International Master’s/Doctoral Degree Program: Information, Technology, and Society in Asia
Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, The University of Tokyo

An English-language graduate program at the University of Tokyo

An innovative approach to understanding Asia in the information age

This program offers intensive graduate level education designed to foster analytical strength and insight into Asian societies and international relations, at a time when information and communication technology is having an increasingly profound impact on the region. All instruction will be conducted in English, so proficiency in Japanese is not a prerequisite. Admissions decisions will be based on a written application that includes TOEFL and GRE scores, rather than on the customary entrance examination in Japan. A certain number of scholarships will be made available based on merit.

Application Deadline:
January 5, 2017 JST

http://itasia.iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp/
In 2008, the University of Tokyo launched a new International Master’s/Doctoral Degree Program: Information, Technology, and Society in Asia (ITASIA) at the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII). This program offers intensive graduate level education designed to foster analytical strength and insight into Asian societies and international relations, at a time when information and communication technology is having an increasingly profound impact on the region.

The program is tailored to both international and Japanese students who are motivated to pursue active professional careers on the regional and global stages. All instruction is given in English, so proficiency in Japanese is not a prerequisite. Unlike the conventional Japanese academic calendar, the academic year at ITASIA begins in September.

ITASIA is comprised of two degree programs: one that grants an M.A.S. (Master of Arts and Sciences) degree and the other a Ph.D. degree.

Students in the M.A.S. program are trained to grasp changing political, economic, and social realities of globalizing Asia through media, communication, and information studies together with the related methodology and skills, so that after graduation they can make appropriate judgments and recommendations in their respective professional environments. The M.A.S. program is appropriate for those interested in pursuing careers in public administration, media, business, and academic institutions.

The Ph.D. program is intended to produce high-level researchers and professionals in the fields of Asian studies and information studies. Students will acquire a broad-based knowledge of arts and sciences as well as expertise in the investigative techniques and theoretical analysis required for advanced research in politics, economics, media studies, and other social sciences.

Admissions decisions will be based on a written application that includes TOEFL and GRE scores, rather than on the customary entrance examination. In some cases the admissions committee also will conduct some kind of interview.

A certain number of scholarships will be made available based on merit.
Curriculum

Courses

The courses provided in this program are categorized into four main areas:

ITASIA100s Asian Studies
ITASIA200s Media and Communication Studies
ITASIA300s Theories and Methods
ITASIA400s Information Technologies

In order to master both the human and scientific fundamentals needed to research Asian society in the information age, students in the M.A.S. program are required to complete fundamental courses in each of the four areas described above. Based on this foundational knowledge, students then will go on to deepen their understanding of specific fields by taking elective courses and writing a faculty-guided thesis and/or dissertation.

M.A.S. Program

Degree: Master of Arts and Sciences (Information Studies) Required Credits: 30 Term: 2 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Slot</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA101</td>
<td>Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Lecture)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>TANAKA Akikio, MATSUDA Yasuhiro, IKEGAME Aya, AOYAMA Waku</td>
<td>Mo5</td>
<td>Tu3SFr5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA102</td>
<td>Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
<td>TANAKA Akikio</td>
<td>Mo5</td>
<td>must be taken with ITASIA101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA201</td>
<td>Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Lecture)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
<td>YOSHIMI Shunya, Jason G. KARLIN</td>
<td>Tu3</td>
<td>must be taken with ITASIA201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA202</td>
<td>Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
<td>(for entrants in 2016)</td>
<td>Th3</td>
<td>must be taken with ITASIA201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA301</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Research (Lecture)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A2S1</td>
<td>(2016-2017)</td>
<td>We4</td>
<td>must be taken with ITASIA302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA302</td>
<td>Introduction to Social Research (Workshop)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A2S1</td>
<td>(2016-2017)</td>
<td>We5</td>
<td>must be taken with ITASIA301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA401</td>
<td>Introduction to Information Technology</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1</td>
<td>HARADA Shiro</td>
<td>We4A5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

