. Please fill out in order of Family Name, First Name, Middle Name. (As written on your Passport)

Be sure to enter a prospective academic supervisor.

* Your personal information registered through the online application system will be used for the following purposes. Therefore, please enter accurate information.

1. Carry out entrance examinations and screening.
2. Notify and send the screening results.
3. Send documents for enrollment procedures to successful applicants.
4. Send information before and after admission.
5. Create statistical data on entrance examinations.
6. Create student registration data and Student ID-Cards.
7. Receive application fees.
8. Check the access status to the Service.

Step 5: Confirm the necessary documents and upload your photo

Confirm the necessary documents when they are shown and upload a digital photo of yourself.

* The uploaded photo, which will be used for identification at the examination, will be also used for your student ID card after enrollment and will be maintained in the university's educational system until graduation.

Therefore, please upload an appropriate photo for use after enrollment as well. Once uploaded, your photo will not be allowed to be replaced.

A fee of JPY 1,000 will be charged for changing the content of your student ID card (photo and your name) after enrollment.

Step 6: Payment of entrance application fee (JPY 30,000)

Choose the method of payment from the following list. For applications from outside Japan, only credit card payments can be accepted.

1. Credit Cards: VISA, MasterCard, JCB, AMERICAN EXPRESS, Diners Club
2. Convenience Stores: 7-Eleven, LAWSON, MINISTOP, FamilyMart, Daily Yamazaki, Seicomart
3. Banking facilities' ATM 【Pay-easy】
4. Online Banking

(Note)

- **In addition to the entrance application fee, applicants must cover the remittance fees.**
- Applicants need to pay the Processing Fee (The amount of Processing Fee will be notified at the time of online application).

Important notices regarding the entrance application fee

The application fee, once paid, will not be refunded for any reason.

However, in cases (1) and (2) below, the application fee is refundable after deducting the bank transfer fee. Therefore in such cases, please clearly write the "reason for demand of refund," "name," "postal code," "address," "transfer destination information," and "contact telephone number" in the prescribed format given from the university and send it to the address mentioned Step 7 by postal mail by Friday, February 26, 2027.

- (1) If the application documents have not been submitted, or if they have not been accepted
- (2) If duplicate payments of the entrance application fee have been made in error

Step 7: Initial registration process complete (Your application is NOT completed yet.)

You will be issued with a Registration Number (not your Examinee's Number). Please make a note of it or to print out a copy of the computer screen showing the number. The Registration Number is needed for confirming the application details later, and for sending the application documents by post.

Step 8: Submission of application documents through registered mail

Please submit the application by one of the following methods to the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) in the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University.

1. Submission by mail

【 If you are submitting the application from within Japan 】

Prepare a commercially available "No. 2" square envelope (24 cm (W) x 33.2 cm (H) x 33.2 cm (W x H), which can hold an A4 size document without being folded) and clearly mark it with "Hiroshima University Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences Application Documents Enclosed." Affix the required postage for mailing, and send it by simplified registered mail so that it arrives within the application period.

【 If you are applying from outside Japan 】

Send the data (PDF, etc.) of the application documents by e mail first, and prepare an envelope (about 24 cm (W) x 33.2 cm (H)) that can hold A4 size documents. Enclose all the required documents, and send them by the fastest method such as EMS (Express Mail Service), etc. to arrive within the application period. Write the Registration Number, the postal code, address, and the name of the applicant on the envelope. Applications arriving after the application period will not be accepted.

2. Submission in person

Prepare a commercially available "No. 2" square envelope (24 cm (W) x 33.2 cm (H) x 33.2 cm (W x H), which can hold an A4 size document without being folded). Clearly mark it with "Hiroshima University Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences Application Documents Enclosed," and enclose all necessary documents. In this case, postage is not required.

(4) Postal Address for Submissions

Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) in the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University

1-2-3, Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima City, Hiroshima, Japan (Zip 739-8522)

TEL: (082)424-6615/6616 +81-82-424-6615/6616 E-mail: bun-gaku-sien@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

(5) Application documents to be mailed

	Documents	Contents
A	Educational/Professional Background	Use the prescribed form (*). If there is no information to be entered, enter "Educational/Professional Background: N/A" and submit the document.
B	Academic Transcript	Must be issued by the dean or president of the university or graduate school.
C	Certificate of (Expected) Completion of the Master's Course	Must be issued by the dean or president of the university or graduate school. (certificate showing eligibility for application) (If you have already graduated, make sure that your degree information is included.) However, those who have completed or are expected to complete a graduate school in China (excluding Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macau) must submit the following documents. [Those who have completed a graduate school] - Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (“教育部学历证书电子注册备案表”) - Copy of Certificate of Completion (“毕业证书”) - Copy of Degree Certificate (“学位证书”) [Those who are expected to complete a graduate school] - Online Verification Report of Student Record (“教育部学籍在线验证报告”) - Certificate of Expected Completion * Please obtain the Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (“教育部学历证书电子注册备案表”) and the Online Verification Report of Student Record (“教育部学籍在线验证报告”) from the website for higher education qualification certificate verification by the Chinese Ministry of Education (“中国高等教育学历证书查询” https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp). Be sure to check that there are 6 or more months left until the expiration date of the online verification at the time of its submission.

