

Information for application for admission in April 2025 to the Graduate School of Social System Studies, University of Kitakyushu

The Graduate School of Social System Studies was established in April 2002 as a three-year Ph.D. program for those applicants who have already received Master's degree or have equivalent qualifications. Its principal mission is to offer opportunities for internationally competitive Ph.D. program in Kitakyushu in the wide range of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary issues of our society which is getting increasingly globalized and localized at the same time. Since March 2005, 121 Ph.D. degrees in Social System Studies were awarded from this program.

The Graduate School of Social System Studies currently has only one department (senko), but it has three areas of specialization, namely, Urban Societies, Thought and Culture and East Asian Societies. In April 2005, a new course in International Development Policy was established in affiliation with the Asian Growth Research Institute, Kitakyushu (AGI) to provide opportunities for those who wish to specialize in the study of international development and policy formulation in East Asia. Students in this course can complete all the academic requirements in English.

The Graduate School of Social System Studies will accept applications for admission to the program in April 2025, leading to a Ph.D. in Social System Studies, as described below in this document.

Inquiries should be addressed to the Admission Office, University of Kitakyushu, 4-2-1 Kitagata, Kokuraminami-ku, Kitakyushu, Fukuoka, 802-8577 Japan.

c/o Professor Tsukasa Tajima

Email: tajima@kitakyu-u.ac.jp

Those applicants who are currently enrolled in on another graduate program at the University of Kitakyushu should inquire directly to the Admission Office as there is a difference in the application procedure.

Table of contents

1. Number of students to be admitted
2. Qualifications required for application
3. Application procedure
4. Prior evaluation of the applicant's academic achievements
5. Screening procedure
6. Interviews
7. Announcements of the results

8. Registration
9. Payments
10. Course work requirements
11. List of courses available in English for the academic year 2025 (tentative)
12. Program for International Development Policy specialization in affiliation with the AGI

1. Number of students to be admitted

The official annual quota of students to be admitted in April 2025 is 6.

2. Qualifications required for application

Applicants must have or are expected to have one of the following qualifications, on or before March 31, 2025.

An area of specialization in ‘International Development Policy’ will require a minimum TOEFL score of 80 (internet-based test) or 550 (paper-based test) for admission.

- 1) Master’s (shushi) degree, or Professional (Semmonshoku) degree.
- 2) Graduate degree from a university outside Japan, deemed equivalent to the Master’s (shushi) degree, or Professional (Semmonshoku) degree.
- 3) Graduate degree conferred by a university outside Japan by taking courses in Japan by means of distant learning, deemed equivalent to the Master’s (shushi) degree, or Professional (Semmonshoku) degree.
- 4) Two years of research experience after obtaining a Bachelor’s degree or equivalent education of more than 16 years, deemed equivalent to a Master’s or Professional level academic accomplishment; and
- 5) Academic accomplishment specially approved by the prior evaluation as equivalent to Master’s degree or Professional degree of a candidate, 24 years or older.

Those who wish to apply under the items 4 and 5 are referred to Section 4 for detail.

3. Application procedure

- 1) Applications are accepted from July 16 through July 23, 2024 for the summer screening and from January 29 through February 4, 2025 for the winter screening. The dates should be strictly observed.
- 2) Applications should be mailed as a registered mail to the Admission Office with a note ‘Application to the Graduate School of Social System Studies’ in red on the envelope or personally delivered to the Admission Office. Admission Office is open from 9:00 to 16:00 on weekdays excluding the lunch break.
- 3) Application materials must include the items listed below:

