

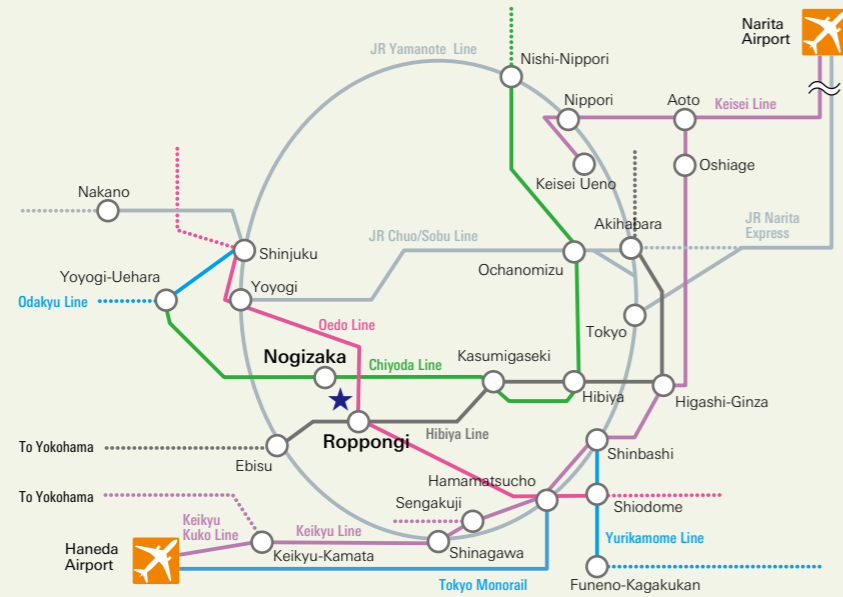
Address and Contact Information

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



Joint Japan / World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program

Public Finance Program Tax Course



National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies

7-22-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8677 Japan
Tel: +81-(0)3-6439-6000 Fax: +81-(0)3-6439-6010
<http://www.grips.ac.jp>

Admissions office

Tel: +81-(0)3-6439-6046 Fax: +81-(0)3-6439-6050
admissions@grips.ac.jp



1 Program Description

Public Finance Program (Tax Course)

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Address and Contact Information

Overview and Program Objectives

Since 1997, GRIPS has been offering a tax-related master's degree in English through the Public Finance Program (Tax Course). The program was established as part of the Partnership Programs supported by the Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program (JJ/WBGSP), which awards scholarships to mid-career professionals in the field of tax policy and administration. In 2000, the program was expanded to admit students with working experience in customs administration (Customs Course).

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 are current professionals in either tax or customs administration. The program is a 13-month course comprised of two segments: an academic segment common to tax or customs students, and a practicum segment (internship) that is conducted separately for tax or customs, respectively, 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 that is aimed at the development of a broad understanding of the theoretical, empirical, and institutional aspects of customs/tax policy implementation and administration, within 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 through 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 Tax Course is administered by the faculty of the National Tax College (NTC), which is a training institution of the National Tax Agency (NTA) of the Ministry of Finance, in conjunction with the officials at the NTA. It involves weekly workshops and lectures; field trips to regional taxation bureaus; and the preparation of research papers. 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 Tax Course are invited to arrive in early-September, to 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 intensive lecture program taught by NTC faculty 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)
	4 Fri	Arrival Day		
	5 Sat	Day off		
	6 Sun	Day off		
	7 Mon	Guidance by GRIPS, PC distribution, etc.	LUNCH BREAK	Program Guidance
	8 Tue	Japanese Language	Japanese Language	
	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
	15 Tue		Math-Econ	LUNCH BREAK Math-Econ Math-Econ
	16 Wed		Math-Econ	LUNCH BREAK Math-Econ Math-Econ
	17 Thu		LUNCH BREAK	2014-2015 Graduation Ceremony
	18 Fri		Math-Econ	LUNCH BREAK Math-Econ
	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	Study visits (TBD)		
	25 Fri		LUNCH BREAK	Math-Econ Math-Econ
	26 Sat	Day off		
	27 Sun	Day off		
	28 Mon	Opening Ceremony (Program by National Tax Agency)		
	29 Tue			
	30 Wed			
	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 (Practicum at the NTA, Cohort 20) 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 instruction in the foundational skills of micro- and macroeconomics, as well as quantitative analysis. It then moves on to a range of applied topics that help students in understanding how to design, implement, and evaluate public policies -- tax policy in particular -- in accordance with development strategies. Topics include public finance, international economics, development economics, human resource management, and tax laws. Refer to 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 practicum, which starts in mid-September and continues until the end of June, involves lectures and workshops that instruct students on the Japanese tax system, tax law, and tax administration, as well as international taxation and tax treaty. It also involves several visits to regional taxation bureaus, tax offices, and tax counsel offices, where students observe actual tax collection work and learn about administration and management of Japan's tax collection system. In addition, with the assistance and guidance of NTC faculty, students prepare research papers to analyze issues/problems faced by the tax administration of their respective home countries.