M.A.S. Thesis

Year-round

Sample Elective Courses (For Academic Year 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA123</td>
<td>The World System in the 21st Century</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA124</td>
<td>International Conflict Study</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA125</td>
<td>Social Inequality and Religion: South and East Asia Compared</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA128</td>
<td>Surviving Cancer in Asia: Cross-boundary Cancer Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA129</td>
<td>Japan in Hong Kong: HKU-Tokyo Joint Summer Program 2016 @ Shun Hing College</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA131</td>
<td>Modern Japanese Diplomacy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA132</td>
<td>International Migration and Ethnicity</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA133</td>
<td>Japanese Foreign Economic Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA141</td>
<td>The Politics and Diplomacy of Contemporary China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA142</td>
<td>Cross-Strait Relations</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA143</td>
<td>Understanding Taiwan in Global Settings</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA144</td>
<td>Understanding Japanese Companies in China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA231</td>
<td>Visualizing Postwar Tokyo: through the method of “Attack Me!”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA237</td>
<td>* &quot;Animating Life&quot; Kadokawa Summer Program 2016</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA417</td>
<td>Analyzing and Organizing Humanities Data with XML</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA418</td>
<td>Publishing XML Data with XSLT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA801</td>
<td>Academic Thesis Writing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>S1S2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Lectures on Emerging Design and Informatics XV

Transportation Engineering

Year-round

* Other courses in English, Japanese, or other languages at GSII are also open to ITASIA students. For details, please refer to ITASIA’s website.

* A maximum of 8 credits may be acquired by taking courses in other departments of the University of Tokyo.

Other Educational Events

Master’s Preliminary Presentation, Master’s Qualifying Presentation

Ph.D. Program

Degree: Doctor of Philosophy (Information Studies) Required Credits: 20 Term: 3 years

Required Courses (For Academic Year 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA101 *</td>
<td>Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Lecture)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA102 *</td>
<td>History and International Relations (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA201 *</td>
<td>Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA202 *</td>
<td>Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>A1A2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ph.D. Dissertation Guidance

Year-round

* A maximum of 8 credits may be acquired by taking courses in other departments of the University of Tokyo.

* A: April 5 - June 3, 2016
  S1: April 5 - June 3, 2016
  S2: June 6 - August 1, 2016
  A1: September 26 - November 18, 2016
  A2: November 21, 2016 - January 26, 2017

* Not required for students who earned an M.A.S. in this program
Courses and mentoring in the ITASIA program will be supported by the faculty members of many parts of the university who have been teaching and guiding students in the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII). Among them, faculty members of the Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) and the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia (IASA) will make major contributions. The professors who administer the program and/or give lectures in English are:

**Professor SONODA Shigeto**

Shigeto SONODA is Professor of Sociology and Comparative Asian Studies. He has conducted a variety of researches energetically including Asian Student Survey 2008-2013, AsiaBarometer 2003-2008, and Japanese Companies in the Eyes of Asians 1991-2006. He managed “Educational Program for Young Scholars on ‘Asian Globalization Studies’” at GSII and a three-year project called “Frontier of Comparative Studies of Asian Societies” at IASA.

**Professor YOSHIMI Shunya**

Shunya YOSHIMI is a Professor of Sociology, and Media & Cultural Studies. He is a leading scholar in the field of media & cultural studies in contemporary Japan. He is a member of the executive committee of Inter-Asia Cultural Studies (Routledge), editorial board of Cultural Studies (Routledge), and associate editor of Theory, Culture & Society (Sage).
This document is written for prospective students applying for admission to the ITASIA program in September 2017. The deadline for applications is January 5, 2017 (JST) (Japan Standard Time). Applicants must take TOEFL and GRE General Test as early as possible, because submission of their Official Score Reports in time by ETS is an indispensable part of the selection procedure. The latest complete version of this document is available at http://itasia.iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp/admission.html. For more information about the ITASIA program, please visit http://itasia.iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp/.

