



# B.A. Liberal Arts Program



*Kyoto, Japan*

 Doshisha University

The Institute for the Liberal Arts



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# Welcome

Our international faculty works with students from over 42 different countries, who share classes with Japanese students from across Doshisha and exchange students from our worldwide network of partner universities.

Studying in a small, close-knit Institute within a large, established University offers the advantages of both settings. Students benefit from seminar-style classes, but still have access to a diversity of academic disciplines across the University as a whole. We aim to break down traditional barriers between the disciplines and foster a heterogeneous form of education, suitable for the dynamic globalized society we now inhabit.

We offer degrees taught exclusively in English in a curriculum that you can customize giving you the chance for both breadth and depth of study.

We have no Japanese language requirement, but for international students who choose to study Japanese, there are classes at all levels.

The Institute's collegial team of academics, administrators, and students look forward to welcoming you. We draw on our own experiences of living and researching across the world, and all understand the importance of both local and global contexts. In the contemporary world, a broad international education, work experience, global networks, and language skills will give you the competitive edge

We are delighted that you are considering studying for your B.A. degree in Liberal Arts here at The Institute for the Liberal Arts (ILA) at Doshisha University.

▽ Kyoto

Tokyo

**Increase your employability by acquiring Japanese and international experience in Japan, while you study for your B. A. degree in the liberal arts.**

## Doshisha University

Private university founded in 1875

29,000 students

2,350 faculty members

15 undergraduate programs

16 graduate programs

Host to:

The Stanford Japan Center

Tübingen University Center

for Japanese Studies at Doshisha University

The Associated Kyoto Program Center  
(a consortium of 13 American colleges)

The Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies  
(a consortium of 13 renowned universities in the United States, including Harvard, Princeton, and Yale)

## Make your education an adventure. Study for your degree in English, in Japan

The Institute for the Liberal Arts at Doshisha University has a private liberal arts college atmosphere and diverse educational approach with an emphasis on building partnerships between students and professors in small classes.

The Institute has over fifty faculty members from various countries who bring together a wide range of experiences from academia, business, education, journalism, government, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), as they endeavor to foster excellence in learning, teaching, and research. In addition to specialized knowledge on Japanese issues accumulated through extensive fieldwork and research, faculty members are able to relate practical knowledge from the perspective of an international student, having themselves been international students in Japan.

### Core Faculty



**Gregory Poole, Ph.D. (Oxford)**  
Anthropology



**Colin Davis, Ph.D. (Hokkaido)**  
Economics



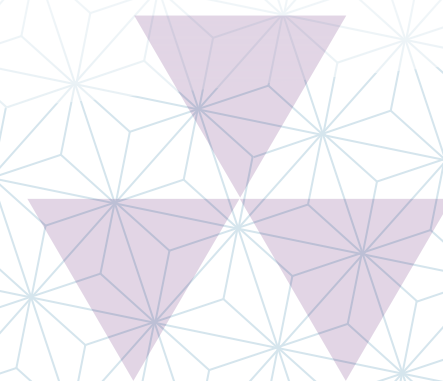
**Gill Steel, Ph.D. (Chicago)**  
Political Science



**Jennifer McGuire, Ph.D. (Oxford)**  
Anthropology



**David Uva, Ph.D. (Osaka)**  
Japanese Studies





## Curriculum Outline

### Humanities and the Human Sciences

*(Japanese Society and Global Culture)*

### Business and Economics

*(Japanese Business and the Global Economy)*

### Politics and Policy Studies

*(Japanese Politics and Global Studies)*

## STUDY IN JAPAN, IN ENGLISH

No Japanese language requirement

The Institute has a private liberal arts college atmosphere and educational approach with small classes conducted exclusively in English

### THREE CONCENTRATIONS

Students in this four-year degree program choose one of three concentrations: Humanities and the Human Sciences, Business and Economics, or Politics and Policy Studies. All students begin by studying Foundation Courses, where they master the methodologies and research skills required for comparative analysis.



They then design their own individualized curriculum by selecting courses across the disciplines based on their interests.

Students can take advanced courses in their concentration where they gain in-depth knowledge pertaining to specific fields : Humanities and the Human Sciences (Japanese Society and Global Culture), Business and Economics (Japanese Business and the Global Economy), Politics and Policy Studies (Japanese Politics and Global Studies). Students can choose to specialize within their chosen concentration or combine courses across fields, from the classes offered in English at the ILA, as well as in Japanese and English throughout the University. Students may also have the opportunity to spend a year abroad at one of Doshisha's many partner universities worldwide. While taking academic courses, students can study the Japanese language at any level.

