

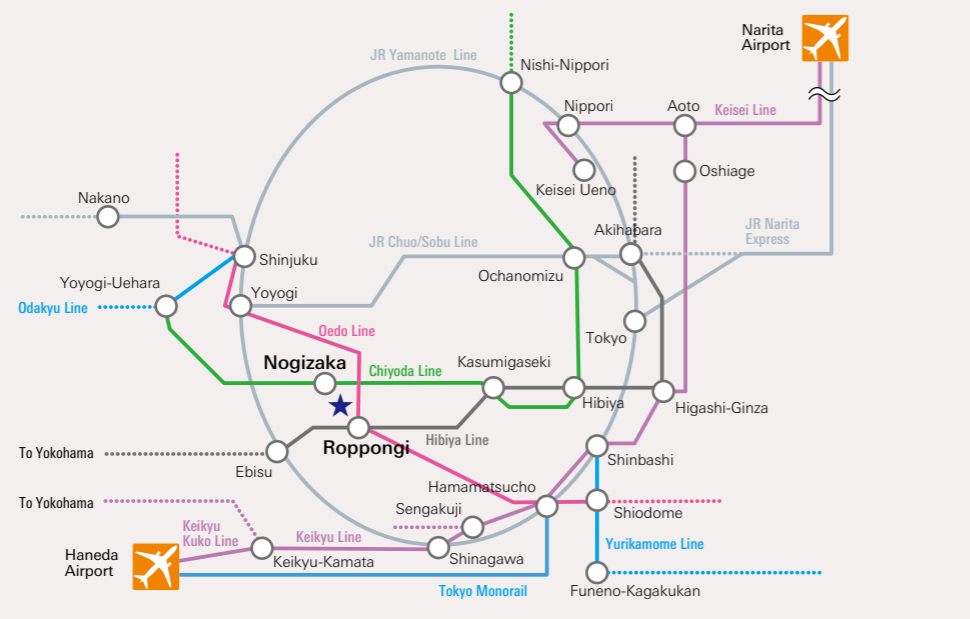
Address and Contact Information

Getting to GRIPS

The GRIPS building is located in the center of Tokyo, conveniently accessible by public transport. Both Nogizaka Station on the Chiyoda Line and Roppongi Station on the Oedo and Hibiya Lines are within 10 minutes walking distance.



Roppongi Hills



Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme

**Public Finance Program
Customs Course**



National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies

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Admissions office

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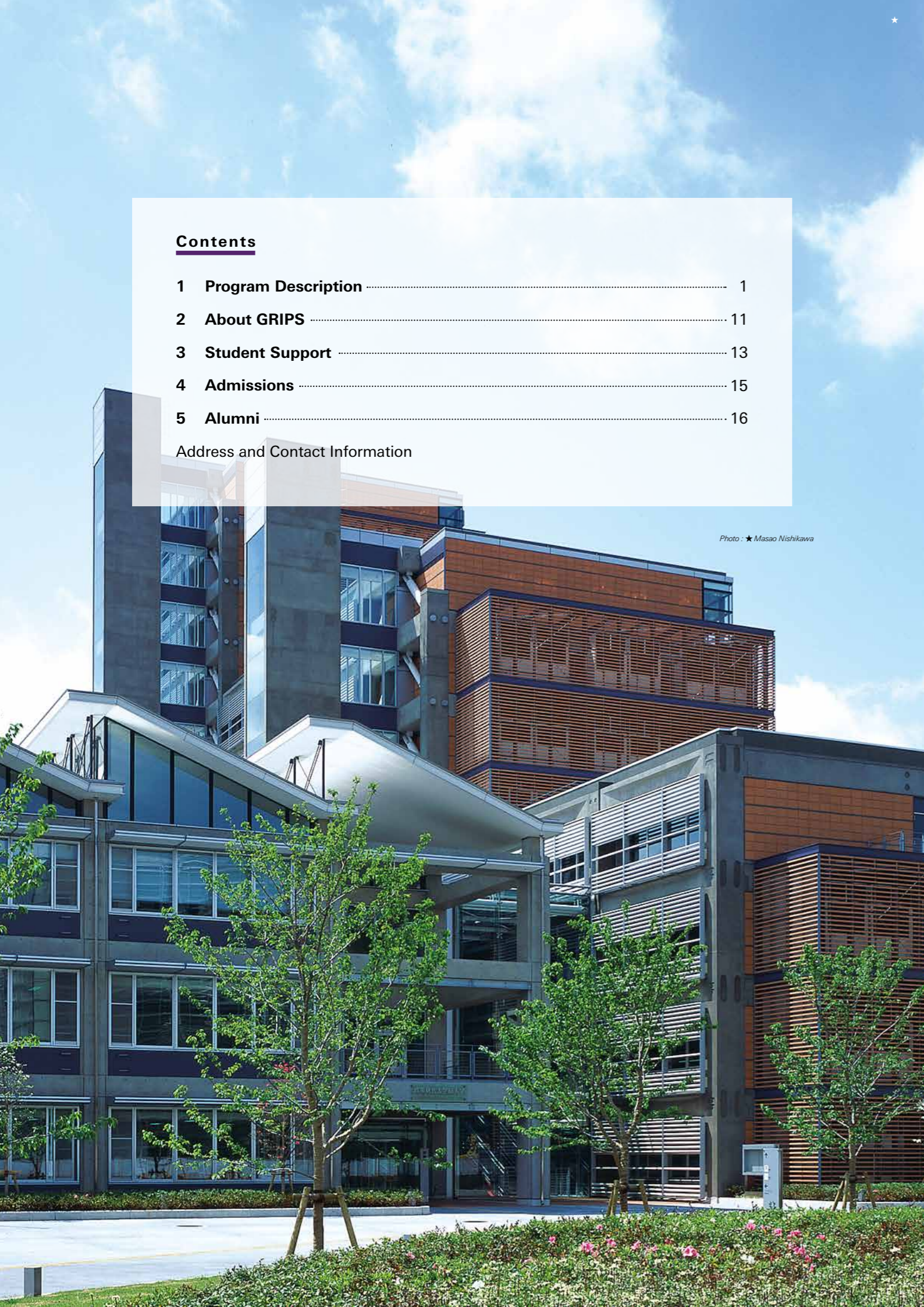