Degree Programs and Projected Numbers of Entrainants

- Master of Arts and Sciences (Information Studies), 2 years, 14 students
- Doctor of Philosophy (Information Studies), 3 years, 8 students

Tuition and Fees (As of 2016, subject to change)

- Japanese government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) scholar students are exempt from the examination fee as well as the entrance fee and annual tuition.
- Those enrolling in the Ph.D. program in September 2017 are exempt from the examination fee as well as the entrance fee if they earned a Master’s or professional degree at a Japanese University of the Tokyo University in September 2009 or before.
- Entrance Fee: 282,000 yen
- Annual Tuition: 535,800 yen (M.A.S. program)
- 520,800 yen (Ph.D. program)
- The University of Tokyo provides a limited number of need-based exemptions of entrance fee and tuition. For details, please see the following web page: http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/prospective-students/tuition_fees.html

Scholarship Opportunities

- A limited number of applicants who have exceptional academic records will be awarded scholarships or tuition waives. (If you have any questions or are applying for admission to the University of Tokyo. To be eligible, the scholarships will be offered simultaneously with the notification of acceptance. The successful applicants will be requested to confirm their willingness to enter the ITASIA program by a specified date.

Application Documents

- Please prepare the documents according to the following list. Applications must be submitted with the ITASIA Admissions Office by registered mail or an international delivery service (such as UPS or FEDEX) by January 5, 2017. Submissions in person will not be accepted. We strongly recommend that you submit materials early, since delivery may take some time. We will not accept applications that arrive after January 5, 2017 JST.

1. CHECKLIST with signature (Form #1)
2. APPLICATION (Form #2)
3. Official proof of graduation and receipt of degree (Y’s)
   - One official document of graduation and receipt of degree, certified with the seal/stamp of the university from which you graduated (Please do not send the original diploma.)
   - M.A.S. program applicants must submit their Bachelor’s certificate, and Ph.D. program applicants must submit both Bachelor’s and Master’s certificates.
   - If it is impossible to obtain the certificate in time by any means, please contact the ITASIA Admissions Office as early as possible.
   - Those who have not yet graduated from their course of study at the time of the request must submit an authorized statement of anticipated graduation.
4. Official transcript (Y’s)
   - An official transcript listing all courses and grades, certified with the seal/stamp of the university from which you graduated, or its registrar.
   - If available, a cumulative GPA (Grade Point Average) would help the Admissions Committee better evaluate your academic standing. The GPA must be stated on the official transcript, or, if separate, should be furnished by an official university or registrar. It should include an explanation of the numerical values used to calculate the average.
   - An authorized, certified copy of class ranking may also be included.
   - M.A.S. program applicants must submit their Bachelor’s transcript, and Ph.D. program applicants must submit both Bachelor’s and Master’s transcripts. (The “first cycle” in European universities as well as universities in the Bologna Declaration is regarded as equivalent to a Bachelor’s degree, while the “second cycle” is considered equivalent to a Master’s program or course.)
   - Applicants may request that their university transcripts directly be submitted to the Admissions Committee (please make note of that on Form #1 of your application, with the date you made the request).
5. TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)
   - Official Score Report
   - The Official Score Report must be sent by ETS (Educational Testing Service) directly to the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, the University of Tokyo (Institution Code: 3560). (The Examiner’s Score Report is not acceptable.) Applicants must explicitly request the submission early enough taking into consideration the time required for processing and handling, and write the date of the request in Form #1. ETS will issue the Official Score Report only for the tests taken within five years. ETS General TOEFL Test has been revised since August 1, 2011. We accept any score either before or after the revision as long as the Official Score Report can be issued by ETS.
   - The application will not be reviewed without the arrival of the Official Score Report.
6. GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)
   - General Test Score Report
   - The General Test Score Report must be sent by ETS (Educational Testing Service) directly to the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, the University of Tokyo (Institution Code: 3560). (The Examiner’s Score Report is not acceptable.) Applicants must explicitly request the submission early enough taking into consideration the time required for processing and handling, and write the date of the request in Form #1. ETS will issue the Official Score Report only for the tests taken within five years.

