

Maritime Safety and Security Policy Program (MSP)

Purpose of the Program

Maritime Safety and Security Policy Program is a collaborative program designed and administered jointly by GRIPS, Japan Coast Guard (JCG) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). This program makes it possible for students to benefit from the resources of both institutions of GRIPS and JCG in the fields of public policy, security studies, maritime safety and security.

Students will have the opportunity to acquire professional knowledge and analytical skills, advanced problem-solving skills on the sea, and communication skills relevant to their work in international environments while becoming members of a network of future coast guard leaders in Indo Pacific. Furthermore, by fostering mutual understanding, this training program will help to build a network of participating countries, which will, in turn, help to strengthen international cooperation. Furthermore, by fostering mutual understanding, this training program will help to build a network of participating countries, which will in turn help to strengthen international cooperation.

Diploma Policy

This program confers a degree in Policy Studies (Master of Policy Studies) on students who have been enrolled for at least the designated number of years; have acquired the designated number of credits based on the curriculum of the program; have written and given a presentation on research papers on specific subjects, and have passed that process.

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

1. The knowledge and analytical ability to understand problems and challenges, and to identify opportunities for improvement in the areas of maritime safety and security
2. The knowledge, analytical ability, creativity, and leadership to formulate policies and take necessary actions to tackle problems and improve the safety and security environment at sea

3. The practical and professional skills to manage and lead coast guard organizations
4. The ability to conduct policy analysis for problem solving based on academic analysis from multiple perspectives by having a broad knowledge of maritime safety and security policy
5. Develop strong personal bonds that would enable them to work closely together to analyze and tackle issues and challenges that we are facing today and will face in the future

Curriculum Policy

【Basic Policy】

Maritime Safety and Security Policy Program is implemented in cooperation with Japan Coast Guard (JCG) and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The program offers a wide range of subjects related to maritime issues, as well as various field trips, through which students gain advanced knowledge in both theory and practice, and will attain the ability to formulate policy creatively and deal with maritime challenges effectively.

【Structure of the Curriculum】

Junior coast guard officers from various parts of the world will study at GRIPS in Tokyo during the first half of the academic year and in Kure, Hiroshima at the Japan Coast Guard Academy (JCGA)—the JCG's most important educational institution—during the second half of the academic year. Through lectures and discussions, students will both enhance their understanding of the roles played by maritime law enforcement agencies and learn best practices.

(Required Courses)

Students will take required and elective courses at GRIPS from October through March. The required courses are International Relations, International Security Studies, International Law, International Relations in East Asia, International Law of the Sea, and Case Study on Maritime Safety and Security Policy.

From April through July, students will take courses and participate in practical training and educational programs at the JCGA. The required courses are Policy for Search and Rescue, Salvage and Maritime Disaster Prevention, and Maritime Police Policy.

(Elective Courses)

The elective courses will enable students to deepen their knowledge in the fields of their interest. The elective subjects include courses in politics, economics, national security, and policy making.

Students can enhance their ability to effectively execute their duties as coast guard leaders in Asia through the study of a wide range of elective subjects. The JCGA's elective courses are designed to develop students' knowledge of science, technology, and criminal investigation, all of which are vital elements of effective policy formulation.

(Research Guidance)

In addition to classes, research guidance will be provided periodically by the supervising professors, the program director, and the designated faculty to enhance academic writing skills based on the research guidance plan.

【Policies on Education and Study Methods】

Students must complete a minimum of 30 credits, of which 4 credits are in seminar-style courses. Also, by taking courses and workshops of academic ethics education for writing papers, students can enhance academic English writing for writing papers.

Students will receive lectures on course work as well as practical case study classes. Students are also required to participate in various site visits and field trips.

100% of the MSP classes in Japan Coast Guard Academy are small group and conducted only for MSP students.

Therefore students are required to actively join class discussions and learn from other countries.

【Assessment Policy】

In the assessment of academic achievement in each subject, students are evaluated for their knowledge acquisition and understanding and practical skills in principle, considering their contribution to the class, scores of examinations, submitted reports, etc., and their overall ability is evaluated through the writing of papers for specific research subjects. The policy paper (research paper on a specific issue) will be evaluated and pass/fail shall be determined in accordance with the "Degree Paper Review Structure and Evaluation Criteria".

Admissions Policy

Target Students

Junior officers from maritime safety and security related organizations in Asian countries.

Prior to admission, job experience of more than 5 years in the field of maritime safety and security related areas, as well as experience in a leadership position is required. Students must have good academic English ability.

Evaluation methods and Standards

[Screening by documents]

We will conduct an examination based on the application documents.

The screening process will consider various aspects of applicants such as; a comprehensive evaluation of past work experiences, evaluations by their 2 references, university (Faculty) degrees, study content and grades, originality of research plans and relevance to real policy issues, how concrete their awareness of issues, content of master's theses, their English proficiency in their writing papers, and etc.

[Interview]

We will use an online meeting system. First, candidates are asked to take examination in English which relates to maritime safety and security followed by interview. The criteria for screening will include the applicant's willingness to study, clarity of their career plans after graduation, logic, accuracy, sense of purpose for policy issues, and English communication abilities etc.

Curriculum Map: Maritime Safety and Security Policy Program

Category	Course No.	Course Name	1. The knowledge and analytical ability to understand problems and challenges, and to identify opportunities for improvement in the areas of maritime safety and security	2. The knowledge, analytical ability, creativity, and leadership to formulate policies and take necessary actions to tackle problems and improve the safety and security environment at sea	3. The practical and professional skills to manage and lead coast guard organizations	4. The ability to conduct policy analysis for problem solving based on academic analysis from multiple perspectives by having a broad knowledge of maritime safety and security policy	5. Develop strong personal bonds that would enable them to work closely together to analyze and tackle issues and challenges that we are facing today and will face in the future
I Required Courses	MSP4000E	Independent Study				○	○
	GOV1400E	International Relations in East Asia	○				
	GOV2200EA	International Relations	○				
	GOV2240EB	International Security Studies	○				
	MSP2000E	Maritime Police Policy	○	○			
	MSP3000E	International Law	○	○			
	MSP3010E	International Law of the Sea	○	○			
	MSP3020E	Policy for Search & Rescue, Salvage and Maritime Disaster Prevention	○	○			
	MSP5000E	Case Study on Maritime Safety and Security Policy I		○	○		
	MSP5010E	Case Study on Maritime Safety and Security Policy II		○	○		
II Elective Courses	ECO1020E	Essential Microeconomics	○				
	ECO1080E	Essential Macroeconomics	○				
	ECO1800E	Economic Development of Southeast Asia	○				
	ECO2020EB	Government and Market	○				
	ECO3840EB	Development Economics	○				
	EPP1010E	East Asian Economies	○				
	GOV1460E	The Making of Modern Japan	○				
	GOV2100E	Government and Politics in Japan	○				
	GOV2210E	International Political Economy	○				
	GOV2310E	Comparative Politics	○				
	GOV2460E	State and Politics in Southeast Asia	○				
	GOV3240E	Non-Traditional Security	○				
	GOV3280E	Analysis of Great Power Politics	○				
	GOV3310E	Comparative Political Economy	○				
	GEN3000E	International Development Policy	○				
	GEN5020E	The World and the SDGs	○	○			
	MOR1000E	Introduction to Quantitative Methods	○				
	MSP2030E	Introduction to Oceanography	○	○			
	MSP2040E	Marine Environment and Pollution	○	○			
	MSP3030E	International Comparative Criminal Law	○	○			
	MSP3100E	Contemporary Japanese Maritime Gray Zone Security Policy	○	○			
	MSP2050E	Safety Management Systems I			○		
	MSP2060E	Safety Management Systems II			○		
	MSP3060E	Ship Maneuverability and Practical Operation			○		
MSP3070E	Fundamentals of Advanced Energy Engineering	○	○				
MSP3080E	Information Management System I			○			
MSP3090E	Information Management System II			○			
III Elective Courses		Selected Topics in Policy Studies I - IV	○	○	○	○	○
		Courses not listed in this table	○	○	○	○	○
X Others	LAN0010E	Describing Tables and Figures				○	○
	LAN0150E	Thesis Writing for MSP				○	○
	LAN0160E	Qualitative Writing				○	○
	LAN0300E	Introduction to Academic Research				○	○
	LAN0310E	Introduction to Academic Writing				○	○