		<p>* If the university you graduated from and the graduate school you graduated from are under different affiliations, also submit the documents listed in “[Those who have completed a graduate school]” above for the university you graduated from. (Completion should be read as graduation.)</p>
D	Master's thesis, etc.	<p>Submit the following documents ① to ③ (free form).</p> <p>① Master's thesis (copy) or equivalent thereto (copy) ② A summary of the contents of ① in about 2,000 to 4,000 characters (in Japanese in principle) ③ Research achievement after obtaining a master's degree</p> <p>* If you are expected to complete the course at the end of March 2024, submit a plan of your master's thesis (about 2,000 to 4,000 characters) instead of ① and ②. * For the research achievement listed in ③, submit it if you have a copy or original. It will be returned after the entrance examination.</p>
E	Research Proposal	<p>Provide a research proposal after admission in about 3,000 characters, using the prescribed form (*).</p>
F	Self-Recommendation Letter	<p>Among applicants for General Selection who are graduates of Hiroshima University, those who wish can substitute documents D and E above for the “Self-Recommendation Letter.” In such a case, however, consult with a prospective academic supervisor in advance.</p> <p>Provide your reasons for applying for admission to the relevant Graduate School of Hiroshima University in about 1,200 characters, using the prescribed form (*).</p> <p>Graduates of Hiroshima University are defined as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No specific graduate school or program is designated. - There is no distinction between those who are expected to complete or those who have already graduated. - For research students and international research students, limited to those who are enrolled in Hiroshima University at the time of application. - Non-degree students are not applicable.
G	Education and Research Achievement Record	<p><u>Those applying for Special Selection for Working Citizens I must submit this document using the prescribed form (*).</u></p> <p><u>* Printed materials and productions that show the content of the activities stated in the submitted Education and Research Achievement Record will be returned after the entrance examination.</u></p>
H	Certificate of Name Change	<p>If the name at the time of application differs from the name on a certificate due to a change in family name or other reasons, submit a document issued by a public organization showing both the old and new names (e.g., a copy of a certificate of residence).</p>
I	Copy of the Residence Card (both sides)	<p>Only foreign citizens residing in Japan are required to submit this document.</p>
J	Copy of the Passport (The page that can identify your name and face photo)	<p>Only foreign citizens residing outside of Japan are required to submit this document.</p>
K	Certificate of MEXT student, Any form that states that you are planning to apply for extension	<p>Submitted only for MEXT students who are not currently enrolled at our university</p>

L	Address Entry Sheet	Fill out the sheet with PC, etc. using the prescribed form (*), and print it out on A4 paper.
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[Notes]

- The forms marked with an asterisk (*) can be downloaded from the website of the Graduate School.
- Submit the above application documents together.
- No changes to the content will be allowed after the receipt of application documents.
- Submitted documents will not be returned after the receipt of application documents.
- Defective application documents may not be accepted.
- Certificates or other documents written in a language other than Japanese or English must have a Japanese or English translation attached to the original documents.
- If it is found that the submitted documents contain any false statement or misrepresentation after acceptance or admission, the acceptance or admission will be cancelled.
- Any applicant who is an expected graduate and is accepted but fails to graduate by the day before admission will be considered ineligible for admission.

(6) Application method for applicants with disabilities

Applicants with disabilities, who require special considerations for taking the examination or studying, must submit the report for advance consultation (A4, no prescribed form), to the address for submission (See “3. Application Procedure (4) Postal Address for Submissions.”):

- a Report must be submitted by **Friday, May 1, 2026**
- b Report must contain the following information:
 - ① Name, address
 - ② Telephone number (If you have a mobile phone, please include your mobile phone number as well.)
 - ③ Name of program/research field/course to be applied
 - ④ Name of applicant’s graduating university or college
 - ⑤ Name of a prospective academic supervisor
 - ⑥ Type and degree of disability (a doctor’s statement for applicants’ current medical treatment) should be required.
 - ⑦ Considerations necessary for taking the examination
 - ⑧ Considerations necessary for studying after admission
 - ⑨ Considerations given to the applicants at the graduating university or college
 - ⑩ Current situation of daily life

(7) Viewing of an applicant number and printing of an admission ticket, etc.

If your application documents are received at the University, you will be able to view your applicant number and admission ticket and information about the examination at UCARO from Friday, June 19, 2026 at 12:00 (planned). Print your admission ticket from UCARO before the date of examination.

4. Student Selection Method (Academic Examinations)

[General Selection]

The academic ability examination (oral examination), research achievement (master’s thesis, etc.) and application documents (academic transcript and research proposal) will be comprehensively evaluated to select successful applicants.

However, for those who have submitted a self-recommendation letter, the academic ability examination (oral examination) and application documents (academic transcript and self-recommendation letter) will be comprehensively evaluated to select successful applicants.

[Special Selection for Working Citizens I]

The academic ability examination (oral examination), research achievement (master’s thesis, etc.) and application documents (academic transcript and research proposal) will be comprehensively evaluated to select successful applicants.

Day, Month Date, Year	Time	Examination
Saturday, July 11, 2026	13 : 00 ~	Oral examination

5. Announcement of Results

Scheduled for Friday, July 24, 2026 at 12:00

A notice of acceptance will be sent to successful applicants. The admission results will also be posted on UCARO. We are unable to respond to inquiries by telephone or other means.

Please note that the posting of results on UCARO is provided as part of the information services of our Graduate School, and the official announcement of successful applicants will be made by mailing the notice of acceptance, etc. (for residents in Japan only).

6. Admission Procedure

(1) Deadline for the Admission Procedure

Monday, August 31, 2026 to no later than Monday, September 7, 2026 at 17:00

(2) Payment

Enrollment Fee: 282,000 yen

Tuition Fee: 267,900 yen per semester

535,800 yen per year

[Note 1] Enrollment fees will not be returned for any reason.

[Note 2] The above fees are listed as current for April 2026. Should the amount be revised at the time of, or after, enrollment, students will be required to pay the revised fee.

[Note 3] Details of the amount and procedures of payments will be notified separately.

(3) Admission Documents

The admission documents to submit include the following: Entrance Notification, Student Information Registration Sheet, Certificate of Completion, academic transcript (only for those who have taken the examination before completing their courses), and a letter of approval from the head of your department at your workplace (only for those who enroll while working at a public organization or private corporation).

7. Special Coursework Exception for Working Citizens (incumbent teachers etc.)

In order to allow students to balance the performance of their duties as working adults with their studies at the Graduate School, the Graduate School applies a special exception under Article 14 of the Graduate School Establishment Standards to facilitate their school attendance. (In a graduate school course, education may be provided by appropriate methods such as offering classes or research guidance in the evening or at other specific times or periods if it is deemed to be particularly necessary for education.)

Regarding how to take courses under special exception, receive guidance from your prospective academic supervisor.

If you wish to take courses under special exception, select whether or not you wish to receive special exception of the education method when you enter your application data into the Internet application system (page 7, Step 4).

8. The System for an Extended Period of Study

For those who meet any of the following criteria, the system for an extended period of study enables you to complete your curriculum in a period exceeding the standard duration of studies in accordance with a prearranged schedule. Application will be made after enrollment.

- (1) Applicants currently in employment (including a part time job) who have difficulty in securing necessary time for your study
- (2) Applicants currently in housework, childcare and nursing care who have difficulty in securing necessary time for your study
- (3) Individuals with physical disabilities, intellectual disabilities, mental disabilities (including developmental disabilities), or other functional impairments of the mind and body, who find it extremely difficult to secure study time.