Application Procedure

For enrollment in September 2017, the application period starts on March 30, 2017. Completed applications must be submitted to the ITASIA Admissions Office by registered mail or an international delivery service (such as UPS or FEDEX) by January 5, 2017. Submissions in person will not be accepted. We strongly recommend that you submit materials early, since delivery may take some time. We will not accept applications that arrive after January 5, 2017 JST.

Selection for admission is based on the evaluation of documents submitted by the applicants, and, if deemed necessary, some kind of interview (including telephone, IM, etc.) may be conducted. Successful applicants will be requested to complete the entrance procedures within a specified period.

Please be careful that some applicants with fewer than 16 years completing their elementary, middle, high school and university education must explain very clearly how they have prepared for pursuing advanced research. If the applicants for the Ph.D. program have already received extensive training that will have prepared them for pursuing advanced research, the applicants for the Ph.D. program should have a Master’s degree in a field in which the success in the Ph.D. program in September 2017 is strongly encouraged that they apply instead to the M.A.S. program.

6. GRE (Graduate Record Examinations)

- General Test Score Report
  - The General Test Score Report must be sent by ETS (Educational Testing Service) directly to the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, the University of Tokyo (Institution Code: 3560). (The Examiner’s Score Report is not acceptable.) Applicants must explicitly request the submission early enough taking into consideration the time required for processing and handling, and write the date of the request in Form #1. ETS will issue the Official Score Report only for the tests taken within five years.

- The General Test Score Report has been revised since August 1, 2011. We accept any score either before or after the revision as long as the Official Score Report can be issued by ETS.
  - The application will not be reviewed without the arrival of the Official Score Report.

7. One original of signed and sealed employer reference (optional)

8. At least one sample of representative research work (for M.A.S. program applicants, Bachelor’s thesis or a term-paper; for Ph.D. program applicants, Master’s thesis or some other publication)

9. Official transcript (optional)

10. Where payment is done by the online method, please enclose the printed “Result” page. (Please see the separate instructions on ITASIA’s website.)

11. Three letters of recommendation including Form #3 (Y’s)

12. The sample can be of any length; 3000 words in English should be attached.

13. Each letter, together with Form #3, must be prepared and sent by strictly following the instructions written in Form #3 in order to be considered as valid.

14. One original of the Certificate of Remittance

15. Information regarding the certification of Remittance

- Postcard: 2017
- Photographs: 3 x 4 cm
- Frontal view without hat, etc.

Please do not send the original forms. The University of Tokyo will not return any of the submitted documents.

Please ask the University of Tokyo to issue the Official Score Report. If the applicant has not yet graduated at the time of admission, an interim test result is acceptable.

- If the applicant has a Master’s degree and has completed the M.A.S. program, we will not accept any research paper.

- We will send the Official Score Report only for the tests taken within five years.

- The General Test Score Report has been revised since August 1, 2011. We accept any score either before or after the revision as long as the Official Score Report can be issued by ETS.

- The application will not be reviewed without the arrival of the Official Score Report.

The successful applicants for admission can also directly request the ITASIA Admissions Office as early as possible for the courtesy of donors at the University of Tokyo (including the ITASIA program).

All applicants must pay the examination fee before submitting their application. Applicants will be informed of the fee at the time of the request, and may ask for an estimate.

- Students must be proficient enough in English to participate in lectures and receive academic guidance in English at the graduate level.

- Students applying for the Ph.D. program should have already received extensive training that will have prepared them for pursuing advanced research. If the applicants for the Ph.D. program have received a Master’s degree in a field in which the success in the Ph.D. program in September 2017 is strongly encouraged that they apply instead to the M.A.S. program.

- The application will not be reviewed without the arrival of the Official Score Report.

- If the exam result does not apply to native speakers of English, if you identify yourself as a native speaker of English at the Item “Foreign Language Proficiency” in Form #3, you need not submit a TOEFL. Applicants must explicitly request the submission early enough taking into consideration the time required for processing and handling, and write the date of the request in Form #1. ETS will issue the Official Score Report only for the tests taken within five years.