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.

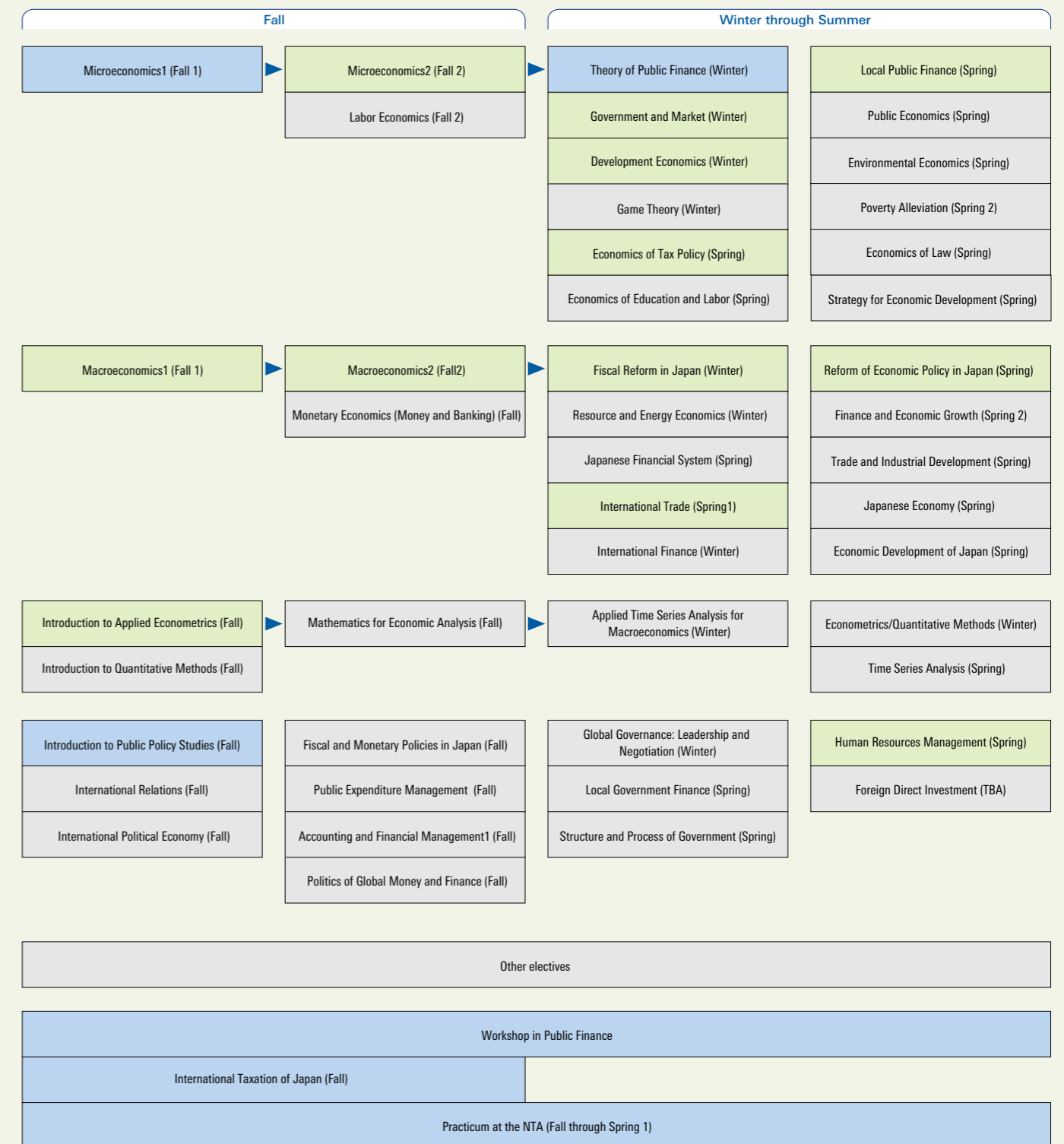


Course Offerings for 2015-2016

	Course No.	Course Name	Term	Credit
I Required Courses	PFP2520E	International Taxation of Japan	Fall	2
	PFP5010E	Practicum at the National Tax Agency	Fall through Spring (Session I)	8
	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
II Elective Courses	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
ECO7720E	Economic Analysis of Urban and Regional Policy	TBA	2	
GOV2200EA	International Relations	Fall	2	
GOV2210E	International Political Economy	Fall	2	
GOV2580E	Structure and Process of Government	Spring	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)