Tuition fees in this system must be paid in installments by dividing the total tuition fee amount for the standard period of your curriculum by the approved number of years of study.

For more details, such as the limit on the number of years allowed prior to graduation, please contact the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters).

However, those whose status of residence is “Student” are not eligible for this system.

9. Personal information acquired through this application

Any personal information (full name, date of birth, sex, etc.) acquired through this application shall be used for the purposes of admission selection, notification of the results, and entrance procedures.

Hiroshima University shall manage the data of those who have been admitted for the purposes of student support (scholarship application, tuition waiver applications, etc.) and research (improvement of entrance exams, surveys and analysis of applicant trends, etc.). This data will not be used for any other purpose, nor provided to any third party.

However, following agreement on the appropriate use of personal information, there may be cases whereby related use for data processing is entrusted to companies outside the university.

10. Student Dormitory

Regarding the recruitment of residents for student dormitories, please note that the application deadline is scheduled for mid-August 2026 for October admissions. For details, please visit the website for student dormitories.

Website for student dormitories:

<https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/nyugaku/shien/jyuukyo/gakuseisyukusya>

Inquiries about student dormitories: Student Services Group, Hiroshima University

Tel: 082-424-5794 (local calls from within Japan); or +81-82-424-5794 (calls from outside of Japan)

11. Others

Smoking has been prohibited entirely in all HU campuses since January, 2020.

Application Submissions and Inquiries

Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters)

(Zip 739-8522)

1-2-3, Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima City, Hiroshima, Japan

Tel: (082) 424-6615 (local calls from within Japan); or +81-82-424-6615 (calls from outside of Japan)

E-mail: bun-gaku-sien@office.hiroshima-u.ac.jp

- (1) Regarding the entrance examination, please contact us by email in principle.
- (2) Please note that you need to dial the area code (082) from areas other than Higashi-Hiroshima City, even though there are

other areas with the same area code.

(3) If the date and time of examination change due to the weather condition or other reasons, it will be notified on the website of Graduate School

of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University.

Website: <https://www.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/en/gshs>

<p>Disclosure of the Personal Information</p> <p>for the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University</p>

1. The following personal information on the result of entrance examination (herein after referred to as “personal information”) will be disclosed only for applicants in the General Selection or Special Selection for Working Citizens for the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University (herein after referred to as “disclosure requester”).

Item	Contents
Result of Examination	Division of Humanities and Social Sciences Humanities Program General Selection or Special Selection for Working Citizens I Letter grade of each subject in the examination

2. The procedure to request disclosure of personal information is as follows.

(1) Please request the application form for disclosure of personal information in one of the following two methods.

- ① To request the application form in person, please go to the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) .
- ② To request the application form by mail from the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters), Hiroshima University, the disclosure requester should write “Request for Application Forms for Disclosure of Personal Information in the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University” on the envelope, and enclose a return-envelope (standard size, 12cm ×23.5cm) with his/her own name, postal code and address and a stamp for standard mail (up to 50g) affixed.

(2) After filling in the necessary information on the application form for disclosure of personal information, submit it along with the following documents to the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) in person or by mail between October 15 and November 30 for admission in October.

- ① Application form for disclosure of the personal information (completed with all the necessary information).
- ② Examination card for the Hiroshima University (Printed from UCARO). It will be enclosed and returned at the time of disclosure.
- ③ One return-envelope (standard size, 12cm ×23.5cm) with the name, postal code and address of the disclosure requester, and a stamp for simplified registered mail (up to 50g) affixed.

If there are any issues with the application, the Support Office will ask for the necessary correction.

(3) The Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Hiroshima University, will notify the disclosure requester of the disclosed information within 30 days of the application’s acceptance date. (The disclosed information will be posted by the return-envelope.)

[Applications and Inquiries]

Address: Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters)

1-2-3 Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima, 739-8522, Japan

Tel: (082) 424-6615 (local calls from within Japan); or +81-82-424-6615 (calls from outside of Japan)

List of Academic Supervisors of the Humanities Program, the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences

(Note 1) The list of faculty members below is as of April 1, 2026 (excluding those scheduled to retire in March 2027).

(Note 2) Faculty members marked with an asterisk (*) are scheduled to retire within the standard term of study. If you request any of such faculty members to be your academic supervisor, be sure to contact the Support Office for the fields of Humanities and Social Sciences (Letters) of Hiroshima University in advance (prior to payment of the application fee).

*1: Persons scheduled to retire in March 2028, *2: Persons scheduled to retire in March 2029

Comparative Studies of Culture	Professor	TAIRA NAKAMURA	Based on his field experience in Taiwan, he has been studying the historical experiences and violent memories of Japanese colonialism and the indigenous peoples of Taiwan. In recent years, he has been also interested in the methodology of autoethnography. With participants, he hopes to reconsider not only the theme of Japan-Taiwan relations theory but also a broader subject in its relationship with international Japanese studies, anthropology, historiography, history of social thought, cultural theory, and other fields, and he hopes to open up comparative studies of Japanese culture and humanities in terms of both research and education. At the same time, he will reconsider the authorization and institutionalization of knowledge and bring the distribution of knowledge and educational and research activities themselves into the discussion. Considering the seminar, which is not limited to the campus, as a community of knowledge that inspires each other, he wants to share this training with the joy of refining speaking, listening, writing, and expressing.
	Professor	YOSHICHIKA HONDA	He conducts comparative studies of Japanese and Asian cultures in the field of comparative studies of Japanese culture. The foundation of his research lies in the classical culture of South Asia, but he pays attention to the process by which such culture propagated across regions and was accepted in various ways throughout Asia, as well as to the changes that took place after its acceptance. He is also interested in identifying different aspects of human activities in various regions, not necessarily limited to those originating in South Asia, through comparisons while using literature materials as a basis. He places importance on how much interest and persistence can be shown in even the most obvious things and on investigating and thinking until reaching a satisfactory conclusion.
	Professor	SONOKO MIZOBUCHI	When Japan is objectified as a motif and relativized by means of comparison, the question of how to deal with "different cultures" arises at various levels. In terms of education, she teaches students with an emphasis on broadly grasping the dynamics of culture while examining mainly modern and contemporary Japanese literary art media from the perspective of comparative literature. In terms of research, she specializes in comparative literature, focusing on the literary relationship between Japan and Russia from the 19th to the 20th centuries. In addition to acceptance theories/influence theories at a literary level, her research also approaches issues related to the "border-crossing" of languages and cultures in modern and contemporary times, such as the representation of different cultures, translated literature, changing concepts of "world literature," and inter-genre negotiations of literature and art.
	Associate Professor	TORU OTA	Zen Buddhism was introduced to Japan from China towards the end of the Kamakura period. Along with Zen Buddhism, various cultural attributes were also brought to Japan. Zen priests were eager to absorb these cultural attributes and diligently studied a great many Chinese books. To clarify various aspects of the assimilation, I have divided the whole process of the assimilation by Zen priests into three stages, beginning with their learning of Chinese literature and ending with their composing poems and prose in the Chinese language. Studies of the first stage target bibliographic items of Chinese books. Studies of the second and third stages respectively concern the understanding and interpretation of Chinese books by Zen priests and the works they composed in Chinese. Specifically, I am studying the value of collections of Du Fu and Liu Zongyuan, Zen priests' understanding of Du Fu's and Liu Zongyuan's works, and the characters of Gido Shushin and other Zen priests represented in their own works. In addition, I am studying teaching materials of classical Chinese for contemporary school education, along with questions to check students' understanding of the content.
	Associate Professor	KOSUKE FUJIKI	I have published papers on contemporary films from East Asia, including Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong, with a focus on films about Okinawa. Furthermore, I take interest in themes such as cross-cultural adaptation and the representation of memory and history in film. In recent years, I have been researching film adaptations of Haruki Murakami's works and contemporary Okinawan literature. Alongside my research, I am also occasionally involved in video translation and programming for international film festivals. In terms of education, I aim to enable students to understand the meanings found in the images by placing them in a social and historical context, on the basis of the visual text analysis of contemporary Japanese films.

