

From the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences to the Graduate School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences

An education and research hub in the fields of education, humanities, and social sciences that promotes and strengthens the development of highly skilled professionals capable of enhancing the integration of knowledge and addressing complex challenges in the VUCA era

[Achievements to Date]

1. Cultivated educational professionals in the Division of Educational Sciences with a view toward advancement to Doctoral Courses, a pathway unique among Japan's comprehensive research universities

2. Developed DX professionals (professionals driving digital transformation) through the establishment of the Social Data Science Program and the Education Data Science Program in the Master's Course

3. Promoted interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary education and research through the reorganization of six graduate schools into one graduate school consisting of 12 programs

[Social Background and Challenges]

1. There is a growing need to accelerate the development of groups of faculty and staff with advanced educational and research capabilities in the field of educational sciences. (Measures to Accelerate the Formation of High-Quality Groups of Faculty and Staff with Diverse Expertise, a request for deliberation by the Central Council for Education, FY2024)
2. Further advancement of digital transformation (DX) is required in research within the humanities and social sciences. (The 6th Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan, Cabinet Decision, FY2021)
3. There is an increasing need to cultivate diverse doctoral talent in the humanities and social sciences—including doctoral graduates pursuing careers in industry and government, international doctoral students, and doctoral-level working professionals—and to expand their career pathways. (Measures for Promoting Graduate Education in the Humanities and Social Sciences, Central Council for Education, FY2023; Future Vision for Enhancing Japan's Integration of Knowledge, Central Council for Education, FY2025)

[Overview of the Graduate School Reorganization]

[Division of Educational Sciences]

(1) Establishment of the Professional Practice and Educational Leadership Program (Doctoral Course)

The Professional Practice and Educational Leadership Program will be newly established within the Doctoral Course of the Division of Educational Sciences. Designed primarily for graduates of professional graduate schools for teacher education, it will be the first such program at a comprehensive research university in Japan. Graduates will be awarded the newly established degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Professional Practice in Education and Educational Leadership.

(2) Reorganization of the Educational Design for Teacher Educators Program (Master's and Doctoral Courses)

The Educational Design for Teacher Educators Program will be reorganized as the Teaching and Learning Sciences Program. Rather than preparing teachers in line with the mission of professional graduate schools for teacher education, the program will cultivate educational professionals with advanced educational and research capabilities. Its 12 fields of study will be reorganized into two courses: Learning Sciences and Disability Studies; and Teaching Innovation Sciences. The reorganization will also clarify the program's role in preparing educational professionals for careers as upper secondary school teacher-researchers, faculty members at higher education institutions, and educational specialists in education-related organizations.

[Division of Educational Sciences and Division of Humanities and Social Sciences]

(3) Development of advanced DX professionals (Doctoral Course)

The Social Data Science Program and the Educational Data Science Program will be introduced in phases in the Doctoral Course to cultivate advanced DX professionals.

[Comprehensive Graduate Curriculum Reform]

(6) To cultivate versatile doctoral professionals, new Graduate School-wide subjects (Doctoral Course), including Internship and Entrepreneurship Development, will be introduced to develop transferable skills.

[Division of Humanities and Social Sciences]

○ Expansion of career pathways through the development of diverse doctoral talent via the integration and reorganization of existing programs

(4) The Economics Program and the Management Sciences Program will be integrated and reorganized into the Economics and Management Program.

The new program will consist of two courses—"Advanced Research in Economics" and "Management and Economics"—and will cultivate both academic researchers and doctoral-level working professionals.

(5) The International Economic Development Program will be reorganized as the Policy Science Program. The program will cultivate professionals—primarily including international doctoral students—who can promote the formulation, implementation, evaluation, and improvement of policies that contribute to individual well-being while maintaining a global perspective.

[Reason for the Graduate School Name Change]

When the Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences was established in AY2020, the two fields of education and the humanities were encompassed within the more abstract concept of "humanity." In recent years, however, academic and social environments in Japan and abroad have increasingly highlighted the importance of both clearly identifying areas of specialization and promoting integration and collaboration across disciplines. Accordingly, with a view to placing greater emphasis on educational sciences, the concept of "humanity" has been divided into the two fields of education and the humanities, thereby clearly presenting the Graduate School's three pillars: educational sciences, humanities, and social sciences. In addition, by placing "education" at the forefront of the name, the Graduate School's strengthened focus on education is made more visible. For these reasons, the Graduate School has been renamed the Graduate School of Education, Humanities and Social Sciences.