The 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 course is an introduction to 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 covers 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. It focuses 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 introduces the basics of game theory, analyzing the interaction of economic agents. It also discusses the concept of general equilibrium in a pure exchange economy.

Government and Market

The purpose of this course is to develop an understanding of the government's role in the present-day democratic market economies. In addition, students will learn the basics of economic thinking, which is considered highly important for applied work, in addition to ways of applying economic theories to real-life phenomena.

Macroeconomics II

This course is the continuation of Macroeconomics I, and covers basic models used to study macroeconomic phenomena. Students learn models for understanding the economic behavior of agents in the long term, as well as under uncertainty. The course will focus on the consequences of savings and capital accumulation in the long-run growth of modern economies, as well as the role of expectations in economic decisions. There will also be a brief introduction to open economy models.

Introduction to Applied Econometrics

The course seeks to provide an understanding of basic econometrics. By the conclusion of the course, students should be able to formulate and conduct basic econometrics research utilizing statistical computer programs (Stata and EViews), and 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, in order to develop an understanding of issues/problems. It 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. It will introduce students to conceptual frameworks and diagnostic tools necessary for understanding and analyzing various inter-related activities and functions that form the foundation of effective human resource management systems. Through several case studies, students will develop a solid understanding of human resource management practices, along with corresponding theories and models.

Brief Core Course Descriptions (Practicum Segment)

International Taxation of Japan

This course focuses on international aspects of Japanese income taxation. It includes source rules, foreign tax credit systems, transfer pricing, tax haven measurements, thin capitalization, and taxation on derivatives. This course aims to impart practical expertise that will enable students to practice international taxation rules in real-life scenarios.

Practicum at the National Tax Agency

This course comprises of lectures/workshops that are offered intensively during September, and weekly thereafter through spring. The schedule of this course for the AY2015-2016 is listed on the following page. The aim of this course is to provide tax officials with knowledge on Japanese tax systems; tax law (concerning income tax, corporation tax, consumption tax); and administration (tax examination, taxpayer service, revenue management and collection); so that they may contribute to the improvement of tax administration in their respective countries. NTA officials and NTC faculty give lectures on practical aspects of Japanese tax administration. Students will visit the Regional Taxation Bureau, Tax Office, Tax Counsel Office, etc., to broaden the knowledge they acquire in the classroom. Students are also assigned a research paper that analyzes issues/problems faced by their home country's tax administration, with assistance and guidance from the NTC faculty. Students are thus strongly recommended to bring with them any relevant data/research materials from home.

Schedule of Practicum at the NTA, 2015-2016

Date			AM (10:00-12:30)	PM (13:30-16:00)
Sep-Oct	29/Sep-15/Oct	Mon	Opening Ceremony / Program Orientation / Research Paper Guidance(1)	Country Report Presentation(1)
Oct	5	Mon	Country Report Presentation(2)	Country Report Presentation(3)
	19	Mon	Japanese Tax Administration	Outline of Japanese Tax System(1)
	26	Mon	Outline of Japanese Tax System(2)	Research Paper Guidance(2)
Nov	2	Mon	Research Paper Preparation(1)	Research Paper Preparation(2)
	9	Mon	Human Resource Management	Procedures for National Taxation / Remedy for Taxpayer Rights
	16	Mon	Staff Training	A Tour at the NTC Wako Campus • Tax Museum / Research Paper Guidance(3)
	30	Mon	【Field Trip】 Regional Tax Office	【Field Trip】 Regional Taxation Bureau
Dec	7	Mon	Cooperative Organization / Certified Tax Accountant System	【Field Trip】 Blue Return Taxpayers' Association
	14	Mon	Tax Consultation / Public Relations	【Field Trip】 Tax Counsel Office / Tax Space ☆ UENO
	21	Mon	Research Paper Preparation(3)	Research Paper Preparation(4)
Jan-Feb	18/Jan-16/Feb	Mon	Revenue Management and Processing / Collection of Delinquent Tax	【Field Trip】 Tax Collections Call Center
Jan	25	Mon	Tax Examination(1)	【Field Trip】 Japan Federation of ZEIRISHI (CPTAs) Associations
Feb	1	Mon	Tax Examination(2)	Research Paper Guidance(4)
	8	Mon	International Taxation(1)	International Taxation(2)
	15	Mon	Theme Discussion(1)	Theme Discussion(2)
	22	Mon	Local Tax	【Field Trip】 Local Government
	29	Mon	Theme Discussion(3)	Theme Discussion(4)
Mar	7	Mon	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty
	8	Tue	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty
	9	Wed	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty
	10	Thu	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty
	11	Fri	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty	Intensive Lecture on Tax Treaty
	14	Mon	Use of ICT in the NTA	Research Paper Guidance(5)
Apr	11	Mon	Quasi-Negotiation on Tax Treaty	Quasi-Negotiation on Tax Treaty
	18	Mon	Quasi-Negotiation on Tax Treaty	Quasi-Negotiation on Tax Treaty
	25	Mon	Research Paper Presentation(1)	Research Paper Presentation(2)
	26	Tue	Research Paper Presentation(3)	Research Paper Presentation(4)
Jun	13	Mon		Evaluation Meeting / Closing Ceremony