Comparative Studies of Culture	Assistant Professor	JINPENG LIU	He studies the discourses of postwar Japanese intellectuals, especially those concerning "Asia." He examines the discourses of intellectuals who wrestled with ideological issues such as modernization theory, nationalism, and pan-Asianism to explore "Asiatic" thought patterns in and after the modern era from a comparative perspective. He also focuses on the ideological issues that have been shared between Japan and China since modernization and analyzes them beyond national frameworks, mainly in terms of criticism and defense of "science." In education, the world of criticism, mainly those in general magazines of the postwar period, is reproduced in class to reexamine the debates that took place among intellectuals. Furthermore, from the perspective of contemporary history, he discusses the way of new Japanese culture and traces the transition of Japanese culture in the postwar period.
Western Philosophy	Associate Professor	TOMOKI HAZAMA	In his research, he elucidates and interprets the thought of the modern German philosopher Hegel based on rigorous philological study with reliance on texts. Focusing on research in its logic, phenomenology, and philosophy of law, his research mainly includes an attempt to clarify the formation process of Hegel's thought leading to the establishment of his system, the position of Hegel's philosophy in Kant and German idealism and their mutual influences, and the contemporary significance of Hegel's cogitations in relation to contemporary analytic philosophy. In addition, he also works on contemporary social and political philosophy with key concepts such as freedom, recognition, and justice, and he searches for the ideal form of society that can realize individual freedom. The graduate school course is centered on reading classic philosophical literature in the modern age. This course is designed to develop the basic skills for reading philosophical literature with careful and detailed reading in mind and to deepen each participant's own thought through discussion among participants.
Indian Philosophy and Buddhist Studies	Professor	HIROSHI NEMOTO	Buddhist thought and Sanskrit culture, which originated in India, were transmitted across the Himalayas to Tibet, where they developed in a unique way. The course covers India to Tibet, discusses the history of thought and culture comprehensively, and teaches the basics of the reading method of Sanskrit and Tibetan. He specializes in Tibetan Buddhist thought and mainly works on elucidating the theory of dependent origination, bodhisattva thought, and buddhakāya theory of Tsong kha pa, the founder of the dGe lugs pa school. In recent years, he has also expanded his interest to Tibetan poetry and poetic theory and has been examining the process by which the fusion of Buddhist thought and literature was established in Tibet. He aims to feed back the results of recent research on Tibetology to the course and share the joy of learning with graduate students.
	Associate Professor	YUKA OTANI	I conduct research on Buddhism in the East Asian Sinitic (kanbun) sphere centered on Japan, with particular attention to the historical development of precept (vinaya) thought. Rules of monastic life originally formulated with life in India in mind are difficult to implement precisely in later East Asian contexts. In East Asia, numerous commentaries on vinaya texts were produced, and these works reflect various strategies for adapting a religious life rooted in Śākyamuni's teachings to different cultural environments. My research examines how Buddhism encountered and transformed within new cultural settings, from both doctrinal and practical perspectives on the precepts. In addition, in order to clarify the actual state of Buddhist studies in Japan, I survey, catalogue, and introduce Buddhist manuscripts and texts preserved in local temples. On the educational side, I provide foundational training in reading Buddhist texts written in kanbun, and also teach how to decipher cursive scripts in manuscripts, not only printed materials. I aim to create an environment in which students can acquire the skills to discover and appreciate Buddhist culture rooted in local communities, even beyond their formal academic studies.
Ethics	Associate Professor	YUTA GOTO	(1) He studies the issues of loss of meaning/value of existence and "nihilism" by mainly using Nietzsche's and Heidegger's thoughts as clues. He also examines these issues, taking into consideration the philosophies of emptiness and nothingness in Eastern thought. Furthermore, he does not simply conduct research on thoughts but also pays attention to their contemporary significance. (2) For bioethics issues, while he studies "issues related to death" in modern times, such as the role of end-of-life care and acceptance of death, he also works on "issues related to birth," such as artificial abortion and eugenics. (3) As for information ethics issues, he researches how to maintain an appropriate <distance> from information technologies, such as the Internet and smartphones, which dominate modern society. (4) In actual education, while emphasizing the study of traditional Eastern and Western ethical thoughts, he encourages students to contemplate with a practical awareness of the real world.
	Assistant Professor	SHIMPEI OKAMOTO	He engages in the study of the history of thoughts regarding the moral philosophy of British empiricism with a focus on the 19th-century British philosopher J.S. Mill, theoretical study of contemporary philosophy regarding axiology and normative theory, and research on ethical issues of technology regarding robotics and space development. According to the interests of students, the following activities are conducted in the course: (1) translation and interpretation of classic literature, (2) review and examination of leading papers on metaethics and normative ethics and survey research to understand the state of controversy, and (3) investigation and review of journal papers to grasp the latest research status on various contemporary issues, such as artificial intelligence.

