



Invitation to Doctoral Course in International law at GSICS, Kobe University (with MEXT Scholarship, for enrollment in 2024)

In order to pursue a graduate level study at Kobe University starting 2024, we strongly encourage that you apply for the Japanese government scholarship through your respective embassies **by the end of May 2023. Please note that in Japan the academic year starts from 1 April, with the enrollment opportunities in both April (Japanese course) and October (English course) each year.**

Exciting graduate level studies at GSICS, Kobe University


By enrolling in the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (GSICS), Kobe University, as Doctoral or Master's students, you will have multidisciplinary and practical research opportunities in public international law. The Polar Cooperation Research Centre (PCRC) provides the opportunities to participate in its international symposia and workshops on the Arctic and Antarctic legal, policy and science issues, with prominent guest speakers from abroad. We welcome particularly those students who would like to pursue a three-year doctoral degree (Ph.D. in Laws) specializing in international law, including Arctic and Antarctic legal and policy studies, under the supervision of Professor Akiho Shibata, Director of the PCRC. GSICS has an English course, which provides classes taught entirely in English, including several classes in international law, international relations, and Japanese politics and economy. Your thesis can be submitted in English.

Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship (Japanese embassy recommendation)

The MEXT scholarship provides monthly allowance (¥145,000 JPY for Doctoral Course students and ¥144,000 JPY for Master's Course students), round trip traveling costs, and the tuition. The application has started already and its **deadline is between late May and early June 2023**, depending on the embassies. So please check the Japanese embassy website of the country of your nationality or contact the embassy directly for its announcement. After the first stage screening by the embassy in June to October 2023, the successful applicants must then contact Professor Shibata to obtain a letter of acceptance no later than 31 October 2023. The second and final screening by the Japanese Ministry of Education (MEXT) will be held in February 2024. For the details, please see following MEXT's websites:

- Study in Japan : <https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/planning/scholarship/>
- Application guidelines: https://www.studyinjapan.go.jp/en/_mt/2022/05/2023_Guidelines_Research_E.pdf
(documents from previous year for your reference)

While you are going through the above procedures, you are also required to apply for GSICS to be officially admitted to enter its Doctoral or Master's courses. The GSICS procedures starts from November 2023, with the MEXT prospective scholars being encouraged to enroll at GSICS first as a research student from April for 6 months before starting the degree courses in October.

For a visual and oral explanation, see YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/f5l2zgQUt6A> 

For inquiries, please contact < kobe_arctic_research@diamond.kobe-u.ac.jp >