Items	Notes
Application form	Photo must be taken within 3 months, 3cm x 4cm in size, black-and-white or color.
Identification form	Fill the supplied format.
Return envelope	Self-addressed envelope of 23.5cm x 12cm in size with ¥84 stamp attached.
Academic transcripts	<p>Those who have already obtained Master's degree or are currently Master's program students and expect to graduate should submit an official academic transcript of the Master's program in a sealed envelope.</p> <p>Those who plan to apply based on the above qualifications 2-4) or 2-5) must submit the following documents, instead:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Academic transcripts of the highest academic achievement; 2. A list of publications, such as books, research reports, academic articles, equivalent to the Master's thesis; 3. No more than three articles from the above list; and 4. A descriptive summary of one of the above publications, closely related to the applicant's proposed research plan (within 1600 words). <p><u>(Submit 3 copies of items 2, 3, and 4.)</u></p> <p>In addition, enclose a copy of the notification of application qualification issued by us and sent to you in advance.</p>
Certificate of Graduation from a Master's program	Submit the official graduation certification (or official degree verification) of the Master's program; if you are still studying in the Master's program and expect to graduate, submit the official certificate of prospective graduation (or of enrollment verification), instead.
Master's thesis and its summary	<p>Three copies of the applicant's Master's thesis and its summary in English (about 1600 words) or Japanese (4000 characters).</p> <p>Master's degree holders without the Master's thesis can submit three copies of both an equivalent academic achievement and its summary, instead.</p>
Research proposal	Fill the supplied format.

Application Fee * Japanese YEN only	Remit 30,000 yen to the account specified below, and send a copy of Application of Remittance along with your application. Bank name: The Bank of Fukuoka, Ltd Bank code (Swift Code) : FKBKJPJT Branch name: Kitakyushu Main office Bank account: 2555161 Name of the account: Kouritsudaigakuhoujin kitakyushushiritsudaigaku Rijichou Tsuda Junji
Resident record officially stamped by the municipal administration(juminhyo).	Only for applicants residing in Japan. (Overseas applicant must submit a photo copy of his/her personal identification such as passport in lieu of the certificate.)
Proof of Japanese language proficiency	A document to show the applicant's proficiency in Japanese, if your native language is not Japanese.(except the applicants to the International Development Policy specialization, in which the language used is solely English)

*If the names of the applicant are different from the ones on the certificates, official documents must be attached to prove the change.

*For certificates written in a language other than Japanese or English, a Japanese or English translation must be attached.

*Please do not use Generative AI such as ChatGPT when preparing application documents.

4) Other matters for attention

Documents once officially received cannot be replaced or altered under no circumstances.

Likewise any fees received cannot be refunded for any reason.

4. Prior evaluation of the applicant's academic achievements

1) Those who intend to apply without Master's level degree must contact Professor Tsukasa Tajima, Graduate School of Social System Studies and supply the materials listed below during the following periods:

For the summer screening, from June 24 through June 27, 2024.

For the winter screening, from January 6 through January 10, 2025.

- 1 Application form
 - 2 Academic transcripts of the highest academic achievement
 - 3 A list of publications, such as books, research reports, academic articles, equivalent to the Master's thesis;
 - 4 No more than three articles from the above list; and
 - 5 A descriptive summary of one of the above publications, closely related to the applicant's proposed research plan (within 1600 words).
- 2) The result of the prior evaluation shall be sent to the applicant in mail. Those applicants judged to have sufficient qualification must submit other materials before the stated deadline.

5. Screening procedure

- 1) Screening is based on the applicant's Master's thesis (or equivalent material) and an interview.
- 2) Language skills may be tested during the interview.
- 3) Screening of the applicants without Master's degree can be considered based on the materials received in lieu of Master's thesis and an interview.
- 4) Japanese language proficiency is additionally considered for screening of overseas applicants. (except the applicants to the International Development Policy specialization)

6. Interviews

- 1) Dates of interviews

For the summer screening, August 25, 2024.

For the winter screening, March 2, 2025.

- 2) Place of the interviews is to be described on the identification form to be mailed when the application is received. The location of the interview room will be posted at the main front entrance.
- 3) The campus can be reached by a three-minute walk, from Keibajo-mae station of the Kitakyushu monorail.
- 4) Interview is to be based on the candidate's Masters' thesis or the equivalent for the purpose of evaluating the candidate's knowledge and preparedness to pursue Ph.D. level academic work.