[Note] The Schedule is subject to change.
 NTA : National Tax Agency
 NTC : National Tax College
 GRIPS: National Graduate Institute For Policy Studies (Located at Roppongi, TOKYO)



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		
	Spring	APRIL	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]
			3	*4	*5	6	7	8	9	Apr. 4 Entrance Guidance for domestic programs
		MAY	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)
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
			8	9	10	11	12	13	14	May 9 Grade release (Winter Term)
JUNE		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)	
JULY	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			
Summer	AUGUST	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	
		31	1	2	3	4	5	6	[*Interterm Period: Jul. 27 - 29]	
		7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
	SEPTEMBER	14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
		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



4 Admissions

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

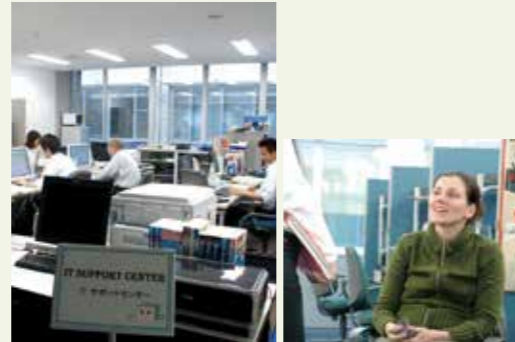
- Extensive collection of publications in the field of policy studies, collected from around the world
- Collection contains over 150,000 volumes, including reference books, statistical collections, working papers, and government documents
- Large collections of periodicals that include more than 10,000 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



In 1987, the World Bank, with funding from the Government of Japan, established the World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program, now known as JJ/WBGSP. The GRIPS Public Finance Program is one of the Partnership Programs that have been supported by the JJ/WBGSP since 1997. Each year, the program awards scholarships to five individuals from the World Bank's Part 2 member countries (eligible to borrow) to undertake graduate studies at GRIPS. Although limited in numbers, the program may also admit students who obtain their own funding (other than the JJ/WBGSP scholarship), including scholarships provided by the student's home country.

Eligibility Criteria

Irrespective of the funding source, eligibility for admission to the Public Finance Program (Tax 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 as a tax official in developing countries; have at least 3 years' work experience in tax policy and administration in their home countries as of September 1, 2016; and have no more than 20 years of work experience after the Bachelor's degree or its equivalent by the application deadline.
- 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.
- show promise in continuing their career in tax policy and administration

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

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

Additional criteria for those applying for JJ/WBGSP Scholarship

Applicants is not eligible if she/he:

- is not a national of Bank member country that is eligible to receive Bank financing.
- is a national of industrialized country
- has receive scholarship funding to earn a Graduate degree or its equivalent from sources funded by the government of Japan.

For the awardees of the JJ/WBGSP scholarship, GRIPS will make a short list of candidates that will be sent to the World Bank for the final selection. The World Bank and the government of Japan require awardees to return to their home countries upon completion of their study, and apply their enhanced knowledge and skills in contributing to the development process of their respective countries and communities.

