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

Application Deadline:
January 5, 2016 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 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.

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

Required Courses (For 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</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>Winter</td>
<td>TANAKA Akihiko, MATSUDA Yasuhiro, IKEGAME Ayaka</td>
<td>Tu5</td>
<td>must be taken with ITASIA101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA102</td>
<td>Introduction to Asian Studies: History and International Relations (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>TANAKA Akihiko</td>
<td>Fr3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA201</td>
<td>Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Lecture)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>YOSHIKI Shunya, Jason G. KARLIN</td>
<td>Tu3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA202</td>
<td>Introduction to Media and Communication in Asia (Seminar)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>JASON G. KARLIN</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>Winter</td>
<td>SONODA Shigeto</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>Winter</td>
<td>SONODA Shigeto</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>Summer</td>
<td>HARADA Shiro</td>
<td>Th5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M.A.S. Thesis</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Year-round</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sample Elective Courses (For 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA112</td>
<td>Comparative media and IT Law: Intersection of Free Speech, Privacy, and Copyright in Japan, the US and EU</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA124</td>
<td>International Conflict Study</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA128</td>
<td>Surviving Cancer in Asia: Cross-boundary Cancer Studies</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA131</td>
<td>Modern Japanese Diplomacy</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA132</td>
<td>Assimilation and Japanese Nationalism</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA133</td>
<td>Japanese Foreign Economic Policy</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA141</td>
<td>The Politics and Diplomacy of Contemporary China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA143</td>
<td>Understanding Taiwan in Global Settings</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA144</td>
<td>Understanding Japanese Companies in China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA149</td>
<td>Politics of “Social Research” in China</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA225</td>
<td>Computer Mediated Communication</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA231</td>
<td>Visualizing Postwar Tokyo through the method of “Attack Me!”</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA237</td>
<td>Mediated Worlds</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA319</td>
<td>MindHacks: Organizing Knowledge, Resources and Research in the Internet Era</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA417</td>
<td>Analyzing, Organizing, and Publishing Humanities Research with XML (1)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA418</td>
<td>Analyzing, Organizing, and Publishing Humanities Research with XML (2)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA801</td>
<td>Academic Thesis Writing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Lectures on Emerging Design and Informatics XV

Transportation Engineering 2 Summer

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 2015)

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

Ph.D. Dissertation Guidance

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

Ph.D. Program

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

Sample Elective Courses (For 2015)

In addition to the common courses with the M.A.S. program, the following is also held.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Semester</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ITASIA721</td>
<td>Academic Project Management</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Educational Events

Doctoral Qualifying Presentations

* 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.
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**
Head of Department of Interdisciplinary Information Studies, the GSII

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).

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
An innovative approach to understanding Asia in the information age

International Master’s/Doctoral Degree Program:

ITASIA is comprised of two degree programs: one that begins in October. Japanese is not a prerequisite. Unlike the conventional instruction is given in English, so proficiency in Japanese students who are motivated to pursue active participation in the region.

Technology is having an increasingly profound impact on education, Technology, and Society in Asia (ITASIA) at the University of Tokyo in September 2016.

Feasibility: 282,000 yen

• Annual Tuition: 556,800 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 waivers through the courtesy of donors at the recommendation of the University of Tokyo. 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 submission of an application 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/en/prospective-students/privategrant.html, but typically only on rare occasion. We strongly encourage all applicants to seek other sources of funding that can be offered before enrollment by themselves, such as Japanese government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) scholarship, the Chinese Government Graduate Student Overseas Study Program (China Scholarship Council), Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program, and so on.

Certificated for Admission

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. candidate status.

Applicants who wish to earn the degree(s) between the time of application and September 22, 2016 should submit with their application an official statement that certifies anticipated graduation.

M.A.S. program applicants must have completed at least the equivalent of 16 years of school education including university education. Applicants who have spent fewer than the age of 16 years in formal, elementary, middle, high school and university education must explain very clearly their academic history.

Please be careful that some applicants with fewer than 16 years of school education or without an appropriate academic development are not expected to acquire the degree(s) by December 2015 JST before submitting the application. For details, please carefully read through 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 advanced research. If the applicants for the Ph.D. program have received a Master’s degree in a field closely 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 and, if deemed necessary, some kind of interview (including telephone, IM, etc.). Applicants may be contacted for additional information, which will be held until March 31, 2016. Successful applicants will be requested to complete the entrance procedures within a specified period.

Application Procedure

For enrollment in September 2016, the application period starts on October 1, 2015. Completed applications must be submitted to the Graduate School of Information Studies by registered mail or an international delivery service (such as UPS or FEDEX) January 5, 2016. Submissions in person will not be accepted. We strongly encourage applicants to submit materials early, since delivery may take some time. We will not accept applications that arrive after January 5, 2016.

Application Documents

Please obtain the necessary forms from the Download page on ITASIA’s website after mid-September 2015 and prepare the documents according to the following list:

- All documents must be written in English. If the other documents are not written in English or Japanese, an official English 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 such as educational information, academic records, and research achievements.

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

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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 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

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
itasiaao2016@iii.u-tokyo.ac.jp
(For inquiries only - not for submission of applications)

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