THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO

Interfaculty Initiative in Information Studies
Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies
The University of Tokyo

International Master's/Doctoral Degree Program:
Information, Technology, and Society in Asia

Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, The University of Tokyo

ITASIA

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

Application Deadline:

January 6, 2015 JST
(to be considered for a merit-based scholarship)

February 27, 2015 JST
(all other applications)

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

INFORMATION, TECHNOLOGY, AND SOCIETY IN ASIA

ITASIA

International Master's/Doctoral Degree Program: Information, Technology, and Society in Asia (ITASIA)

An innovative approach to understanding Asia in the information age

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 October.

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.
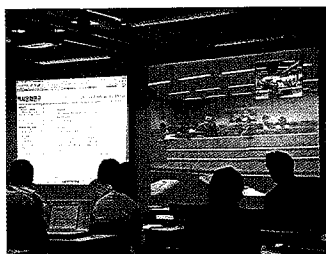
Students in the M.A.S. program are trained to grasp changing political, economic, and social realities of globalizing Asia through media, communication, and information studies together with the related methodology and skills, so that after graduation they can make appropriate judgments and recommendations 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.

III Main Building

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.

Faculty

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

Director of the ITASIA Program

Shigeto SONODA is Professor of Sociology and Comparative Asian Studies. He has conducted a variety of researches energetically including *Tianjin Annual Survey* 2004-2009, *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

Vice President of the University of Tokyo

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).

Professor, Dean of the III/GSII
SUDOH Osamu
Digital Economy

Professor
MATSUDA Yasuhiro
International Politics in East Asia

Professor
YAMAGUCHI Itsuko
Information Law & Policy

Project Professor
AKAZA Hideyuki
Strategic Investigation on Comprehensive Cancer Network

Professor
NAWA Katsuo
Sociocultural Anthropology, South Asian Studies

Associate Professor
HARADA Shiro
Computing and International Politics

Professor
HASHIMOTO Yoshiaki
Information Social Psychology

Professor
OGUCHI Takashi
Traffic Management and Control

Associate Professor
Jason G. KARLIN
Gender and Media Studies

Professor
HAYASHI Kaori
Mass Media and Journalism Studies

Invited Professor
TANAKA Akihiko
International Politics and Information

Associate Professor
KITADA Akihiro
Sociology, History of Media

Professor
IKEUCHI Katsushi
Visual Informatics

Professor
TANAKA Hideyuki
Network Economics

Associate Professor
LEE Hyun Sun
Migration Studies, Social Welfare and Policy

Other faculty members of the GSII may also lecture and be available to serve as advisors.
The full faculty list is available at: **http://itasia.iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp/gsii_faculty.html**

(As of July 1, 2014)

This document is written for prospective students applying for admission to the ITASIA program in October 2015. The application deadline is February 27, 2015 JST (Japan Standard Time), but those who wish to be considered for a merit-based scholarship for the program must have their application arrive by January 6, 2015 JST. 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 Entrants
•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 2014, subject to changes)
•Examination Fee: 10,000 yen
*Japanese government (Monbukagakusho) scholarship students are exempt from the examination fee as well as the entrance fee and annual tuition.
*Those entering the Ph.D. program in October 2015 are exempt from the examination fee as well as the entrance fee if they earned a Master's or professional degree at the Graduate School of the University of Tokyo in September 2015.
•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/stu02/h01_02_e.html

Scholarship Opportunities
A limited number of applicants who have exceptional academic records will be awarded scholarships or tuition waivers through the courtesy of donors at the recommendation of the University of Tokyo. To those eligible, the scholarships will be offered simultaneously with the notification of acceptance into the program. The candidates will be requested to confirm their willingness to enter the ITASIA program by a specified date.

The successful applicants for admission can also directly apply for scholarships from the University of Tokyo as well as private sources, as described at http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/res03/i22_e.html, but typically only after enrollment. We strongly recommend that those applicants seeking financial support should also apply for other scholarships that can be offered before enrollment by themselves, such as Japanese government (Monbukagakusho) scholarship, the Chinese Government Graduate Student Overseas Study Program "国家建设高水平大学公派研究生项目", etc.

Qualifications for Enrollment
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 Master's degree or an equivalent status including Ph.D. candidateship.

Applicants who expect to earn the required degree(s) between the time of application and the end of September 2015 should submit with their application an official statement that certifies anticipated graduation.

Applicants must have at least 16 years of school education including university education or its equivalent. Applicants who have spent fewer than 16 years completing their elementary, middle, high school and university education must explain very clearly their academic history.