Chinese Philosophy	Professor	TAKAYASU SUENAGA	His main research subject is various thoughts from the Warring States period to the Qin and Han periods. In recent years, a large number of texts written in these periods have been unearthed in the form of bamboo strips and silk manuscripts, and it has become necessary to reexamine the conventional history of thought, which had been constructed solely on the basis of materials transmitted from generation to generation. Accordingly, he has been conducting research to newly build up the history of thought of those periods by rereading and reevaluating the materials transmitted for generations using the knowledge brought by these new materials. Currently, he has been working to reconstruct the history of Confucian thought in the Warring States period by reexamining especially the value of the various articles included in the Book of Rites and the Record of Rites Compiled by Daide as materials. In terms of education, he will teach the technique of interpreting the texts of Pre-Qin thinkers using a variety of annotations, as well as how to compile a history of thought using various materials, including newly unearthed materials.
	Associate Professor	DAISUKE AOYAMA	I study Japanese Sinology (the <i>Ancient Learning</i> school, 古学派) and Chinese philosophy (intellectual history and the <i>Hundred Schools of Thought</i>). My research has two main themes. First, I explore the thought of Yasui Sokken (安井息軒; 1799 [Kansei 11]–1876 [Meiji 9]), a leading Confucian scholar in late Edo and early Meiji Japan. Among his students were influential figures in the new Meiji government, such as Mutsu Munemitsu (陆奥宗光; 1844–1897) and Inoue Kowashi (井上毅; 1844–1895). Although many of Yasui's writings were published after the Meiji Restoration, they have not yet been thoroughly studied. Through his works, I examine how the Ancient Learning school contributed to Japan's modernization. Second, I study ancient Chinese ideas of the "sage" (<i>shengren</i> , 圣人) and "wisdom" (<i>congming</i> , 聪明) to understand how people conceived of "knowledge" (<i>zhi</i> , 知). I also examine the relationship between the text <i>Lüshi Chunqiu</i> (吕氏春秋, 239 BCE) and Qin (秦) legal documents to reveal how philosophy and politics interacted in early China.
Japanese History	Assistant Professor	XIAOXING YIN	Her research seeks to draw an overall picture of the history of the interrelationship between Japanese and East Asian popular edification thoughts by analyzing popular edification and moral and ethical life in the early-modern to modern periods in Japan. Specifically, she works on such issues as how the moral code shared in East Asia in the early-modern period penetrated common people in Japan, how the formation of the moral ethics of common people in early-modern Japan is positioned in the development of thoughts in East Asia, and how the popular edification thought in the early-modern period, which was formed in connection with East Asia, has changed in the modern period and afterwards.
	Assistant Professor	SHO KUBOTA	My specialty is Japanese medieval history. I conduct research focusing particularly on elucidating the social structure of the 15th and 16th centuries (the so-called Sengoku period). Specifically, my research goal is to clarify the power structure of regional warlords (the so-called sengoku daimyo), explore the social structures that underpinned their powers, and thereby reconstruct the resulting political processes. While my research primarily focuses on western Japan, particularly Kyushu, I attempt to construct arguments that take into account the relations with the historical context and influence of the entire Japanese archipelago, and even East Asia as a whole, including China, Korea, and the Ryukyu Kingdom. In the future, I aim to precisely articulate the structure of medieval Japanese society, which is entirely different from modern society. I also plan to examine the structural understanding of the political processes in western Japan in the 15th and 16th centuries, as well as the relationship between the expansion of the influx of goods from East and Southeast Asia and the Sengoku period conflicts, with the goal of understanding the "Sengoku period" from a global historical perspective.
Asian History	Associate Professor	SHINYA UEDA	My main focus of research is the early modern history of Vietnam. In the field of early modern Vietnamese history, improved access to historical sources has enabled detailed analysis of local governance, land ownership in villages, family structures, religious practices, etc., consequently requiring a major reassessment of previous studies. As an initiative to satisfy this requirement, I conduct fieldwork in villages in northern and central Vietnam to collect village documents and analyze local governance, kinship groups, land ownership, and other matters in early modern Vietnam. Through these analyses, I also aim to shed light on social transformation in Vietnam from early modern to modern times while keeping an eye on its relationships with East Asian and Southeast Asian societies.
	Associate Professor	YOSHIYUKI FUNADA	His research covers the central and eastern regions of Eurasia during the Mongol Empire. With his interest in the movement and mixed residence of diverse human groups accompanying the expansion and rule of the Mongol Empire, he has been conducting research with an eye to the periods before and after the Mongol Empire as well as to adjacent regions. In particular, he has been engaged in the elucidation of the formation and development of a pluralistic society and the governing system for such a society. He focuses on mainland China and the Mongolian plateau, including the Yuan Dynasty (Yuan period) in Chinese history. In graduate school, he hopes to work on a variety of topics, ranging from politics, legal systems, and society to diplomacy, war, economy, and cultural exchange, making use of historical materials of varying contents, media, and languages, as well as the results of field research.