7. Announcements of the results

- 1) The result of the screening is to be announced on:

For the summer screening, 10:00 am August 30, 2024.

For the winter screening, 10:00 am March 7, 2025.

- 2) The assigned identification numbers of the accepted candidates are to be announced on the University website around 10:00 am. In addition, the certificate and the registration forms will be individually mailed to the successful candidates.

8. Registration

- 1) Accepted students must register their enrollment during the periods as described below:

For the summer screening, from January 20 through January 23, 2025.

For the winter screening, from March 21 through March 26, 2025.

9. Payments

- 1) Enrollment fee:
 - a. ¥282,000 for Kitakyushu City residents
 - b. ¥423,000 for those coming from other cities
- 2) Student accident insurance: ¥2,600

- 3) Liability Insurance coupled with “Gakkensai”:¥1,020
- 4) Tuition ¥535,800 per annum (payable in 2 installments)

N.B.

- a. The fees and/or the method of payment (as stated above) are subject to change without prior notice.
- b. In case of change in the method of payment, the student will be notified about the new schedule immediately.
- c. A resident in Kitakyushu City is:
 - the student applicant himself/herself or his/her spouse or relative up to the second degree of affinity and consanguinity who paid his/her municipal tax for Kitakyushu city during the previous school year.
- d. To receive the Kitakyushu City resident Treatment, the following should be submitted by those mentioned in item 'c':
 1. certificate of municipal tax payments or tax-exempt certificate of Kitakyushu City
 2. residential certificate for Kitakyushu City issued by their respective ward office.

OTHER Pertinent details:

- (1) For the 2025 University enrollees who want to avail of the municipal tax payment certificates, he or she should have lived in Kitakyushu City by January 1, 2024.
- (2) A tax-exempt certificate instead of a municipal tax payment certificate will be issued to persons who were not obliged to pay his/her municipal tax.
- (3) One cannot avail of the Residential certificate from the Ward Office if he/she has not lived in Kitakyushu City upon payment of the enrollment fee.

10. Course work requirements

Although remote learning through the Internet is used in this program, attention should be given to the fact that the required course work CANNOT be completed solely on the Internet.

11. List of courses available in English in the academic year 2025 (tentative)

Area	Course	Faculty
Thought and Culture	British Literature Comparative Culture Second Language Acquisition	K.Kihara,M.A.(Kyushu) R.S.Williamson,Ph.D.(Kumamoto) J.Larson-Hall,Ph.D.(Pittsburgh)
East-Asian Societies	American Citizenship International Cooperation	H. Nakano,Ph.D.(Gakushuin) T. Ohira,Ph.D.(Nagoya)
International Development Policy in affiliation with AGI	The industrial development of Taiwan International Migration and Economic Development Urban Analysis	C. Kishimoto,Ph.D. (Sussex) E.Dai,Ph.D.(Kyoto) K. Tamura,Ph.D. (Tsukuba)

Note:

- a. Inquiry should be made to confirm the latest faculty list.
- b. Refer to the special announcement for details of the International Development Policy special program below.
- c. More courses are available in Japanese. Refer to the Japanese document.

12. Program for International Development Policy specialization in affiliation with the AGI

- 1) An area of specialization in 'International Development Policy', where students can complete all study requirements in English. This specialization is offered in affiliation with the Asian Growth Research Institute, Kitakyushu(AGI). This program is a part of the efforts for the University of Kitakyushu to strengthen its research in the East Asian and foreign studies.
- 2) This course, offering a doctoral degree, aims at preparing students to attain the capability for working globally as a professional for research and/or policy formulation in the field of international development and regional administration in Asia.
- 3) Screening of candidates for this specialization takes place at the same time as in the other areas.
- 4) Students in this specialization should select one of the AGI professors as his/her academic advisor.
- 5) Inquiries for this specialization should be addressed to:
Professor Tsukasa Tajima, Doctoral Program Coordinator,
Graduate School of Social System Studies,
tajima@kitakyu-u.ac.jp
or
Dr.Erbiao Dai, Research Professor of AGI, dai@agi.or.jp

