

Young Leaders Program

Purpose of the Program

This program aims to contribute to the development of national leaders in Asia and other countries around the world, to create human networks among such leaders, to build friendly relations between Japan and these countries, and to improve the policy-making functions of these respective countries.

Diploma Policy

This program confers Master of Public Policy on students who have enrolled for at least one year, have acquired the required number of credits based on the curriculum of the program, and by receiving necessary research guidance under the supervision of Faculty Members have written and given a presentation of a Master's thesis or a research paper on specific policy issues, and have obtained an overall pass for his or her studies.

In this program, students should acquire the following qualities and abilities:

1. Ability to play an active role as a national leader in Asia and other countries around the world
2. Ability to acquire extensive knowledge on public policy that is necessary to generate effective solutions to policy problems
3. Ability to build a strong foundation of relationship with Japan based on a deep understanding of Japan
4. Ability to analyze specific policy issues, formulate policy recommendations on them, and present them appropriately

Curriculum Policy

【Basic Policy】

This program provides various courses for students to gain a broad knowledge on public policy with an interdisciplinary perspective. In addition, the curriculum focuses on discussions with lecturers and/or among students, as well as incorporates field trips to the front line of public administration, in order

for the students to acquire the ability to exercise leadership in the resolution of policy issues and the management of government organizations. Furthermore, the program trains leading policy professionals in Asia and other countries around the world by requiring students to write a Master's thesis or a policy paper that is a practical policy recommendation on specific issues.

【Structure of the Curriculum】

The curriculum of this program is 12 months long, and students plan their courses for the year through the program guidance they receive when they first enroll.

The curriculum consists of required courses to develop necessary abilities as leaders, to extend analytical capacities, and to deepen understanding of Japan; recommended courses to learn the subjects of basic and important fields related to public policy; elective courses to learn a wide range of fields related to public policy. Students must also study and analyze specific policy issues and compile and present a research paper as policy recommendations.

(Required Courses)

Required courses consist of (1) courses to improve leadership, (2) courses to acquire basic knowledge about public policy including courses for the School of Local Governance that teach knowledge specific to local administration, (3) courses to deepen understanding of Japan, and (4) courses to analyze and consider specific policy issues deeply and compile practical policy recommendations.

As one of the courses in (4), “Independent Study” is offered in a seminar style in which students can acquire in-depth knowledge in the target field of their research and develop practical problem-solving and logical thinking skills in preparation for writing a Master’s thesis or compiling the results of research on selected specific policy issues.

(Elective Courses)

Elective courses include (1) courses in basic and important fields related to public policy, such as the basics of economics, the structure of government, international relations, and Japan's economic development, as recommended courses, and (2) courses on a wide range of fields related to public policy, as well as courses to enhance academic writing skills in English for writing papers, as elective subjects.

(Research Guidance)

In the individual guidance of students, research guidance is provided by a multiple number of main supervisors and sub-supervisors.

【Policies on Education and Study Methods】

Of the 30 credits required to complete this program, at least 10 credits are in seminar-style. Through discussions with lecturers, senior officials of government and local governments, and among students themselves as well, students will develop their abilities as leaders. In addition, lectures are not just one-way passive listening. Students will make presentations and join in discussions, making lectures interactive.

【Assessment Policy】

To assess the academic achievement in each course, students are evaluated based on acquisition and understanding of policy-related knowledge and practical skills, taking into consideration their contribution to the class, examination, term papers, report submission, etc., and their ability is also evaluated through the writing of a Master's thesis or a research paper on a specific policy issue.

Admissions Policy

Target Students

We will accept administrative officers with the potential to play an active role as national leaders in Asia and other countries around the world.

For admission, students must have at least 3 years of experience working in the public sector (more than 5 years is desirable) and have English skills necessary to take lectures and to write a Master's thesis or a policy paper.

Screening methods and standards

Application documents and interviews are used for screening. Successful candidates are determined based on a comprehensive evaluation of their intellectual ability on public policy issues, English ability, work performance, evaluation of the recommender, and future potential as a policy leader.

Curriculum Map: Young Leaders Program (School of Government)