Please be informed that the applicants with fewer than 16 years of school education or without an appropriate academic degree may need to contact the ITASIA Admissions Office by a specified date before submitting the application. For details, please refer to Appendix 1 and 2 on ITASIA's website.

Applicants 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 that is not directly related to the emphasis of the ITASIA program or to the applicants' proposed field of study, then it is strongly encouraged that they apply instead to the M.A.S. program.

Selection
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.). It will be carried out in two phases, the first for the earlier deadline (Phase A) and the other for the final deadline (Phase B). Those who wish to be considered for the merit-based scholarships should apply for Phase A. Applicants who do not receive notice of acceptance in Phase A by February 27, 2015 will be considered again in Phase B. All the other applicants, including those for the Ph.D. program who are currently enrolled in the M.A.S. program of ITASIA, should apply for Phase B. Applicants may be contacted for additional information, with final notification no later than April 24, 2015. Successful applicants will be requested to complete the entrance procedures within a specified period.

Application Procedure
For enrollment in October 2015, the application period starts on October 1, 2014. Completed applications must be submitted to the ITASIA Admissions Office by registered mail or an international delivery service (such as UPS or FEDEX) by the date below. We strongly encourage applicants to submit materials early, since delivery may take some time. Please note that the applications that arrive after January 6, 2015 JST will not be considered in Phase A. (This earlier deadline also applies to those planning to apply for the Chinese Government Graduate Student Overseas Study Program "国家建设高水平大学公派研究生项目".) We will not accept applications that arrive after February 27, 2015 JST.

Application Documents
Please obtain the necessary forms from the Download page on ITASIA's website after mid-September 2014 and prepare the documents according to the following list. Applications must be written in English. If the other documents are not written in English or Japanese, an official English or Japanese translation should be attached unless specified otherwise.

The University may retroactively cancel admission of any student who has falsified any of his or her application documents including personal information, academic records, and research achievements.

(Items designated by (*) are not necessary for applicants who are currently enrolled in the ITASIA program.)

(Items designated by (+) are not necessary for applicants who are graduates of the ITASIA M.A.S. program applying for the ITASIA Ph.D. program WITHIN TWO YEARS FROM GRADUATION.)

1. CHECKLIST with signature (Form #1)

2. APPLICATION (Form #2)

3. Official proof of graduation (*)(+)
   • One official document of graduation, 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 application are requested to submit an authorized statement of anticipated graduation.

4. Official transcript (*)(+)
   • 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 committee to assess your dossier. The GPA statement should be part of the official transcript, or, if separate, should bear an official university or registrar seal. It should include an explanation of the numerical values used to calculate the average.
   • If available, an authorized certificate 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 their Bachelor's and Master's transcripts.
   • Applicants may request that their university send transcripts directly. If you choose to do so, 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: 0440). (The Examinee's Score Record 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 a PBT or iBT taken within two years. (ITP is not acceptable.)
   • The application will not be reviewed without the arrival of the Official Score Report.
   • The TOEFL requirement does not apply to native speakers of English. If you identify yourself as a native speaker of English at Item 18 in Form #2, you need not submit a TOEFL score. We will review all your application from that premise. If you do not identify yourself as such, you must fulfill the TOEFL requirement.

6. GRE (Graduate Record Examinations) General Test 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 Examinee's Score Record 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.
   • GRE General 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.

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

8. 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)
   • This sample must be submitted not only in a paper format but also as a PDF file that is burned on a CD or DVD media, unless the sample is a publication with an ISBN. The PDF file must contain accessible text data of the sample inside.
   • If the applicant has not yet graduated at the time of application, an interim thesis report is acceptable.
   • If an M.A.S. program applicant cannot submit either a thesis or a term-paper, then any other relevant research paper is required.
   • If the applicant has a more suitable paper related to the intended research, then it may be submitted instead.
   • If the work is not originally written in English, its summarized translation of a length of 3,000 words in English should be attached.

9. One list of publications (if applicable)

10. One copy of your census register, passport, or other proof of citizenship (Please do not send the original.)

11. Three letters of recommendation including Form #3 (*)(+)
   • They should be written in English or Japanese.
   • Each letter, together with Form #3, must be placed in an envelope and signed by the recommender on the seal in order to ensure confidentiality.
   • They may be sent directly by the recommender to the ITASIA Admissions Office.
   • At least two recommenders must be outside of the GSII.
   • The application will not be reviewed without the letters of recommendation.

12. One copy of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test Result (optional)

13. Three passport-style photographs (Please write your name on the back.)
   • height: 4cm x width: 3cm
   • color photographs taken within the last six months
   • upper frontal view without hat, etc.