Photo : ★ Masao Nishikawa

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Address and Contact Information

1 Program Description

Public Finance Program (Customs Course)

Overview and Program Objectives

Since 2000, the Customs Course at GRIPS (as part of the Public Finance Master's Degree program) has cultivated promising customs officials. The major objective of the Public Finance Program is to provide students with the conceptual understanding and technical competence to become leaders in the area of taxation and customs. The curriculum is designed for government officials from developing countries, who currently work in customs or tax administration. The program is a 13-month course comprised of two segments: an academic segment common to customs and tax students, and a practicum segment (internship) that is conducted separately for customs and tax depending on the student's stream/concentration.

Degree Requirements

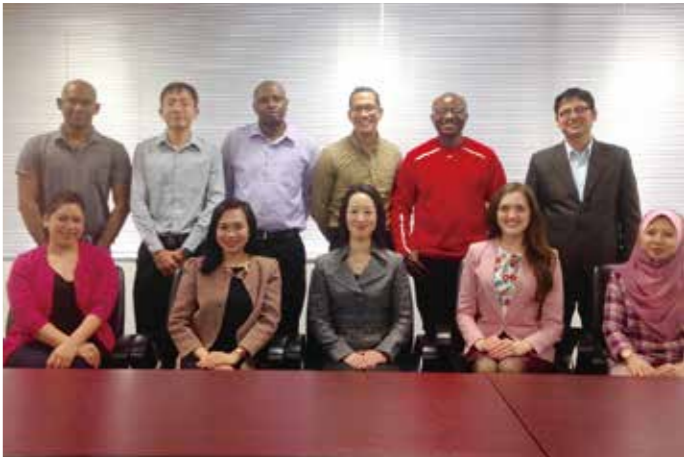
- The curriculum is comprised of two course categories: required courses, and elective courses. In the elective courses, we have identified 12 courses that are highly recommended. Students in the Customs Course must complete a minimum of 36 credits, 22 of which are made up of required courses.
- Besides the minimum credit requirements stated above, students must complete and obtain approval for a master's thesis.

Academic Segment

The academic segment provides a rigorous economics-oriented education aimed at developing a broad understanding of the theoretical, empirical, and institutional aspects of customs/tax policy implementation and administration, in the context of developing countries economic and social development. The academic segment culminates in the writing of a master's thesis facilitated by a course in which students develop their thesis with the input of academic supervisors and their peers, in which they have several opportunities to present their research.

Practicum Segment

The practicum segment of the Customs Course is provided by Japan's Customs Training Institute (CTI: WCO Regional Training Centre), Customs and Tariff Bureau of the Ministry of Finance. It involves workshops and seminars, and field trips to regional customs bureaus. These experiences give students opportunities to enhance their learning on practical, administrative, legal, and institutional issues, thus integrating practical experience with their formal learning.



Outline of the Curriculum

September Program

One academic year at GRIPS is composed of four terms: fall (16 weeks), winter (8 weeks), spring (16 weeks), and summer (8 weeks). Although the formal academic term starts in October, students in the Customs Course are invited to arrive in early September, and attend supplementary classes to brush up on their basic mathematical and statistical skills, which will help them grasp the micro-foundations of economics and the basis for empirical analysis. They also attend classes on basic Japanese, and special four-day program as part of the practicum.

September-October Program for 2015-2016

		AM(9:00~12:10)	12:10~13:20	PM(13:20~18:10)			
SEPTEMBER	4 Fri	Arrival Day					
	5 Sat	Day off					
	6 Sun	Day off					
	7 Mon	Guidance by GRIPS, PC distribution, etc.	LUNCH BREAK	Program Guidance	2014 Evaluation Session		
	8 Tue	Japanese Language	Japanese Language	Welcome Party sponsored by WCO	WCO Review		
	9 Wed	Japanese Language	Japanese Language				
	10 Thu	Japanese Language	Japanese Language	LUNCH BREAK	Math-Econ	Math-Econ	
	11 Fri	Japanese Language	Japanese Language	LUNCH BREAK	Math-Econ	Math-Econ	
	12 Sat	Day off					
	13 Sun	Day off					
	14 Mon	Japanese Language	Japanese Language	LUNCH BREAK	Customs Law	Customs Law	
	15 Tue		Math-Econ	LUNCH BREAK	Math-Econ	Math-Econ	
	16 Wed		Math-Econ	LUNCH BREAK	Math-Econ	Math-Econ	
	17 Thu		Customs Law	LUNCH BREAK	2014-2015 Graduation Ceremony		
	18 Fri		Math-Econ	LUNCH BREAK	Math-Econ	Customs Law	
	19 Sat	Day off					
	20 Sun	Day off					
	21 Mon	Day off					
	22 Tue	Day off (National Holiday)					
	23 Wed	Day off (National Holiday)					
	24 Thu	Program by CTI					
	25 Fri	Program by CT					
	26 Sat	Day off					
	27 Sun	Day off					
	28 Mon	Program by CTI					
	29 Tue	Program by CTI					
	30 Wed						
	OCTOBER	1 Thu	Move in to Students' Residence Foreigners' Registration				
		2 Fri	Day off				
		3 Sat	Day off				
4 Sun		Day off					
5 Mon		Entrance Ceremony, Orientation and Program guidance at GRIPS					
6 Tue		Administrative formalities at GRIPS					
7 Wed		Fall Term begins at GRIPS					

Formal Academic Program

The formal academic segment of the master's program begins in October. It starts with focused teaching of foundational skills in micro- and macroeconomics as well as quantitative analysis. It then moves to a range of applied topics which help students understand how to design, implement, and evaluate public policies -- customs policy in particular -- in accordance with development strategies. Topics include public finance, international economics, development economics, human resource management, customs laws, and tax laws. See the list of course offerings and the flow chart for the 2015-2016 on the following pages.

In addition to the required and strongly recommended elective courses, students can choose freely throughout the year from any of the extensive list of courses offered at GRIPS. Along with economics courses, GRIPS also offers numerous courses in various academic areas that are conducted in English. These range from public administration, political science, international relations, mathematical science, and social engineering, to a diverse range of interdisciplinary fields. Students can also choose to enroll in the Japanese language courses offered throughout the year at various levels of proficiency, although credits earned in these courses cannot count towards the degree.

Practicum Program

The main part of the practicum starts in the winter term. It involves seminars and workshops that cover the theory and practice of international trade, as well as customs policy and administration. It also involves visits to regional customs bureaus, and final preparations for student papers that are presented to, and discussed with CTI teaching staff.

Master's Thesis

There is one required course, Workshop in Public Finance, that students must enroll from fall through summer term, which are devoted to producing the master's thesis (or "policy paper") on a topic related to public finance. In this course, students are provided with personal instruction in an intimate environment by a faculty advisor, and several opportunities to present both their ongoing and completed research papers. Students are supported in the writing process by a monthly Academic Writing Workshop that starts in October, as well as through individual consultation with faculty members of the GRIPS Academic Writing Center.

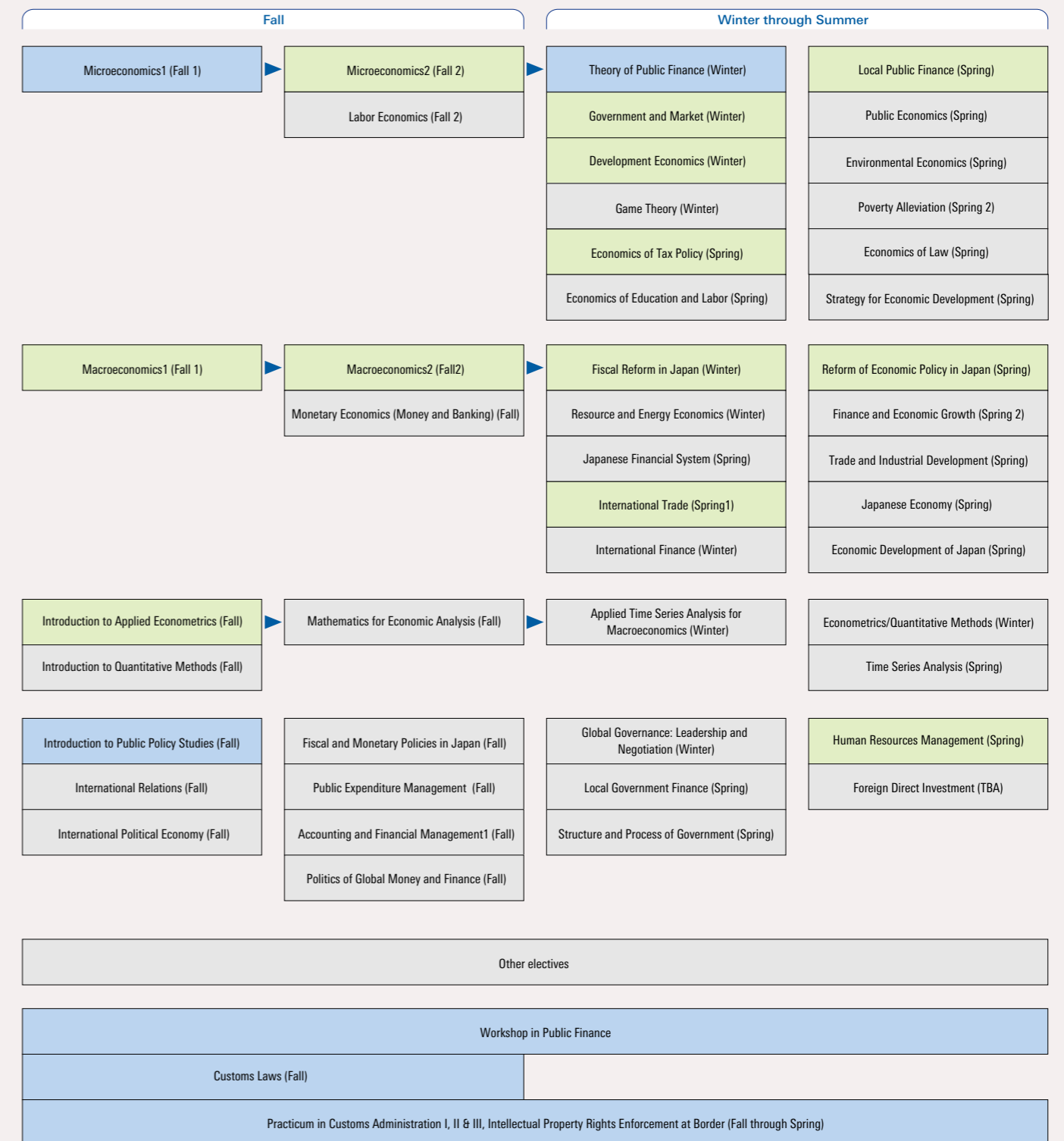


Course Offerings for 2015-2016

	Course No.	Course Name	Term	Credit
I Required Courses	PFP2500E	Customs Law	Fall (September ~)	2
	PFP5110E	Practicum in Customs Administration I	Winter	2
	PFP5120E	Practicum in Customs Administration II	Spring	2
	PFP5130E	Practicum in Customs Administration III	Fall (September), Spring	4
	PFP5210E	Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement at Border	Spring (Session I)	2
	ECO1000EA	Microeconomics I	Fall (Session I)	2
	ECO3100E	Theory of Public Finance	Winter	2
	ECO4100E	Workshop in Public Finance	Fall through Summer	4
	GEN5010E	Introduction to Public Policy Studies	Fall	2
	ECO1060EB	Macroeconomics I	Fall (Session I)	2
ECO2000EA	Microeconomics II	Fall (Session II)	2	
ECO2020EA	Government and Market	Winter	2	
ECO2060EB	Macroeconomics II	Fall (Session II)	2	
ECO2720EB	Introduction to Applied Econometrics	Fall	2	
ECO3110E	Fiscal Reform in Japan	Winter	2	
ECO3130E	Economics of Tax Policy	Spring	2	
ECO3150E	Local Public Finance	Spring	2	
ECO3160E	Reform of Economic Policy in Japan	Spring	2	
ECO3400E	International Trade	Spring (Session I)	2	
ECO3840EB	Development Economics	Winter	2	
PAD2560E	Human Resources Management	Spring	2	
ECO1600E	Monetary Economics (Money and Banking)	Fall	2	
ECO2610E	Finance and Economic Growth	TBA	2	
ECO2760E	Applied Time Series Analysis for Macroeconomics	Spring (Session I)	2	
ECO2860E	Poverty Alleviation	Spring (Session II)	2	
ECO2870E	Strategy for Economic Development	Spring	2	
ECO2880E	Trade and Industrial Development	Spring	2	
ECO2900E	Game Theory	Winter	2	
ECO3000E	Mathematics for Economic Analysis	Fall	2	
ECO3140E	Public Economics	Spring	2	
ECO3170E	Labor Economics	TBA	2	
ECO3190E	Economics of Education and Labor	TBA	2	
ECO3200E	Economics of Law	Spring	2	
ECO3340E	Urban Development and Real Estate Policy	TBA	2	
ECO3450E	International Finance	Winter	2	
ECO3470E	Empirics of Macroeconomic Policies and International Finance	TBA	2	
ECO3510E	Environmental Economics	Spring	2	
ECO3530E	Resource and Energy Economics	Winter	2	
ECO3610E	Japanese Economy	Spring	2	
ECO3630E	Japanese Financial System	Spring	2	
ECO3700E	Econometrics/ Quantitative Methods	Winter	2	
ECO3710E	Time Series Analysis	Spring	2	
ECO3810E	Economic Development of Japan	Spring	2	
ECO6700E	Advanced Econometrics I	Winter	2	
ECO6710E	Advanced Econometrics II	Spring (Session I)	2	
GOV2200EA	International Relations	Fall	2	
GOV2210E	International Political Economy	Fall	2	
GOV2580E	Structure and Process of Government	Spring	2	
ECO7720E	Economic Analysis of Urban and Regional Policy	TBA	2	
GOV3220E	Politics of Global Money and Finance	Fall	2	
MOR1000E	Introduction to Quantitative Methods	Fall	2	
PAD2510E	Accounting and Financial Management I	Fall	2	
PAD2580E	Global Governance: Leadership and Negotiation	Winter	1	
PAD2610E	Fiscal and Monetary Policies in Japan	Fall	2	
PAD2670E	Public Expenditure Management	Fall	2	
REG2020E	Local Government Finance	Spring	2	
	Selected Topics in Policy Studies I - IV			
	Courses unlisted in this table can also be taken			
		Basic / Intermediate / Advanced Japanese *	Fall through Summer	
		courses offered by the Center for Professional Communication*	Fall through Summer	

Note: Courses offered are subject to change.
* Credits earned in these courses cannot count toward the degree.

Flow Chart for Core and Other Major Elective Courses



Blue box indicates courses that are required. Green box indicates elective courses that are highly recommended.

Brief Core Course Descriptions (Academic Segment)

Followings are for category I and II only. For other courses, see <http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/education/information/syllabus/>

Introduction to Public Policy Studies

Public policy is studied in various fields of sciences by various approaches. Not only researchers but also professionals need to have a wide range of knowledge and keen interest in various aspects of public policy and related government and administrative systems. In view of such necessity, this course is organized to introduce students of public policy and public administration into the world of public policy studies. As an introduction, major subjects and issues in public policy studies are briefly discussed with references to specific cases in Japan and other countries. In addition, students will be given practical training in research and communication skills. They will become familiar with various academic specialties (areas of concentration) offered at GRIPS, learn the style and requirements of academic writing, and receive guidance on writing a research proposal. By the end of the course, students should have selected a concentration area and presented a preliminary proposal for either a policy paper or thesis.

Microeconomics I

This is an introductory course in microeconomics. It covers basic economic assumptions and concepts used to define behaviors of consumers and firms in markets. The course is comprised of three parts: consumer theory, firm theory, and equilibrium in a competitive market. In consumer theory, preference, utility, budget constraints, utility maximization, and demand curves will be introduced. In firm theory, production and cost functions, profit maximization, and supply curves will be discussed. Finally, the concept and determination of equilibrium will be analyzed.

Theory of Public Finance

In "Theory of Public Finance," students will learn both expenditure side and revenue side analyses of public finance theory. This prepares students for "Workshop in Public Finance," in which they are expected to produce a policy paper in the field of public finance.

Macroeconomics I

This course will cover basic models used to study macroeconomic phenomena. Students will learn models that help them understand the economic behavior of agents in the short and medium-run. We will focus on equilibrium in the goods, financial, and labor markets.

Microeconomics II

In this course, students analyze how economic agents make optimal decisions when facing uncertainty, asymmetric information, and choices of consumption over time. The course will introduce the basics of game theory, analyzing the interaction of economic agents. The course will also discuss the concept of the general equilibrium in a pure exchange economy.

Macroeconomics II

This course is the continuation of Macroeconomics I, and covers basic models used to study macroeconomic phenomena. Students learn models that help them understand the economic behavior of agents in the long run, and under uncertainty. The course will focus on consequences of savings and capital accumulation in the long-run growth of modern economies, as well as the role of expectations in economic decisions. A brief introduction to open economy models will be made, too.

Government and Market

The purpose of this course is to understand the government's role in the economies of democratic countries today. In addition, students will learn the basics of economic thinking, considered highly important in applied work, in addition to ways of applying economic theories to real-life phenomena.

Introduction to Applied Econometrics

The course seeks to provide an understanding of basic econometrics. Students should be able to formulate and conduct basic econometrics research utilizing statistical computer programs (Stata and EViews) by the end of the course. Students should also develop a solid grasp of econometrics, as well as the knowledge for pursuing studies in more advanced topics that are necessary for independent research. The second half of the course will be spent introducing time series econometrics.

Local Public Finance

The Local Public Finance course aims to develop an understanding of local governments' fiscal activities. For example, the course deals with the decentralization theorem and its limitations; optimal size of local authorities; gains from fiscal decision-making at local levels; topics of local tax revenue and user charges; and intergovernmental fiscal relations. It also introduces viewpoints from both public finance theory and public choice approach.

Fiscal Reform in Japan

This course covers current problems related to Japan's public finance policy and the reforms necessary reforms to address those problems. The main topics are the factors of financial deterioration, past fiscal consolidation plans, and important systems related to fiscal structure, such as the social security system, local public finance, and public loan programs. In particular, reform of the social security system, including the medical insurance and pension systems, is important for fiscal consolidation in the scenario of rapid population aging. For completeness, taxation reform in response to globalization and population aging is also discussed.

Reform of Economic Policy in Japan

This course covers issues in economic policy formulation, focusing on current conditions and weaknesses in Japan's economy. Japan's economy has three major weaknesses: lag in globalization, low productivity in the service sector, and inflexibility in the labor market. For Japan to overcome these weaknesses and achieve sustainable growth in the face of population decline, an effective growth strategy is indispensable. As a case in point, Abenomics, the economic policy package devised and implemented by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe is evaluated.

International Trade

This course is an introduction to international trade and commercial policy. It begins with comparative advantage theory, and shifts to income distribution, the roles of economies of scale, and imperfect competition in the context of trade. The discussion on trade policy consists of three parts: tariff and non-tariff instruments, trade policy in developing countries, and strategic trade policy. In particular, trade policy in developing countries will be analyzed, along with various experiences undergone by developing and transitional economies. Lastly, the evolution of regional free trade agreements and the new world trading system under the WTO will be reviewed.

Development Economics

This course outlines the theories, histories, and experiences of economic development in various countries and regions, to develop an understanding of the issues/ problems. This course covers recent discussions in the field of development economics such as: 1) the role of institutions and governance in economic development; 2) poverty analysis and distributional welfare analysis; 3) human capital theory and rigorous econometric impact evaluation; and 4) research on the effectiveness of development aid.

Human Resources Management

The purpose of this course is to assist students in acquiring the knowledge and developing the skills necessary for the effective management of human resources within organizations. They will be introduced to conceptual frameworks and diagnostic tools to be utilized for understanding and analyzing the various inter-related activities and functions that are the foundation of an effective human resource management system. Through several case studies, they will develop a solid understanding of human resource management practices, along with its corresponding theories and models.

Brief Course Descriptions (Practicum Segment)

Customs Law

This course is intended to provide an overview of customs-related laws, including those of Japan, by focusing on various aspects of customs procedures and formalities. It is also intended to provide a basic grasp of international conventions, which constitute an integral part of customs-related laws, such as the Revised Kyoto Convention, Harmonized System Convention, and the WTO Valuation Agreement, among others.

Practicum in Customs Administration I

This course aims to enhance participants' knowledge of international theories and trade and Customs practices, including the activities of the WTO, WCO, and UN/CEFACT. Participants will learn about the various aspects of border control and trade facilitation including the SAFE Framework, the 24 hour rule, C-TPAT, 10+2, Risk Management, Authorized Economic Operators, and EDI and will examine the role and importance of Customs in the international supply chain.

Practicum in Customs Administration II

This course is intended to deepen participants' understanding of the operational activities of Customs, including the use of modern techniques, and it will help participants examine how their own activities can be improved in the future. The course will cover a number of important concepts and issues related to Customs operations including simplification of Customs procedures, cargo control, border management, single window, HS classification, post clearance audit, rules of origin, temporary admission, refund and exemption systems, and appeal system.

Practicum in Customs Administration III

This course aims to provide students with the necessary knowledge and practical problem-solving skills required for customs policymakers and developers. Topics covered include: efforts to implement global standards under the WCO, WTO, and FTAs; trade facilitation, safety, and security; the WCO Diagnosis Framework; and organizational management and legislation of customs in Japan. A field/ study trip to regional customs administrations is also organized. In the latter part of this course, each student will be required to prepare a report on their plan for reforming, modernizing, and developing their respective customs administration systems, which will be discussed in class.

Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement at Border

The proliferation of IPR-infringing goods has increasingly threatened our health and safety, while hampering economic development. In order to reverse such trends, customs -- as an enforcement authority -- takes a key role in border IPR enforcement. This course aims to provide specialized knowledge in border IPR enforcement by customs authorities. Topics to be covered include TRIPS Agreement, copyrights, trademarks, patent rights, policy on counterfeits and piracy, and rights holders' activities. Students will learn basic international/ national legal IPR frameworks and the operations of Japanese customs authorities.



2 About GRIPS

Academic Calendar for 2015-2016

Term	Month	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Note
Fall	OCTOBER	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	Oct. 5 Entrance Guidance and Orientation
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Oct. 5 - 20 Registration for Fall Term & Fall (Session I)
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Oct. 7 Classes for Fall Term & Fall (Session I) begin
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Oct. 21 - 27 Withdrawal for Fall Term & Fall (Session I)
		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
	NOVEMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Nov. 25 - Dec. 11 Registration for Fall (Session II)
	DECEMBER	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	Dec. 2 Classes for Fall (Session II) begin
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Dec. 12 - 15 Withdrawal for Fall (Session II)
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
	JANUARY	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	Dec. 29 - Jan. 3 New Year holidays
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17		18	19	20	21	22	23		
Winter	FEBRUARY	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
		31	1	2	*3	*4	*5	6	[*Interterm Period: Feb. 3 - 5]
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Feb. 5 - 6 Field Trip
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Feb. 1 - 17 Registration for Winter Term
	MARCH	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	Feb. 8 Classes for Winter Term begin
		28	29	1	2	3	4	5	
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Mar. 7 Grade release (Fall Term)
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Mar. 25 Graduation Ceremony for domestic programs
		27	28	29	30	31	1	2	[*Interterm Period: April 4 - 5]
Spring	APRIL	3	*4	*5	6	7	8	9	Apr. 4 Entrance Guidance for domestic programs
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Apr. 4 - 19 Registration for Spring Term & Spring (Session I)
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Apr. 6 Classes for Spring Term & Spring (Session I) begin
		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Apr. 20 - 26 Withdrawal for Spring Term & Spring (Session I)
	MAY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14	May 9 Grade release (Winter Term)
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28	May 25 - Jun. 10 Registration for Spring (Session II)
		29	30	31	1	2	3	4	Jun. 1 Classes for Spring (Session II) begin
		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Jun. 11 - 14 Withdrawal for Spring (Session II)
JUNE	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
	26	27	28	29	30	1	2		
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Jul. 23 - Aug. 5 Registration for Summer Term	
	24	25	26	*27	*28	*29	30	Jul. 30 Classes for Summer Term begin	
Summer	AUGUST	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	[*Interterm Period: Jul. 27 - 29]
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
		14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
	SEPTEMBER	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
		28	29	30	31	1	2	3	Aug. 29 Grade release (Spring & Summer Terms)
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Sep. 14 Graduation Ceremony
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
		25	26	27	28	29	30		

Course Registration (Please note that schedules are subject to change.)

Registration
 Withdrawal
 No class (Sundays, National Holidays, and New Year Holidays)

Message from the Dean

GRIPS was founded in 1997 as a stand-alone national graduate university focusing on policy studies. Future policy leaders and policy researchers from around the world gather here, making GRIPS an international hub for public policy research and education.

We offer Master's and Doctoral programs covering a broad range of areas, from economics, political science, public administration, and international relations to social engineering and mathematical science, and we encourage students and faculty to engage in interdisciplinary research.

GRIPS has a very international character in every respect, with more than two thirds of our students coming from overseas, from over 80 nations to date. Our faculty is also international and includes academics, public officials, and executives from private companies. The diverse backgrounds of our faculty create an ideal environment for students pursuing policy studies.

Reflecting the diverse backgrounds of our students and faculty, GRIPS aspires for cross-fertilization of academic disciplines and their application to real policy making and policy analysis. We welcome young people from all over the world to come to GRIPS to learn more about Japan and to engage in productive communication with each other. GRIPS' mission is to train and educate young, talented people to become national leaders with a genuine sense of social responsibility.

The Public Finance Program is an integral part of this mission. I hope you will join us.

Dean and Vice President
Mikitaka Masuyama




GRIPS at a glance

The educational mandate of GRIPS is to cultivate high-level policy professionals and researchers. Our degree programs are designed to train students to envision a wide range of solutions to various policy issues.