Application form for admission to the Graduate School of Social System Studies, University of Kitakyushu

(Spring screening for the academic year 2025)

Identification Number: _____ (to be left blank)

Name: _____ Sex: M F

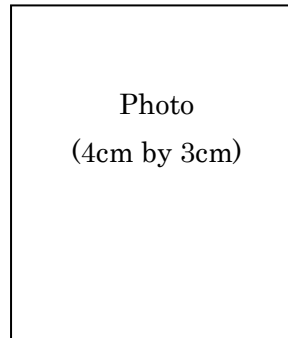
Date of Birth: _____

Age as of April 1, 2025: _____

Country of Origin: _____

Paste a recent photo of yourself here.

(4cm by 3cm):



Mailing Address : _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Work Address: _____

Work Telephone Number or Mobile: _____

English Proficiency (Paper-based TOEFL): _____

(internet-Based TOEFL): _____

Post-secondary Education:

Undergraduate: _____

Degree Type: _____ Completion date: _____

Postgraduate: _____

Degree Type: _____ Completion date: _____

Field of Specialization : _____

I wish to study under: _____ (name of academic advisor)

Proposed Field of Study: _____ (short title)

Work Experiences: (list all your work/academic experience after obtaining Bachelor's degree.)

Identification Form: This form should be carried with you to identify yourself at the interview. Fill in only the name section.

2025 年度北九州市立大学大学院	
社会システム研究科地域社会システム専攻（博士後期課程）	
一般選抜	夏期・冬期日程
入学試験受験票	
受験番号	※記入不可
氏名 (Name)	
試験日時	_____年_____月_____日（日）
集合時間	_____時_____分 集合
試験場	北九州市立大学北方キャンパス本館

※ 氏名のみを記入し、その他の欄には記入しないでください。

※ この受験票は入学手続に必要ですので、試験終了後も大切に保管しておいてください。

※ 公共交通機関の遅延を除き、遅刻は認めません。

※ 出願後に住所の変更を行った場合は、必ず入学試験係へ連絡してください。

（緊急連絡先） 北九州市立大学 入試・研究支援課入学試験係 093-964-4022

検定料
受領印

Fill in each form with your name and the address of where you wish to receive the result of the screening:

〒 _____ 住所(Address) _____ _____ 氏名(Name) _____ 様	〒 _____ 住所(Address) _____ _____ 氏名(Name) _____ 様
受験番号 _____	受験番号 _____

N.B. Any change of address should be immediately reported.

試験会場



●北九州市立大学(北方キャンパス)

モノレール小倉駅
(小倉駅ビル3F)

モノレール
約10分

競馬場前
(北九州市立大学前)

徒歩
約3分

北九州市立大学(北方キャンパス)

お問い合わせ先

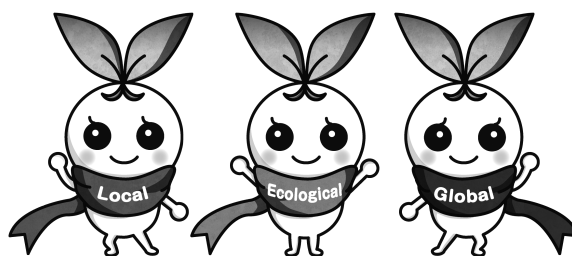
北九州市立大学 入試・研究支援課入学試験係

〒802-8577 北九州市小倉南区北方四丁目2番1号

TEL: 093-964-4022

E-mail: nyushi2@kitakyu-u.ac.jp

https://www.kitakyu-u.ac.jp/



北九州市立大学 公式マスコットキャラクター

きたきゅっち