14. One original of the Certificate of Remittance (Portion C of Form #4)
   • All applicants must pay the examination fee before sending their application, unless they are Japanese government (Monbukagakusho) scholarship students or they expect to earn a Master's or professional degree at the Graduate School of the University of Tokyo (including the ITASIA program) in September 2015.
   • If the payment is done at a bank in Japan using Form #4, the Certificate of Remittance (Portion C of Form #4) should be pasted on the designated place in Form #2.
   • If the payment is done by the online method, please enclose the printed "Result" page. (Please see the separate instructions on ITASIA's website.)

Please note that none of the processed documents and materials will be returned.

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

Required Courses (For 2014)

Name	Title	Credits	Semester	Lecturer	Slot	Notes
ITASIA101	Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Lecture)	2	Winter	MATSUDA Yasuhiro	Tu5	
ITASIA102	Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Seminar)	2	Winter	TANAKA Akihiko	Fr3	must be taken with ITASIA101
ITASIA201	Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Lecture)	2	Summer	YOSHIMI Shunya, Jason G. KARLIN	Tu3	
ITASIA202	Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Seminar)	2	Summer	Jason G. KARLIN	Th3	must be taken with ITASIA201
ITASIA301	Introduction to Social Research (Lecture)	2	Winter	SONODA Shigeto	We4	must be taken with ITASIA302
ITASIA302	Introduction to Social Research (Workshop)	2	Winter	SONODA Shigeto	We5	must be taken with ITASIA301
ITASIA401	Introduction to Information Technology	2	Summer	HARADA Shiro	Th5	
M.A.S. Thesis		4	Year-round			

Sample Elective Courses (For 2014)

Name	Title	Credits	Semester
ITASIA121	International Politics in East Asia	2	Summer
ITASIA124	International Conflict Study	2	Summer
ITASIA128	Surviving Cancer in Asia: Cross-boundary Cancer Studies	2	Winter
ITASIA129	Understanding Asia and Japan through Hong Kong	2	Summer
ITASIA131	Modern Japanese Diplomacy	2	Winter
ITASIA132	Assimilation and Japanese Nationalism	2	Winter
ITASIA133	Japanese Foreign Economic Policy	4	Winter
ITASIA141	The Politics and Diplomacy of Contemporary China	2	Summer
ITASIA143	Understanding Taiwan in Global Settings	2	Summer
ITASIA222	Celebrity, Fandom and Mediated Publicness	2	Winter
ITASIA229	Films of Ozu Yasujiro: From the 1920s to the 1960s	2	Summer
ITASIA231	Critical Perspectives on Postwar Japan	2	Winter
ITASIA319	MindHacks: Organizing Knowledge, Resources and Research in the Internet Era	2	Summer
ITASIA417	Analyzing, Organizing, and Publishing Humanities Research with XML (1)	2	Summer
ITASIA418	Analyzing, Organizing, and Publishing Humanities Research with XML (2)	2	Winter
ITASIA801	Academic Thesis Writing	2	Summer
Advanced Lectures on Emerging Design and Informatics XV	Transportation Engineering	2	Summer
Special Lectures in Cultural and Human Information Studies I	Media, Sports and Culture: Selected Issues	2	Summer
Visual Information Processing		2	Winter

* 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 2014)

Name	Title	Credits	Semester
ITASIA101 *	Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Lecture)	2	Winter
ITASIA102 *	Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Seminar)	2	Winter
ITASIA201 *	Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Lecture)	2	Summer
ITASIA202 *	Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Seminar)	2	Summer
Ph.D. Dissertation Guidance		8	Year-round

*Not required for students who earned an M.A.S. in this program

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

Sample Elective Courses (For 2014)   In addition to the common courses with the M.A.S. program, the following is also held.

Name	Title	Credits	Semester
ITASIA721	Academic Project Management	2	Winter

Other Educational Events   Doctoral Qualifying Presentations

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.
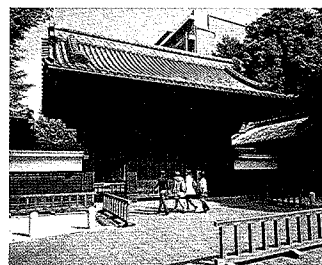
The University of Tokyo
Based on http://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/about/index.html

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 29,000, evenly divided between undergraduate and graduate students. As of 2013 there were 2,912 international students, and 3,524 foreign researchers visited the university in 2012 for both short and extended visits. In the same year 10,435 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

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