What the JJ/WBGSP Scholarship Covers

- A monthly stipend (JPY152,000 as of 2015) is provided to cover living expenses such as food, clothing, daily expenses including insurance, and various other miscellaneous expenses related to study at GRIPS. This stipend is fixed and cannot be increased to cover family members. The amount of your stipend may change slightly as a result of changes in the economic climate in Japan.
- Application, admission, and tuition fees (paid directly to GRIPS by World Bank)
- Round-trip economy-class air tickets between student's home country and Japan, plus a travel allowance of US\$500 for each trip. 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 (Tax Course) online at the GRIPS website. 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 (Tax Course)

Since its launch in 1997, seventy-six WB scholars have graduated from the Public Finance Program's Tax Course with a Master's degree (as of September 2015). All were mid-career tax officials when first admitted into the program. The majority of JJ/WBGSP scholars who graduate return to their home countries and pursue careers in tax administration: As of September 2015, around 82% of our graduates are still working in tax-related government agencies in their home countries.



Voices of the Alumni



Kesang Deki (Bhutan, 2004)

Current Position: Commissioner
Affiliation: Royal Civil Service Commission

It was a golden opportunity for me to study at GRIPS since I was the first tax officer from Bhutan to enroll in the Tax Course of the Public Finance Program. One of the most interesting aspects of the curriculum was the emphasis on the international aspects of taxation. The practicum at the National Tax Agency of Japan also provided me with additional knowledge needed for my career. My experiences at GRIPS continue helping me find new perspectives and methods in tackling my job. I have made friends for life with students from various countries, with whom I still keep in touch on a professional and personal level. Today, such a global network of friends has significant benefits for my professional career.



Teimuraz Khomeriki (Georgia, 2005)

Current Position: National Program Officer
Affiliation: Swiss Cooperation Office for the South Caucasus

GRIPS cultivates professionalism and personality in government officials. Alumni are trained to become administrators equipped with expertise and skills in the field of taxation. Since my graduation from GRIPS, I have been successfully involved in public-sector reform projects and regional development strategies in my country. As a National Program Officer of the Swiss Development Cooperation, I am now in charge of a multimillion-dollar project to support the agricultural value chain development activities in the underdeveloped regions of Georgia, as well as to promote access to financial services for the rural population. Thanks to my learning at GRIPS, I am able to make important decisions in my administrative work without hesitation. The acquisition of advanced knowledge of public economics and public policy gives graduates the confidence they need to exercise leadership in coping with difficult tasks. Joining GRIPS, students will have a chance to live in cultural diversity and exchange views with friends from various regions. With all the prominent scholars and highly-qualified faculty, GRIPS deserves to be called the "Pearl of Asian Education." I hope that this school continues to be the Alma Mater of dedicated tax policy professionals from all over the world.



Venance Bahati Mwase (Tanzania, 2006)

Current Position: Manager
Affiliation: Tax Audit and Analysis, Tanzania Minerals Audit Agency, Ministry of Energy and Mineral

It is impossible to separate my career success from my year at GRIPS, which was the most fruitful in my learning experience. Living in Japan has created a very important platform for my development both in vocational and social aspects. The knowledge-rich program of tax policy and public finance has provided a strong foundation for my administrative work at the national level. The cultural diversity of GRIPS' students is another thing to remember. My deepest appreciation also goes to all the GRIPS' lecturers and the Student Office Team, who showed us true Japanese hospitality. In my daily life and on the job, I will always remember the Japanese culture of hardworking and generous cooperation. I hope that the developing network of GRIPS' alumni will support an active interaction among professionals in the field of tax policy and administration around the world.



Abdul Waheed Kahan (Pakistan, 2010)

Current Position: Deputy Secretary
Affiliation: External Finance Wing, Ministry of Finance

I have found my experience at GRIPS immensely valuable for my personal and professional growth. The Tax Course of the Public Finance Program features a unique curriculum with a good balance of theory and practice, which is unrivaled by other universities. The courses in economics helped me understand the conceptual and theoretical aspects of public finance and tax policy. We also examined contending paradigms for studying taxation. The Practicum at the National Tax Agency encouraged me to apply taxation theories to the practice of tax administration. I particularly benefited from the training session in international taxation because tax officials in developing countries do not have many opportunities to study this topic. I would like to send a message to all prospective students: Be open-minded and proactive! The hallmark of GRIPS is the cultural diversity of its students and faculty. Do not see your lack of fluency in Japanese as an obstacle to life and study in Japan. Cross-cultural contacts will become your lifelong assets. The politeness and welcoming attitude of the Japanese will allow you to change any difficulties you may face in this exotic country into exciting opportunities. Many attractive things are awaiting you including the beautiful campus, a resource-rich modern library, and a world-renowned faculty eager to teach.