Western History	Professor	SHOTA FUJIHARA	Specializing in the modern history of France, I analyze the process of reorganization of local governance structures during the French Revolution and the Napoleonic era and explore the reality of the transition of France from an early modern state to a modern state. More specifically, I focus on the assemblies established in the local administrative divisions (departments, arrondissements, and municipalities) that were founded through the Revolution with the aim of revealing how these local assemblies, which became politically overheated due to pressure from external forces during the Revolution, were depoliticized toward the end of the Revolution, from the perspectives of constitutional amendments, reforms in local administration and the electoral system, the reorganization of the public security system, etc. This research initiative of mine involves the survey and analysis of unpublished historical documents housed in archives throughout France. My graduate seminar is aimed at enabling attendees to accumulate know-how in such research activities and open up possibilities for a new overview of modern France.
	Professor	HIROSHI MAENO *2	He studies ancient Mediterranean history and Greek epigraphy and papyrology. Epigraphy deals with texts inscribed on stone slabs or metal tablets, while papyrology deals with texts written in ink on paper made from papyrus grass. Specifically, he reads inscriptions of decrees carved on stone slabs that were erected on the Acropolis or Agora, votive inscriptions carved on statues or other objects, curses written on lead tablets, marriage or labor contracts written on papyrus, letters written by common people, and magic books, which are manuals for magic. By reading them, it is possible to catch a glimpse of the state, politics, society, religion, life, and mentality of the people who lived in the ancient Mediterranean. Deciphering inscriptions is a thrilling and fascinating task. He also conducts excavation and research on a large tomb discovered at the Al-Bass World Heritage Site in Lebanon.
Japanese Language and Literature	Professor	YUKA SHIMOOKA	She specializes in modern Japanese literature and Japanese-language literature and postcolonial criticism. (1) Research on generative theory centering on Naoya Shiga's texts and methods of novels based on the person and narratology. (2) Research on novels and <i>haiku</i> written in Japanese in postcolonial Taiwan, with a focus on Huang Ling-zhi. This research seeks to uncover the representational possibilities of new Japanese-language literature woven by authors who use multiple languages. (3) Research on magazine media, focusing on the government-made propaganda magazine "Taiwan Aikoku Fujin," published in Taiwan during the Japanese colonial period. This research aims to elucidate the market and political nature of Japanese literature that expanded with the acquisition of colonies, the roles of editors and reporters who traveled overseas, and the gender functions required of "women who read" and "women who write." Although she can teach any research topic related to the above three areas, she emphasizes education based on the close reading of texts, including images.
	Professor	JUN SHIRAI	His main area of research and education is Japanese linguistics, especially the history of the Japanese language, with a focus on the Christian editions. In class, emphasis is placed on learning the basic techniques of philology, but the Christian editions include dictionaries, grammar books, and religious books published in Japan by Christian missionaries using Western-style printing techniques, and he aims to realize an education that fosters students' spirit of spontaneous inquiry through a wide range of perspectives, including the following: (1) Japanese grammar books and dictionaries developed in a multilingual environment centered on Latin; (2) religious books unique to the Japanese Jesuits that were translated and reedited from original European texts; (3) publications fully printed with Japanese kanji and kana, which are far more complex than the characters of European languages; (4) the earliest learning of the Japanese language by foreigners who studied and practically used it; and (5) exploration and investigation through fieldwork of Christian editions scattered throughout the world.
	Associate Professor	YOKO OGAWA	My specialty is mid-ancient and medieval Japanese literature. Specifically, I am studying the creation process of <i>The Tale of Genji</i> and other mid-ancient and medieval fictions and how they have been appreciated over the years until the present day. My research targets include the creation and development process of commentaries on <i>The Tale of Genji</i> over the period from medieval times to the early modern period and the networks built in the early modern period for transcribing and collecting mid-ancient and medieval dynastic stories. In my classes, students will study mid-ancient and medieval fictions. After observing the state of books—either hand-written transcription or woodblock printing—and correctly understanding the content through transliteration, fixing of texts, and annotation, students will learn to read stories with real appreciation. Through this process, students are expected to find problems by themselves.
	Assistant Professor	KATALIN DALMI	Her specialization is contemporary Japanese literature, particularly Japanese literature from the Showa era onwards. She has primarily focused on the works of Haruki Murakami, magical realism and more recently, literary adaptations such as manga or illustrated books. She is also interested in the works of contemporary Japanese female writers, such as Sayaka Murata or Natsuko Imamura. Additionally, she has a deep interest in the reception of Japanese literature abroad, especially in English-speaking countries and Hungarian-speaking regions. In terms of education, she provides research guidance centered on contemporary literature, aiming to approach Japanese literary works from a broad perspective while encouraging creativity and independent thinking.

Chinese Language and Literature	Professor	YUKO KAWASHIMA	My educational and research activities focus on vernacular Chinese novels of the Ming dynasty. Ming dynasty vernacular novels—such as Romance of the Three Kingdoms, Water Margin, Journey to the West, Jin Ping Mei, and the Sanyan and Erpai collections—emerged against the backdrop of the late Ming publishing culture, gaining many devoted readers through various forms, including illustrated editions and annotated editions. My research explores the formation of these works based on both internal and external textual information, with particular focus on the reception of these works, especially through the lens of the annotated editions of the time. Additionally, these novels were introduced to Japan during the Edo period, and various translations and derivative works were created from that period through the Meiji and Taisho eras. My research and educational activities also cover the reception of Chinese vernacular novels in Japan.
American and British Literature	Professor	SHINSUKE OHCHI	He specializes in American literature, with a particular focus on William Faulkner and Cormac McCarthy. Currently, he is studying Faulkner's narrative techniques and his theme of the instability of the boundaries of race, class, and gender. He has supervised theses primarily on writers of the American South, such as Faulkner, Mark Twain, and Toni Morrison, as well as on nineteenth-century American writers, including Herman Melville, Edgar Allan Poe, and Henry James, but he is willing to supervise work on any author in American literature. His courses cover major literary works of the American Renaissance, Modernism, and the South, and combine close reading with discussion.
	Professor	PETER CHEYNE	He researches romantic, modernist, and contemporary literature—poetry, fiction, essays, criticism, and philosophy—with a focus on how ideas shape experience, knowledge, art, and life. His interests include contemplation, epiphany, and literary expressions of transcendence and mystical experience. His current project explores these themes in literature and philosophy from 1925 to 2025. He is an elected life member of Clare Hall, Cambridge University, and an honorary fellow in philosophy at Durham University. In addition to publishing scholarly articles internationally, he is author of <i>Coleridge's Contemplative Philosophy</i> (OUP, 2020), editor and co-author of <i>Matter and Life in Coleridge, Schelling and Other Dynamical Idealists</i> (Springer, 2025), <i>Imperfectionist Aesthetics in Art and Everyday Life</i> (Routledge, 2023; Japanese edition forthcoming from University of Tokyo Press, 2026), <i>Coleridge and Contemplation</i> (OUP, 2017), and co-editor of <i>The Philosophy of Rhythm: Aesthetics, Music, Poetics</i> (OUP, 2020).
	Associate Professor	KYOKO MATSUNAGA	Her research focuses on the discourses or cultural representations of atomic bombs and nuclear energy in the U.S. and Canada from the historical context of imperialism and colonialism, and from an environmental perspective. In particular, she has analyzed how North American indigenous authors and artists have incorporated the issues of atomic bombs, uranium mines, nuclear facilities, nuclear power plants, and nuclear waste in their literary, visual, and artistic works from interdisciplinary approaches, such as cultural studies, postcolonial theory, and environmental justice. In class, she focuses primarily on contemporary American literary works, with an emphasis on considering the historical and cultural contexts of authors and works, as well as a wide range of themes such as race, class, gender, sexuality, colonialism, and environmental issues. She also aims to provide an opportunity for students to develop multifaceted and critical perspectives for understanding the complex phases of literary works and to explore their own questions and interests.
	Assistant Professor	MAI MATSUMOTO	She studies British poetry, focusing on the works of 17th-century British poets such as Henry Vaughan, Abraham Cowley, and Richard Crashaw. In recent years, she has attempted to analyze early modern British literature from the standpoint of mystical thought, including alchemical thought, and scientific thought. In terms of education, she provides research guidance on contemporary poetry and American poetry, in addition to British poetry. She also explores comparative culture centering on cats depicted in British and American literary works, the interface between epic poetry written by such authors as John Milton and contemporary subcultures, and the relationship between poetic works and art.
English Language	Professor	OSAMU IMAHAYASHI	He conducts research on the language and style of English novels in the Late Modern English period. In particular, his main research interest is those of Charles Dickens, a novelist representing the Victorian era, and he has been studying “literary dialects” depicted in his works. Recently, in parallel with research on Dickens' language and style, he has been investigating the characteristics of English in 19th century England in terms of phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexicology with the help of the latest methods and theories of sociolinguistics and corpus linguistics. As a project, following in the footsteps of the late Tadao Yamamoto (former professor at Hiroshima University), he has been compiling a “Dickens Lexicon Digital” with Dickens scholars who graduated from the English philology and linguistics courses at Hiroshima University and Kumamoto University. He also works on digitising English literary works in accordance with TEI and aims to establish its international standards and build a large-scale archive of English literature.
	Professor	HIDESHI OHNO	He conducts research on the language of Geoffrey Chaucer, an English poet in the late 14th century. His main interest is in impersonal constructions. He has investigated the significance of the difference in use between impersonal and personal uses of the same verb that has both uses, and has offered the possible interpretations based on the difference, using pragmatics and other linguistic approaches. In doing so, he has also conducted diachronic and synchronic examinations by dealing with other poets of the same period and electronic corpora. While large-scale electronic corpora are being developed, he is trying to clarify the use of vocabulary and grammatical items at that time, being conscious of what can be understood by using a corpus and what cannot be understood without close reading.