OUR MISSION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultivate future leaders in policymaking• Serve as an international center for policy research
STUDENT LIFE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Numerous scholarships available• GRIPS Fellowship available for doctoral students• Spacious campus located in the heart of Tokyo (Roppongi)• Modern & comfortable dormitories• Global community and network (from over 80 countries)• Field trips and various cultural programs offered
ACADEMIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1- and 2-year master's programs (16 programs)• Integrated 5-year doctorate program• Various doctorate programs (7 programs)• Distinguished faculty• Classes taught fully in English
FUTURE CAREERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy-making career tracks (government official, private sector, international organizations, academia, etc.)• Active alumni for international networking

Programs offered at GRIPS for international students

For details, visit: http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/education/inter_programs/

Brief History of GRIPS

- 1977** Graduate School of Policy Science (GSPS) established at Saitama University; the predecessor of GRIPS
- 1997** National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) established
- 1999** Relocated to Wakamatsu-cho campus in Tokyo (Shinjuku)
- 2005** Relocated to current campus in Roppongi



3 Student Support

One unique aspect of GRIPS is our extensive support system for assisting students in their daily living. We consider this aspect of your lives to be every bit as important as your academic life, especially for foreign scholars unfamiliar with Japan. As international students have comprised, on average, about 60% of the GRIPS student body over the last 10 years, we have developed comprehensive services to assist students in their day-to-day living.

The Student Office organizes orientation programs for incoming students and assists arriving international students in getting organized and settled in Japan. It also organizes a number of social events and activities, including field trips and concerts. The Student Office also functions as a hub to promote meaningful interaction and understanding between Japanese and foreign nationals.

Faculty

GRIPS boasts a nearly 300-member faculty from a variety of backgrounds. Many of them have served as central and local government officials, diplomats, bankers or business executives. This enables an effective combination of rigorous academic courses complemented by professional expertise and experience.

For more on our faculty members, please see <http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/about/directory/>

Accommodation

Accommodation is provided in the Tokyo International Exchange Center (TIEC), operated by the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO), in GRIPS International House, or in private apartments recommended by the GRIPS Student Office.

Tokyo Academic Park Residence Halls

In the bayside area, built in 2001 by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)
Room Types: Single, Couple, Family



GRIPS International House I

In Nakano, built in 2009
Room Types: Single, Couple



GRIPS International House II

In Nakano, built in 2009
Room Types: Single, Couple



Resources

Center for Professional Communication

The mission of the Center for Professional Communication is to support GRIPS students, faculty, and staff in developing effective professional communication skills and competencies needed to communicate productively in an environment of multiple stakeholders. To this end, we offer a range of instruction and support in fundamental areas of professional communication in English and Japanese, including policy paper writing, professional speaking, grant proposal writing, and digital communications. We

also provide opportunities for cultural and academic exchanges through a self-access learning center, organize seminars and special events related to all aspects of professional communication, and prepare customized materials for students and staff on academic and professional writing and language learning.



Library

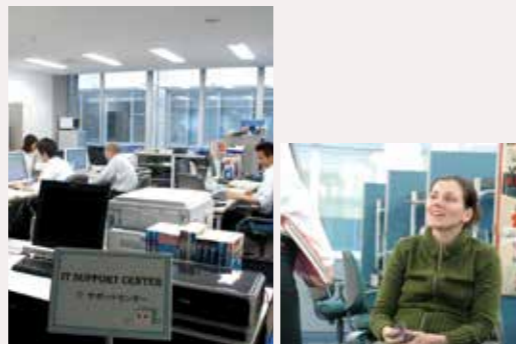
- Extensive collection of publications in the field of policy studies, collected from around the world
- Collection contains over 150,000 volumes, including reference books, statistical collections, working papers, and government documents
- Large collections of periodicals that include more than 10,000 journals, many of which are available online
- Well-trained staff are equipped to respond to research-related requests



Facilities

Student Rooms and Computers

- Each student is provided with a study space and laptop computer, accessible 24 hours a day
- A computer help desk is open to all students during regular working hours



Health Services Center

- In-house health clinic
- Nurse on duty daily, doctor available several days a week
- Provides medical advice, basic medical examinations
- Will refer to an appropriate hospital or specialist when necessary



Fitness Center

- Running machines
- Training equipment
- Showers
- DVD for exercises
- Free use by students, faculty, and staff



4 Admissions

The Secretary General of the WCO invites nominations every year from a select number of WCO member customs administrations. Candidates must be chosen and nominated by the customs administrations in their home country to apply for the WCO scholarship. Although limited in numbers, the program may also admit students who obtain their own funding (other than the WCO scholarship), including any scholarships provided by the student's home country.



Eligibility Criteria

Irrespective of the funding source, eligibility for admission to the Public Finance Program (Customs Course) consists of a bachelor's degree or its equivalent from a recognized, accredited university of the highest standard, as well as certifiable good health. Following enrollment, you will be required to take an annual medical examination that is administered by GRIPS. In addition, applicants must:

- be active government officials in developing countries, with at least 2 years work experience in customs policy and administration in their home countries, and preferably and preferably below 35 years of age as of April 1, 2016. Preference will be given to those who show promise in continuing their career in customs policy and administration upon returning to their home countries.
- be proficient in English to the order of a TOEFL score of iBT 79 or above, or an IELTS score of 6.0 or above. Applicants who have completed an undergraduate or graduate degree at an institution where the language of institution was English may request a waiver of the English language proficiency requirement.

We first screen applicants in terms of the above criteria, after which they are evaluated from the following viewpoints:

- Academic record and intellectual distinction
- Personal characteristics and motivation and evidence of leadership
- Work experience and promise for management and career growth

For the awardees of the WCO scholarship, GRIPS will make a short list of candidates that will be sent to the WCO for the final selection.