			Diploma Policy1	Diploma Policy2	Diploma Policy3	Diploma Policy4
Category	Course No.	Course Name	Ability to play an active role as a national leader in Asian countries.	Ability to acquire extensive knowledge on public policy that is necessary to generate effective solutions to policy problems	Ability to build a strong foundation of relationship with Japan based on a deep understanding of Japan	Ability to analyze specific policy issues, formulate policy recommendations, and present them appropriately
I Required Courses	GEN5020E	The World and the SDGs		○		
	YLP5000E	Introduction to Japan			○	
	YLP5010E	Colloquium	○		○	
	YLP5020E	Independent Study				○
	YLP5030E	Field Trip	○		○	
II Recommended Courses	ECO1000EB	Microeconomics I		○		
	ECO1020E	Essential Microeconomics		○		
	ECO3600E	Contemporary Japanese Economy		○	○	
	ECO3610E	Japanese Economy		○	○	
	ECO3810E	Economic Development of Japan		○	○	
	GOV2100E	Government and Politics in Japan		○	○	
	GOV2200EA	International Relations		○		
	GOV2200EB	International Relations		○		
	GOV2210E	International Political Economy		○		
	GOV2240EA	International Security Studies		○		
	GOV2310E	Comparative Politics		○		
	GOV2580E	Structure and Process of Government		○		
	GOV3205E	Political Economy of Trade and Investment		○		
	ECO3820E	Economic Development Based on ADB Experiences		○		
	GOV5910E	Leadership and Knowledge Creation	○			
	GEN5030E	GRIPS Forum I	○			
	GEN5040E	GRIPS Forum II	○			
	GEN5050E	Social Issue Workshop: Learning from Japanese Experiences		○	○	
	GEN5060E	Social Issue Workshop for Business-Driven Innovation		○	○	
	GEN5070E	Workshop on Policymaking for Sustainable Development		○		
	GEN5080E	Cybersecurity		○		
III Elective Courses	ECO1060EA	Macroeconomics I		○		
	ECO2020EA	Government and Market		○		
	ECO2790E	Data Science for Public Policy		○		
	ECO3400E	International Trade		○		
	ECO3840EA	Development Economics		○		
	GOV2230E	Japanese Foreign Policy		○	○	
	PAD2560E	Human Resources management		○	○	
	PAD2680E	Social Security System in Japan		○	○	
	MOR1050EB	Introduction to Data Science I		○		
	MOR2050E	Introduction to Data Science II		○		
	REG2100E	Local Government System and Finance		○	○	
	REG3010E	Local Governance in the Changing World		○		
		Selected Topics in Policy Studies I - IV	○	○	○	○
		Courses not listed in this table	○	○	○	○
X Others	LAN0300E	Introduction to Academic Research				○
	LAN0310E	Introduction to Academic Writing				○
	LAN0320E	Policy Paper Tutorial				○
		Courses offered by the Center for Professional Communication				○

Curriculum Map: Young Leaders Program (School of Local Governance)

			Diploma Policy1	Diploma Policy2	Diploma Policy3	Diploma Policy4
Category	Course No.	Course Name	Ability to play an active role as a national leader in Asian countries.	Ability to acquire extensive knowledge on public policy that is necessary to generate effective solutions to policy problems	Ability to build a strong foundation of relationship with Japan based on a deep understanding of Japan	Ability to analyze specific policy issues, formulate policy recommendations, and present them appropriately
I Required Courses	GEN5020E	The World and the SDGs		○		
	REG2100E	Local Government System and Finance		○	○	
	REG3010E	Local Governance in the Changing World		○		
	YLP5000E	Introduction to Japan			○	
	YLP5010E	Colloquium	○		○	
	YLP5510E	Independent Study				○
	YLP5550E	Workshop	○		○	
II Recommended Courses	ECO1000EB	Microeconomics I		○		
	ECO1020E	Essential Microeconomics		○		
	ECO3810E	Economic Development of Japan		○	○	
	ECO3820E	Economic Development Based on ADB Experiences		○		
	GOV2100E	Government and Politics in Japan		○	○	
	GOV2200EA	International Relations		○		
	GOV2200EB	International Relations		○		
	GOV2580E	Structure and Process of Government		○		
	ECO3820E	Economic Development Based on ADB Experiences		○		
	GOV5910E	Leadership and Knowledge Creation	○			
	GEN5050E	Social Issue Workshop: Learning from Japanese Experiences		○	○	
	GEN5060E	Social Issue Workshop for Business-Driven Innovation		○	○	
	GEN5070E	Workshop on Policymaking for Sustainable Development		○		
	GEN5080E	Cybersecurity		○		
III Elective Courses	ECO1060EA	Macroeconomics I		○		
	ECO2020EA	Government and Market		○		
	ECO2790E	Data Science for Public Policy		○		
	ECO3400E	International Trade		○		
	ECO3840EA	Development Economics		○		
	EPP1010E	East Asian Economies		○		
	GOV2230E	Japanese Foreign Policy		○	○	
	GOV2240EA	International Security Studies		○		
	PAD2560E	Human Reources management		○	○	
	PAD2680E	Social Security System in Japan		○	○	
	PAD2740E	Small and Medium Enterprise and Technology		○	○	
	MOR1050EB	Introduction to Data Science I		○		
	MOR2050E	Introduction to Data Science II		○		
		Selected Topics in Policy Studies I - IV	○	○	○	○
		Courses not listed in this table	○	○	○	○
X Others	LAN0300E	Introduction to Academic Research				○
	LAN0310E	Introduction to Academic Writing				○
	LAN0320E	Policy Paper Tutorial				○
		Courses offered by the Center for Professional Communication				○