German Language and Literature	Associate Professor	HARUHIKO IMAMICHI	His research subject is corpus linguistics (German), whose main task is to collect and weigh linguistic and stylistic information from linguistic data accumulated on computers and to analyze the language. His research also covers the following topics: (1) the difference between the use of synonyms and polysemes; (2) selection of academic German; (3) grammatical phenomena with multiple variations; (4) recently, analysis of overuse/underuse by German learners based on composition data, and (5) automatic identification for summarized sentences. In graduate school seminars, while the highest priority is given to reading original German texts, practical training in data processing is also provided. In addition, classes are conducted with the goal of applying the findings obtained through analysis to the development of teaching materials and to each person's own research theme.
	Associate Professor	CHRISTOPHER SCHELLETTER	His research investigates how the emergence of literary text classes such as genres can be explained. At the center is the question of how factors such as social structures, intellectual history, and changes in the literary system such as the introduction of new formal means of expression, affect literary production, not in isolation, but in their interplay as configurations of conditions. In a comparative analysis of the Japanese Bildungsroman, he has already explored these kinds of causal relationships. Beyond this, his work aims at the development of a general theory and methodology for explaining the genesis of genres. In teaching, he places importance on creating an atmosphere in which the skills acquired in German classes can be applied and further developed without pressure, both in oral discussion during class and in written assignments. In supervising theses, he emphasizes the teaching of academic writing and the application of literary theory.
French Language and Literature	Professor	AKIKO MIYAGAWA	Her main research subject has been 19th-century French novels, especially the works of Zola, but in recent years, she is interested in the relationship between newspapers and literature from late 19th to early 20th century. She pays particular attention to serial novels and examines the relationship between this form of novels and topical news reports as well as readers. In education, she believes that reading texts is the basis of literary research, but in class she does not only ask students to read and translate but also provides time for discussion after the reading to check for different interpretations. In the thesis guidance, she explains the procedures and necessary work for creating a thesis, and she tries to guide students to develop their ability to write logical and persuasive argument through the correction of the submitted assignments.
	Associate Professor	OLIVIER SECARDIN	He studies the concepts of cultural hybridity and mobility. For this purpose, he analyzes these concepts from a comparative cultural perspective on a wide range of subjects, from French literature in the age of the Enlightenment to contemporary French literature (especially that of the Antilles). In education, while he places emphasis on helping students master the French language so that they can actively engage in activities in the French-speaking areas through the acquisition of the language and culture, in literature class, he attempts a multi-thematic approach that simultaneously pays attention to the historical, cultural, and social contexts of texts. He aims for students to not simply learn how to read texts but to develop the ability to understand and interpret them while looking for connections between texts and thoughts.
	Associate Professor	OLIVIER ALAIN LORRILLARD	Although his research initially focused on classical French literature and Latin, he now specializes in teaching French as a foreign language and French culture. His main interest is in the issue of the methodology for the acquisition of proficiency in a foreign language, and he is searching for a method of teaching French suitable for overcoming problems specific to Japanese learners. Specifically, and very paradoxically, he studies the role that translation can play in optimizing the acquisition of oral communication skills. In communication class, he partially applies this approach, in which the mother language is directly compared with the language to be studied. The culture class is also based on the communicative approach, with the aim of making learning more spontaneous.
Linguistics / Language and Information Studies	Professor	TAKAFUMI UENO	He teaches language events found in structural linguistics and universal grammar from historical linguistics, in which linguistics has developed as a scientific discipline, in the form of lectures and seminars. His specialized areas of research are the following themes: (1) "diachronic changes in linguistic forms"; (2) "syntactic phenomena in unaccusative structures"; and (3) "cross-linguistic study of copulas." In (1), he investigates changes in phoneme, forms, and syntax in Italian using literary works as a corpus. In (2), he studies the syntax of unaccusative structures, which was prompted by his suggestions about past participle derivatives in his research on the formation process of Italian and English compounds and derivatives. In (3), he studies the syntactic functions and structures of cross-linguistic copulas. He also conducts education and research on Japanese contrastive linguistics.
	Associate Professor	JUNICHI OZONO	He specializes in Old Indo-Aryan (so-called Sanskrit) historical grammar, especially verbal morphology, which has hitherto been developing since the establishment of Indo-European studies. His research aims to elucidate the form and function of reduplicated verb stems, mainly using linguistic materials of Old Indo-Aryan (especially its old form called "Vedic"), Old Iranian (Avestan and Old Persian), and Greek (especially Homeric Greek), which occupy a central position among the Indo-European languages. In class, students, through analyzing linguistic materials, learn methods such as the comparison among Indo-European languages including Old Indo-Aryan and the reconstruction of Proto-Indo-European, aiming to master the basics of Indo-European historical grammar.