What the WCO Scholarship Covers

- A monthly stipend (JPY147,000 as of 2015) is provided for the 12-month period of the program. This is intended to cover living expenses such as food, clothing, and other daily expenses, as well as accommodations, transportation, medical treatment, insurance, and various miscellaneous expenses related to your study at GRIPS. This stipend is fixed and cannot be increased to cover family members. The amount of your stipend may change in accordance with local economic conditions.
- Accommodation and daily allowance will be provided for September of 2016, preceding the monthly stipend that begins in October
- Application, admission, and tuition fees (paid directly to GRIPS by WCO)
- A book allowance of 75,000 yen to cover your textbook expenses
- A travel allowance of 25,000 yen for each trip
- Round-trip economy-class air tickets between your home country and Japan

Should your performance fall below a certain critical standard (e.g., failing a required course, or one that is important in the curricula), or you are unable to continue with schoolwork for any reason whatsoever, we may terminate provision of the scholarship, even during the school year. In the event of such an occurrence, you may also not be provided with a return air ticket.

How to Apply

We are currently accepting applications for the Public Finance Program (Customs Course) online through the GRIPS website. When applying online, applicants must submit the following documentation in hard copy: university transcript, certificate of university diploma, and certificate of English proficiency. The application deadline is usually sometime in February. For details, please refer to: <http://www.grips.ac.jp/en/admissions/apply/>

5 Alumni

One of the greatest resources and joys of studying at GRIPS is the diversity of the student community. The connections you make at GRIPS are a valuable part of your degree. The GRIPS Alumni Network will ensure they are lifetime bonds by keeping you in touch with fellow alumni and the school.

As a GRIPS graduate, you join an impressive network of around 3,000 alumni who are actively shaping future policies in more than 80 countries around the world. We offer a variety of ways to remain engaged with GRIPS and strengthen your ties with fellow alumni. These include alumni reunions, seminars, a searchable alumni directory and online networking opportunities utilizing social media such as Facebook and LinkedIn.

Alumni of the Public Finance Program (Customs Course)

Since its launch in 2000, one hundred and thirty one (141) WCO scholars have graduated from the Public Finance Program's Customs Course with Master's degree (as of September 2015). All were mid-career customs officials when first admitted into the program. The majority of WCO scholars who graduate return to their home countries and pursue careers in the field of customs (As of September 2014, around 97% of our graduates are still working in customs-related government agencies in their home countries).



Voices of the Alumni



Muhammad Aamer (Pakistan, 2005)

Current Position: Additional Collector of Customs
Affiliation: Custom House, Lahore

I heartily welcome all prospective students to the Customs Course in the Master's Program of Public Finance at GRIPS. As a former student of this prestigious institution, I would like to assure you that this well-designed program equips students with strong administrative skills and a deep understanding of economic principles, both of which are necessary for a successful career of a customs officer. I hope that the world-renowned faculty and warm hospitality of the Japanese staff will make your stay at GRIPS an unforgettable experience.



Mohammad Haizam Hashim (Malaysia, 2007)

Current Position: Senior Assistant Director of Customs
Affiliation: Royal Malaysian Customs Department

The Customs Course at GRIPS does not stop innovating its curriculum by constantly reviewing the latest trends and thinking of what students actually need to study. The proactive character of the teaching staff will satisfy your curiosity and motivation to learn. As a local customs officer, I was very much enlightened by all the topics that were taken up for discussion, such as the SAFE Framework, Time Release Study, and the IPRs. After I returned to the customs administration of my country, I was involved in a project of international treaties, which monitor the SAFE Framework, and I am presently playing an important role as a member of the Change Management Team Lead in another customs project. I could not have been a customs professional without the knowledge and skills that I gained at GRIPS. GRIPS also gave me an opportunity to enter the global network of customs specialists. This network greatly benefits my career today. I strongly urge you to apply to this program. I am confident that you will have a great experience there. GRIPS knows how to move forward along with the students. I guarantee that your enrollment in the program will be a breathtaking journey toward the next stage in your career development.



Ashhad Jawwad (Pakistan, 2008)

Current position: Secretary (Customs)
Affiliation: Federal Board of Revenue, Revenue Division, Ministry of Finance, Government of Pakistan

My year at GRIPS is one of the most memorable periods of my life both academically and spiritually. GRIPS provides a perfect learning environment with exposure to ideas and views of students from across the globe. It provides multiple opportunities to interact with, and learn from, people of different cultures and intellectual competencies. GRIPS' international faculty enables students to have a multidimensional learning experience. The Public Finance Program provided me with a theoretical basis in economics and development economics and practical knowledge and skills needed for customs work. I am certain that the knowledge gained at GRIPS will continue indicating guidelines for my conduct as a customs professional. GRIPS' helpful and friendly supporting staff make your stay at GRIPS a most enriching experience of studying abroad. I am happy that I could build everlasting friendships and create wonderful memories that will last forever.



Nandika Sanath Kumanayake (Sri Lanka, 2008)

Current Position: Assitant Superintendent of Customs
Affiliation: Sri Lanka Customs

The area of customs law and procedures has become an important academic discipline. The Customs Course in the Public Finance Program at GRIPS provided me with comprehensive knowledge of complicated customs procedures and practical skills from the study of Japanese customs. In addition, on the basis of my achievements, GRIPS offered me another scholarship, which helped me pursue a Ph.D. degree. Thanks to this support, I could complete my studies within four years in the comfortable learning environment at GRIPS. My experiences studying at GRIPS and living in a peaceful Japanese society remain my precious memories.

The Public Finance program exposed me to a wider range of content, as well as the context of macroeconomic principles that affect the performance of our economy and, consequently, the role of customs and tax administration. Therefore, my policy paper was directed at proposing methods of integrating tax and customs administration to achieve an integrated compliance strategy.