## A WORLD-CLASS ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Study for a B.A. degree in the liberal arts at one of Japan's oldest universities with a diverse international faculty and student body

### Foundation Courses

#### Understanding Japan and Kyoto

Basic Japanese

Communities of Practice in Japan

Japanese Issues and Topics

Introduction to Kyoto

Doshisha and Christianity

Geography of Japan

Nature and the Environment in Japan

Religion in Japan

Understanding and Experiencing Work in Japan

#### Academic and Research Skills

Library Research Skills

Introduction to Information Systems

Academic Presentations and Debate

Academic Writing

Mathematical Methods for the Social Sciences

Probability for the Social Sciences

Introduction to Asian Philosophy and Thought

Introduction to Social, Political, and Economic Thought

Introduction to Philosophy and Ethics

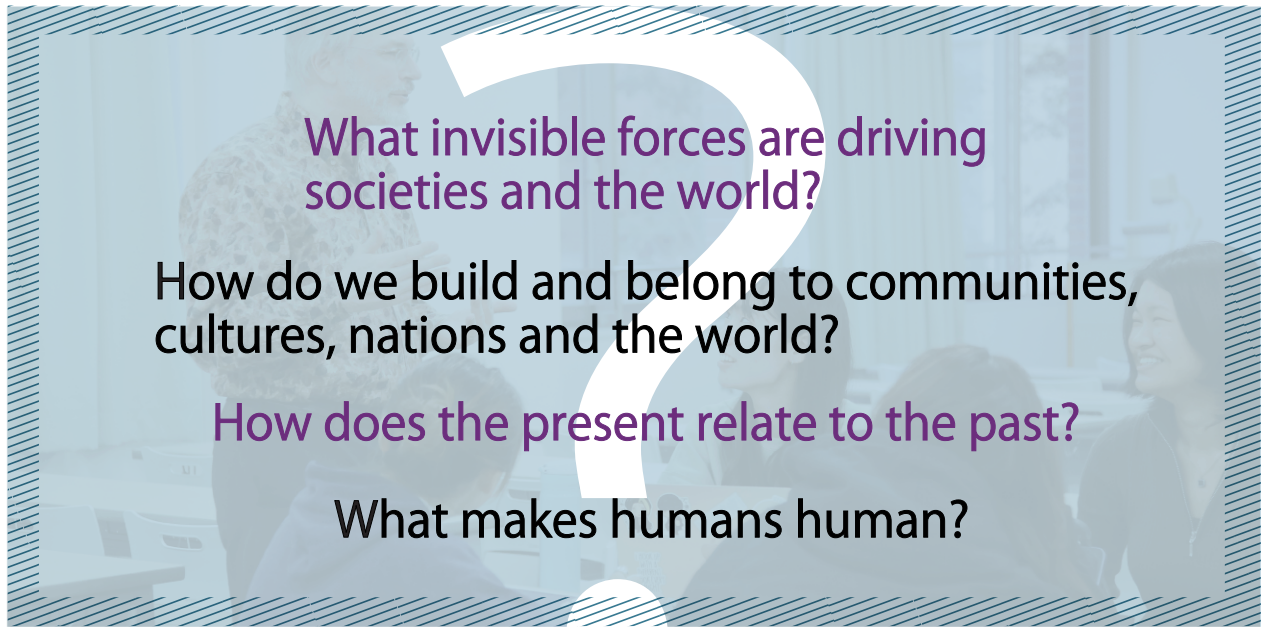
Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods

Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods

Advanced Mathematical Methods for the Social Sciences







# ?

What invisible forces are driving societies and the world?

How do we build and belong to communities, cultures, nations and the world?

How does the present relate to the past?

What makes humans human?

Students taking classes in this concentration will study a wide range of topics and issues that set out to answer these four core questions. Topics include: migration; the formation of individual and group identities; the creation and maintenance of communities and social networks; new forms of communication and civil action; the development of cultural systems and concepts of nation; the emergence of global youth cultures and global identities; the influence of new media and regional collectives; the breakdown of class systems and new divisions in global society; the influence of technology on individuals and their collectives; the psychological power of visible and invisible borders; the roots of ethnic and religious conflict; the power of symbols in society and everyday life; the construction of the Japanese past and present.





# Japanese Society and Global Culture

## Humanities and the Human Sciences

### Introductory level

- What Makes Humans Human?
- Introduction to Japanese History
- Manga and Anime Studies
- Japanese Society and Culture
- Introduction to the Arts
- Introduction to Media and Communications
- Introduction to Globalization
- World Civilizations

### Intermediate level

- Media in Japan
- Japanese and World Literature
- World, Youth, and Pop Culture
- Ethnicity in Japan
- Japan in the World: Cultural Flows and Diasporas
- Social Foundations of Language
- Asian Civilizations
- Modern Japanese History

### Advanced level

- Social Foundations of Education
- Nations and Nationalism
- Advanced Themes in Anthropology
- Disaster Studies
- Social Inequalities in Japan
- Colonialism and Imperialism
- Advanced Media Studies
- Migration and Transnationalism

4 year schedule

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
	Introductory Seminars (8 credits)		Intermediate Seminars (4 credits)	Advanced Seminars and Honors Thesis (4 credits)
	Academic and Research Skills ( at least 12 credits)			
	Understanding Japan and Kyoto (at least 4 credits)			
Japanese Society and Global Culture*	Introductory		Intermediate	Advanced
Japanese Business and the Global Economy*	Introductory		Intermediate	Advanced
Japanese Politics and Global Studies*	Introductory		Intermediate	Advanced

\*Students are required to take 4 credits for each level plus 18 credits from any level.

Other Elective Courses Outside the ILA (e.g. Japanese Courses)

The Institute operates on a 15 week semester system with two intakes: April and September Students are required to earn at least 124 credits to obtain a B.A. in Liberal Arts.



## Japanese Business and the Global Economy

### Business and Economics

How do economies function?

What is the role of business  
in society?

How can we evaluate  
economic systems?

What creates wealth and poverty?



Highlighting local and regional Japanese business practices against the backdrop of an increasingly integrated world economy, courses in this concentration provide students with a strong grounding in the core elements of contemporary business practices, while fostering development of the breadth and depth in understanding that is characteristic of a liberal arts degree. Introductory and intermediate courses introduce students to accounting, economics, finance, marketing, and management theories using illustrations from Japan. In advanced courses, students have the opportunity to apply their knowledge in an international context. Students who have concentrated their studies in business and economics are comfortable with both qualitative and quantitative methods of analysis, allowing them to use practical reasoning to resolve the challenges that they are faced with in their jobs and daily lives.

### Introductory level

- Introduction to Contemporary Economics and Business
- Introduction to the Japanese Economy
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Introduction to Finance
- Introduction to Business Administration
- Introduction to Accounting
- Society and Economy in Kyoto

### Intermediate level

- Consumers and the Market in Japan
- Ecology and Economy in Japan
- Industry and Labor in Japan
- The Creative Industries in Contemporary Japan
- The Financial System in Japan
- Financial Accounting in Japan
- Introduction to Marketing
- Japanese Corporations

### Advanced level

- Economic Growth
- International Economics
- Corporate Strategy and Organization
- Management Accounting in Japan
- International Marketing
- International Business Communication
- Industry and Corporation in Kyoto
- Contemporary Issues in Business and Economics



## Japanese Politics and Global Studies

### Politics and Policy Studies

What is power?

Who has power?

How did they get it?

What do citizens want,  
what do citizens get?



The answers to these questions dominate every aspect of our lives. In our complex and interdependent world, responsible politics requires discourse, broad-based citizen participation and responsive leadership. To that end, the Politics and Policy Studies Concentration promotes the critical analysis of politics and public policy, with both a Japan and a comparative focus.

This concentration equips students with the tools to frame important questions; conduct theory-driven research; provide evidence-based answers; write clearly and persuasively; and participate in lively discussions. When theory and systematic empirical analysis drive purposeful analysis, significant insights for our communities and for the world emerge.

### Introductory level

- The Politics of Growth in Developing Countries
- Winners and Losers: Introduction to Political Theory
- Introduction to Japanese Law
- Power and Politics in Japan
- Introduction to Comparative Policymaking
- Introduction to International Relations
- Comparative Politics
- Peace and Conflict

### Intermediate level

- Citizen Politics in Japan and Beyond
- International Relations in East Asia
- Postwar Japan - U.S. Relations
- What Makes Countries Poor?
- International Human Rights Law
- Political Behavior, Campaigns and Elections
- Civic Engagement
- Public Opinion and Political Psychology

### Advanced level

- Topics in Public Policy
- Mass Media in the Policymaking Process
- International Law and Organizations
- International Political Economy
- Development and Law
- Topics in Japan's Contemporary International Relations
- Social Movements and Contentious Politics
- Politics through Film





# The Campus



Doshisha University's Imadegawa Campus is an elegant blend of protected historic buildings and modern architecture, which preserves the beauty of the original Meiji period red-brick buildings. The green spaces, shady alcoves and outdoor plazas draw on the calm, contemplative beauty of the adjacent Shokokuji Temple, while the campus itself buzzes with cultural, academic, and recreational life. Where else could you hear Buddhist monks reciting sutras, pop into a Chapel or meditation room, hear a garage band, see a wrestling match, and engage in stimulating intellectual conversation, all in the space of your lunch break?

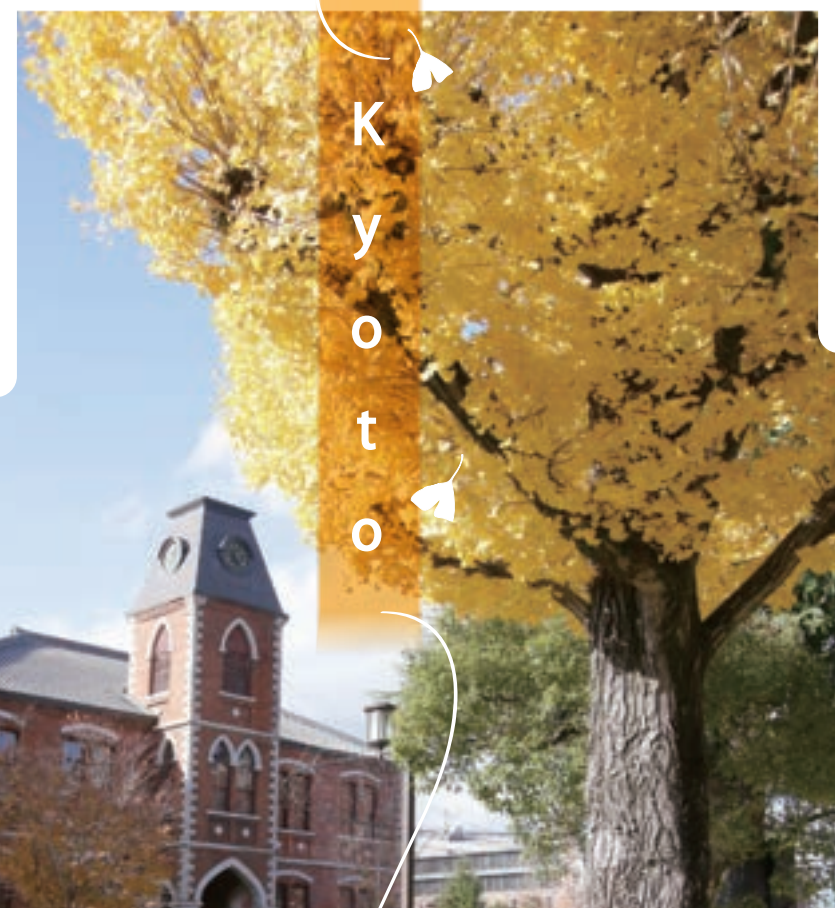
ILA is housed in Shikokan, built around a sunken garden, a few minutes walk from Imadegawa and our state of the art Learning Commons in the Ryoshinkan Building. The Commons is a free form flexible space that encourages participatory student-led learning. The wall-less environment - PCs, projectors, screens, electronic blackboards and plain old comfy chairs - encourage collaboration, discussion, and creativity.

Ryoshinkan also houses lounges, a café/bakery, a bookstore, a convenience store, a travel agency, and a cafeteria with Japanese university staples such as noodles, rice omelets, cutlets, Japanese curry, and a salad bar.



## Modern Kyoto

Enjoy the variety of shopping districts, from urban street fashion in the markets to designer stores and modern malls to 100 yen shops for the bargain hunter! Try the safe and fun nightlife in the downtown area. Kyoto is within easy reach of Osaka and Kobe, both thriving multicultural cities with vibrant Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese communities and nightlife on a par with the most exciting cities in the world. Many Kansai industries, organizations, and universities compete on a global level and offer students rich case-study material across all areas of study. If you tire of the frantic pace of city life, you can choose more natural and spiritual pursuits, learning the secrets of Kyoto's celebrated cuisine, meditating at temples, hiking in the nearby hills, cycling along the rivers that run through the city center, or soaking in outdoor hot springs.



Kyoto, the ancient Capital of Japan, attracts tourists from all over the globe to its temples, shrines and Zen gardens, including 17 UNESCO World Heritage sites. The city is the birthplace of Japanese literature; home of Murasaki Shikibu, author of the world's first novel, The Tale of Genji; the site of the old Imperial Palace; the seat of power for samurai clans for hundreds of years, before the rise of Tokyo. You can live and breathe the romance and drama of Japan's colorful history on every street corner in the city.

## Traditional Kyoto



## Academic Kyoto

Kyoto has more universities and students per square mile than any other city in the country. ILA students are encouraged to participate in the many international conferences and symposia that are held regularly in the city, but students are not limited to academic opportunities at the ILA or within Doshisha itself. Our students can take advantage of universities, courses, and internships in institutes across the whole of the prefecture in any of the 50 member institutions of The Consortium of Universities in Kyoto.



## Peer Support System

Lifestyle Support Advisers give advice and answer questions about academic and daily life. The advisers offer support on settling into life in Japan and understanding Japanese society.

## Clubs and Societies

Doshisha has hundreds of extracurricular clubs and societies. Current ILA students are involved in guitar, newspaper, and theater clubs.

# Student Life and Support

## Career Center

The Center offers information, advice and seminars on employment. Several hundred companies each year approach Doshisha seeking to hire graduates with language abilities.

## Japanese Language and Culture Courses

Our students can choose a wide variety of Japanese language and culture courses to improve their Japanese and cultural understanding.

## International Community Lounge

A space for international students and the university community is available for cross-cultural exchange, finding language partners, conducting meetings, and studying.

[www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/international/lounge/index.html](http://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/international/lounge/index.html)



## Student Support Services Center

The Student Support Services Center provides general information on campus life and studies, and offers counseling and self-development activities. The university also plans and sponsors various extracurricular activities including camping, lectures, concerts and film screenings.

## Health and Counseling

Students can consult with a doctor at the Health Center and obtain mental health support at the Counseling Center. We also process applications for the Medical Reimbursement Programs for international students.

## University Festivals

Students participate in festivals and in events in and around Kyoto and at the University. Doshisha Eve is a huge, round-the-clock, three-day street festival where students and local residents come to enjoy music, food, sport, dance, and street theater.

“Close student-faculty ties are also a feature of the ILA. I can talk with professors not only about things related to my studies, but about college life in general. **Hye Yeon Lee, South Korea**

“It is very international; by that I mean the students here are from almost everywhere –the USA, Brazil, Sweden, Uganda, Taiwan, Korea, China and so on. **Steve Jean Pierre, Haiti**



# University Fees and Funding

## Our tuition fees are highly competitive

Tuition and fees (2026)

	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year
Admission Fee	200,000	—	—	—
Tuition	803,000	1,003,000	1,003,000	1,003,000
Facilities Fee	167,000	167,000	167,000	167,000
Total	1,170,000	1,170,000	1,170,000	1,170,000

The admission fee is charged for the first year only.

The tuition and facilities fees are paid annually in two installments, one each semester

## Scholarships available

International students on a student visa may receive one of three different tuition reduction scholarships (Category S, Category A, Category C).

Category S : Equivalent to full amount of tuition for each year of enrollment, depending on the year of entry.

Category A : ¥460,000

Category C : ¥190,000

The University offers a variety of competitive scholarships for both international and domestic students.



Further information:

[ois.doshisha.ac.jp/ois/en/scholarships/merit.html](https://ois.doshisha.ac.jp/ois/en/scholarships/merit.html)

## How to apply

Please check our website for information on admissions.

Download the Admissions Guide.

[ila.doshisha.ac.jp/ila/en/admissions](https://ila.doshisha.ac.jp/ila/en/admissions)



## ILA Social Network Sites



# Accommodation and Living Costs

Doshisha University guarantees accommodation to all international students for their first year. For students who choose to opt out, reasonably priced accommodation is easy to find in Kyoto, from individual studios to private rooms with shared kitchens and bathrooms. The monthly rental for this type of accommodation ranges from 25,000 – 60,000 yen. We also provide relevant information on off-campus housing and introduce housing agencies both inside and outside the university.

There are cheap grocery stores for food shopping and you'll be surprised what you can find in the ever popular 100 yen shops when it comes to homeware items.

The average monthly living cost in Kyoto is estimated about 120,000 yen including rent (100,000 yen should be thought of as a bare minimum). Students can work for up to 28 hours a week on a student visa with permission.

## Estimated living cost for one month in Kyoto (unit : yen)

Housing (including utilities)	Food	Transportation	School Supplies	Miscellaneous	Total
55,000	25,000	3,000	3,000	34,000	120,000

## Contact

### The Institute for the Liberal Arts Office (ILA Office)

Phone: +81-75-251-3302

E-mail: [ji-ila@mail.doshisha.ac.jp](mailto:ji-ila@mail.doshisha.ac.jp)

### Address:

Doshisha University  
Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto, 602-0898, Japan

### Location on Campus:

Karasuma Campus, Shikokan Building 1st floor  
([www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/information/campus/imadegawa/karasuma.html](https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/information/campus/imadegawa/karasuma.html))



[ila.doshisha.ac.jp/ila/en/](https://ila.doshisha.ac.jp/ila/en/)