Geography	Professor	HIDEAKI GOTO	He mainly conducts a tectonic geomorphological study, which examines the crustal movement and displacement of active faults. His research methods include the identification of active faults and classification of landforms by interpreting stereo images using aerial photographs and a digital elevation model (DEM), on-site measurement of landforms, and observation of geological strata. Recently, he has been trying to take a new approach to a tectonic geomorphological study by using a geographic information system (GIS) and a DEM. His research area covers onshore and submarine landforms, to reveal the characteristics of active tectonics. He is also interested in examining natural geographical or environmental geographical issues related to landforms, such as natural disasters and regional development.
	Professor	KAZUO TOMOZAWA *1	He currently engages in (1) research on spatial structures in contemporary India, (2) research on the industrialization of India, and (3) economic geographical research on the shipbuilding industry in Japan. Among these, particular emphasis is placed on (1) and (2), for which he has secured funding under the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research-Basic Research (B). Based on the results of this research, he provides a wide range of education on human geography, centering on economic geography and urban geography. Many of the students under his guidance are interested in industry, commerce, and service in terms of industry, and in urban and industrial areas in terms of area. In seminars, he provides guidance with an emphasis on the improvement of students' independence and creativity. He also accepts students of the Program for Leading Graduate School (TAOYAKA Program for creating a flexible, enduring, peaceful society).
	Associate Professor	TAKUYA GOTO	He has conducted three studies: (1) geographical study of agribusiness, (2) geographical study of corporate participation in agriculture, and (3) geographical study of the broiler poultry industry in India. Regarding (1), he has already published the results of his research as a single-authored book, "Geography of Agribusiness" (Kokon Shoin) in 2013. As for (2) and (3), he still continues research based on fieldwork. Utilizing these research results, he provides education and thesis guidance on human geography, centering on agricultural geography and rural geography. In graduate school seminars, he seeks to provide guidance with an emphasis on learning research trends in human geography through reading of literature, as well as on collecting materials through fieldwork, and hearing investigations.
Archaeology	Professor	HISASHI NOJIMA	He conducts archaeological studies of the time before the formation of the ancient state in the Japanese archipelago. He discusses the theory of artifacts with the theme of how the iron culture from the Yayoi to Tumulus periods transformed society. He also aims to clarify that the metal culture was involved in various social structures based on archaeological study cases of chiefdoms around the world that existed before the formation of the ancient states. He promotes a comparative archaeological study of chiefdoms from the perspective of the development of metal culture. Furthermore, he conducts excavations of tomb sites, such as burial mounds of the Yayoi period and keyhole-shaped tomb mounds of the Tumulus period, to comprehensively examine their development process. He provides guidance so that students can acquire the latest investigation and research techniques as well as conduct interdisciplinary research to discover the real picture of ancient society from archaeological artifacts.
	Associate Professor	YUI ARIMATSU	She specializes in archeology of the ancient Orient (Middle East). The Middle East is a rare region where epoch-making phenomena in human history occurred naturally and expanded and developed autonomously. To understand how our society was established, clarifying the history of this region is essential, and at the same time, it can be said to be an ideal field to face the universal proposition of the humanities: "Where did we come from and where are we going?" Among others, she seeks to elucidate the process of establishment of ancient empires such as Assyria and the Achaemenid Empire. In particular, the Achaemenid Persian Empire was the first power to unify the ancient Orient and is also called a world empire, but many mysteries remain in its establishment process. She also pays attention to the process of practical use of iron in such a process. She works on these issues in human history in a variety of ways, from the development of theories to empirical approaches based on field investigations and research.
	Associate Professor	NAOYA UEDA	I specialize in archaeology, focusing on Japan. My specific research theme is the process of the formation of an ancient state in Japan, which I approach mainly from the aspect of funerary practices and systems. In Japan, a large number of huge burial mounds (kofun) were built mainly from the third to sixth centuries, which is quite unique from a global perspective. It is thought that there were not only cultural but also other factors behind this phenomenon. I have been exploring the background to the emergence and development of these kofun through structural analysis of their main facilities: burial facilities. I am also committed to assessing ancient Japan from the perspective of world history by internationally comparing the meanings of monument construction in the period of state formation. In research and instruction, I place importance on empirical methods, such as on-site surveys of archaeological sites and the utilization of actual remains.

Cultural Heritage	Associate Professor	NAOKO ITO	She specializes in research on ancient Indonesian art history and religious history in the pre-Islamization period. She analyzes the development of Buddhism, especially Buddhist Tantrism, in Indonesia and other Asian countries from the viewpoints of art history and craft history of cast statues and ritual implements used for ceremonial purposes, and she investigates it using inscriptions, historical writings, and religious scriptures as supplementary materials. In graduate school seminars, she conducts practical training in investigation methods, such as handling, photographing techniques, and creation of investigation records of arts and crafts in the Asian region, in line with each student's subject. She also provides guidance so that students can compare them with those in other regions, collate them with historical writings and religious scriptures, and perform interdisciplinary studies, including their relationship with the social and historical backgrounds.
	Assistant Professor	YASUO NAKAMURA	His specialty is the history of Japanese architecture, and his current main research theme is the restorative consideration of residential houses and castle architecture (palaces, keeps, etc.) during the transitional phase of the medieval and early-modern periods. In this research, he empirically restores the appearance of various buildings that have now been lost by reviewing traces of buildings revealed by excavations and actually measuring architectural components that have been preserved in various places, such as cedar doors of palaces, in addition to traditional architectural history methods, such as studies of literary historical materials and old illustrated maps. In terms of education, he assigns a variety of themes related to architectural history according to students' interests and teaches students to examine such themes logically and from multifaceted perspectives. In addition, he also actively implements fieldwork in education, including on-site tours and actual measurement surveys.