- The General Test Score Report has been revised since August 1, 2011. We accept any score either before or after the revision as long as the Official Score Report can be issued by ETS.

- The application will not be reviewed without the arrival of the Official Score Report.

- To be eligible for admission to the M.A.S. program, you must be a holder of a Bachelor’s degree or an equivalent status. To be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. program, you must be a holder of a Bachelor’s degree or an equivalent status including Ph.D. candidate status.

- Applicants who expect to earn the required degree(s) and wear the graduation gown at the valedictory exercises of the Commencement of the University of Tokyo. To be eligible, the scholarships will be offered simultaneously with the notification of acceptance. The successful applicants will be requested to confirm their willingness to enter the ITASIA program by a specified date.

- Scholarship opportunities are not available in U.S. government sponsored programs, such as the Fulbright-Hays Program or the Peace Corps. Scholarship opportunities are available in other sources, as described at http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/information/services/financial-aid/undergraduate-scholarships.

- To be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. program, you must have already received a Bachelor’s degree or an equivalent status including Ph.D. candidate status.

- Applicants who have exceptional academic records will be awarded scholarships or tuition waives. (If you have any questions or are applying for admission to the University of Tokyo. To be eligible, the scholarships will be offered simultaneously with the notification of acceptance. The successful applicants will be requested to confirm their willingness to enter the ITASIA program by a specified date.

- The University of Tokyo provides a limited number of need-based exemptions of entrance fee and tuition.
Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies

The Ideal Place for the ITASIA Program

The Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), which houses the ITASIA program, is a unique entity offering graduate level education. Graduate courses and research supervision are conducted mainly by faculty members belonging to the Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III), which was created together with the GSII in April 2000. Members of many other faculties in the university also teach and guide students. In this way, the GSII is able to gather teaching staff across various disciplinary backgrounds in the arts and sciences. A system of dual advisors enables each student to engage with a “primary” and “secondary” faculty mentor, and a number of courses are open to all GSII students, no matter their program affiliation. In such an environment interdisciplinary education in information studies can thrive. The ITASIA program, for example, is fully supported by specialists of Asian Studies posted in various faculties and research institutes within the university, including the Institute for Advanced Studies on Asia (IASA).

Besides the ITASIA program, the GSII offers four graduate programs: Socio-information and Communication Studies Course; Cultural and Human Information Studies Course; Emerging Design and Informatics Course; and Applied Computer Science Course. The academic year for these programs begins in April, and the majority of instruction is offered in Japanese.

Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies

The Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies (III) was founded in April 2000, together with the Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies (GSII), as a unique organization meant to carry out interdisciplinary studies of information that transcends conventional boundaries of humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering. The Initiative gathers researchers of information from various parts of the University of Tokyo. These faculty members, bridging multiple disciplines, are full participants in the educational programs of the GSII.

The University of Tokyo

Based on http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/about/about.html

The University of Tokyo (UTokyo) was established in 1877 as the first national university in Japan. As a leading research university, UTokyo offers courses in essentially all academic disciplines at both undergraduate and graduate levels and conducts research across the full spectrum of academic activity. The University aims to provide its students with a rich and varied academic environment that ensures opportunities for both intellectual development and the acquisition of professional knowledge and skills.

UTokyo has a total staff of around 10,000 and an enrollment of about 28,000, evenly divided between undergraduate and graduate students. As of May 2015 there were 3,062 international students, and 3,731 foreign researchers visited the university in 2014 for both short and extended visits. In the same year 11,469 academics visited foreign universities for academic purposes. UTokyo is known for the excellence of its faculty and students, and ever since its foundation many of its graduates have gone on to become leaders in government, business, and the academic world.

Contact

Address  ITASIA Admissions Office
Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies
The University of Tokyo
7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan

Phone/Fax  +81-3-5841-0539 / +81-3-3811-5970

E-mail  itasiaao2017@iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp
(For inquiries only - not for submission of applications)

Website  http://itasia.iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp/