



TOHOKU  
UNIVERSITY

# *Graduate School of International Cultural Studies Tohoku University*

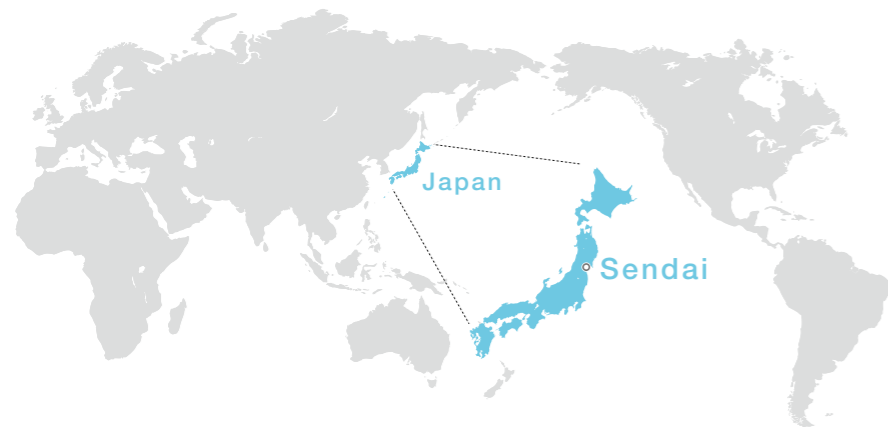
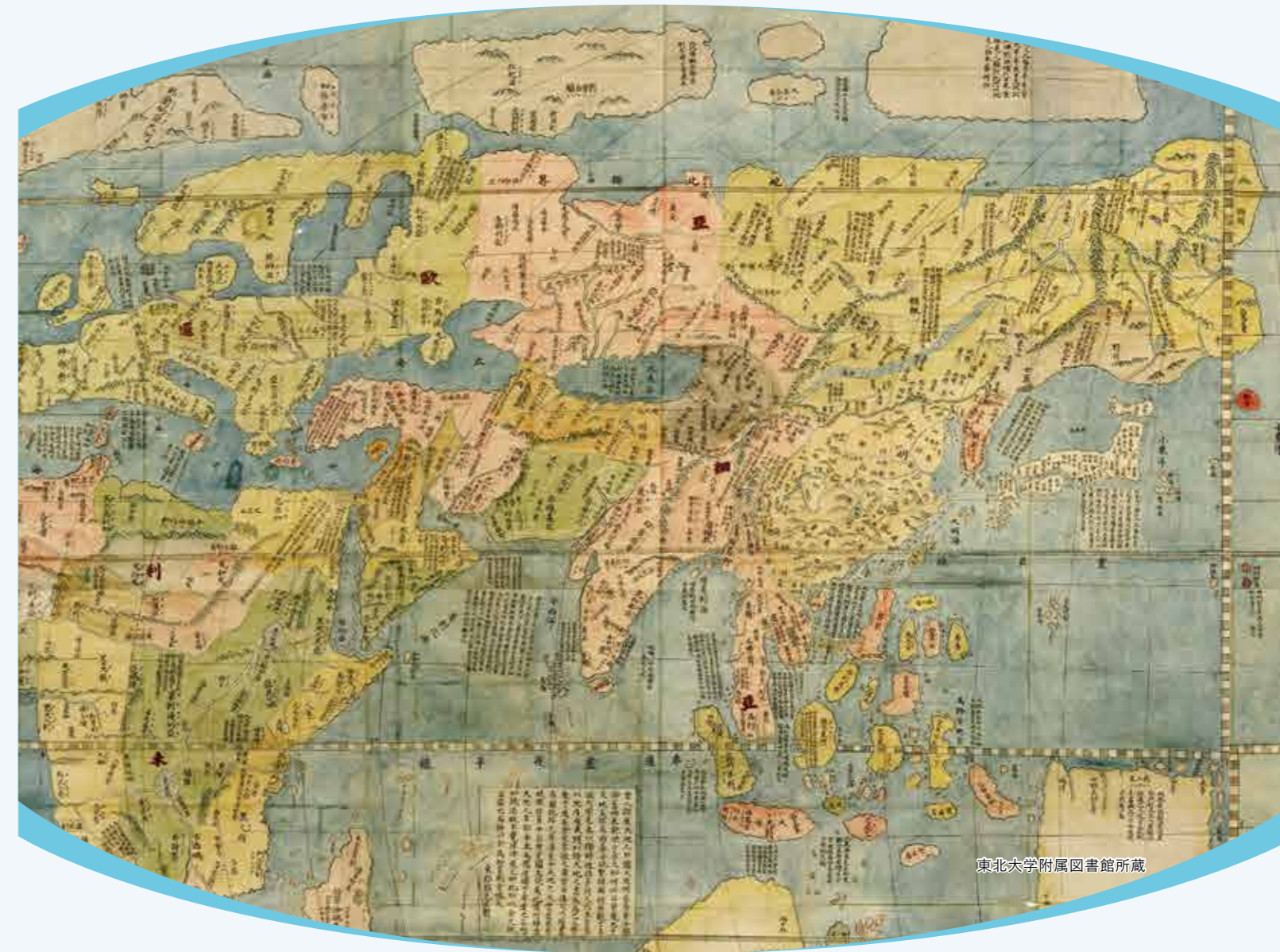


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Tohoku University, Japan*



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東北大学附属図書館所蔵



GSICS  
TOHOKU UNIVERSITY

# Dean's Message

The Graduate School of International Cultural Studies has been devoted to research on local cultures, issues in societies, and aspects of language from international, global, and interdisciplinary perspectives, and has been using the knowledge obtained to educate students who will assume leadership in various sectors in the world. Since its inauguration in 1993, the school has produced 880 masters and 209 doctorates (as of March, 2018). Many of them have been playing an active role at universities and other research institutions, public agencies, educational institutions, or companies.

What is international and global is not limited to our perspectives in research. We boast our international/global student community. About 75% of our MA students and about 60% of our doctoral students come from outside Japan, and those numbers far exceed Tohoku University's averages, distinguishing us from other graduate schools. We expect our students to learn to view things from international and global perspectives not only through courses and instruction by faculty members but also from interactions with peer students with diverse backgrounds.

We comprise eight departments using Japanese as their medium of instruction and admitting students in April in accordance with the Japanese educational system, and two international programs where English serves as the medium of instruction and new students enter in October (one of them will accept students in April as well). All of them help students build a successful career in this globalized world.



*Daiko Takahashi, Ph.D.*

Dean,  
Graduate School of  
International Cultural Studies

# About GSICS

The Graduate School of International Cultural Studies consists of a two-year master's program and a three-year doctoral program. It promotes education and research that adopt interdisciplinary and comprehensive approaches in three areas: (1) area studies from an international perspective covering Japan and the world's diverse local cultures, (2) the global community, and (3) the scientific study of languages. Within these areas, we aim to develop professionals with strong understandings of cultures who act and think globally, as well as specialists with advanced expertise and research capabilities.

The Graduate School has eight departments, each of which feature a unique educational program and promote cutting-edge research. These departments are organized into three educational program units called "divisions." Divisions play a coordinating role, ensuring that students acquire the advanced knowledge and capabilities that allow them to be active in the global community. These divisions are expected to meet the Graduate School's three educational goals: the development of (1) deep understandings of different cultures, (2) skills to solve global issues, and (3) communication abilities.



## Tohoku University in Rankings

Times Higher Education (THE)  
Japan University Rankings 2019

»» *3rd in Japan*

QS World University Rankings  
2019

»» *77th in the world*

AERA 2019 Assessment  
by Japanese high schools

»» *1st in Japan*

QS World University Rankings  
2019

»» *5th in Japan*



## International Graduate Program in Language Sciences (IGPLS)

The International Graduate Program in Language Sciences consists of a two-year M.A. and a three-year Ph.D. program affiliated with GSICS, Tohoku University. The aim of this program is to promote interdisciplinary education and research concerning human language from the multiple perspectives of linguistics, psychology, brain science, and information science. Based on recent development in linguistics and other relevant disciplines, the program seeks to comprehensively understand issues associated with linguistic communication, language acquisition and loss, language and the brain, and natural language processing. The program is conducted in collaboration with the Research Center for Language, Brain and Cognition.



## Graduate Program in Global Governance and Sustainable Development (G2SD)

This program is part of Tohoku University's GSICS, and offers a two-year M.A. and three-year Ph.D. program. All courses are taught in English, and no Japanese language ability is required for admission. The aim of this graduate program is to develop students' abilities to advance global governance and sustainable development, two crucial tasks for the world today. Through a combination of critical theoretical and empirical studies, this program aims to produce scholars who can question conventional wisdom and design innovative analytical frameworks based on their interdisciplinary knowledge.



## International Graduate Program in Japanese Studies (GPJS)

The GPJS is comprised of several Tohoku University schools that offer courses in the humanities and social sciences. This new graduate program features an interdisciplinary curriculum dealing with diverse aspects of Japanese culture and society and promotes collaborative research with overseas partner universities. At the GPJS, we use the West's Japanese studies methodology while fostering a new type of specialist who can address contemporary social issues from a Japan-based perspective. First-year M.A. students enrolled at GSICS or other graduate schools are eligible to apply, and upon selection are given a scholarship that lasts until the completion of their Ph.D. program.



## The International Joint Graduate Program in Resilience and Safety Studies (GP-RSS)

The International Joint Graduate Program in Resilience and Safety Studies (GP-RSS) is taught by leading experts in the field of disaster sciences and human security. We invite world renowned faculty from our affiliated partners worldwide, and through active student and faculty exchanges, we hope to provide our graduate students with a research platform for integrated academic specificity, international diversity, hands-on education in the field, and in academic collaboration. All our lectures are held in English, and we will be tracking student progress through two Qualifying Examinations (QEs). We strive for quality in our graduate school education. Successful Ph.D. students will be entitled to diplomas that include a note of their completion of the program, and where affiliate agreements exist between partnership schools, a certificate noting an international joint degree.



# Division of Area Studies

Fostering a deep understanding of different cultures

## Department of European and American Studies

This department focuses on Europe and the Americas. In order to build an interdisciplinary education and research system, it has brought together seven faculty members from a variety of departments. They specialize in French and German literature, British theater, French and US history, and Latin American anthropology. Europe and the Americas have historically been sites of the intersection of various ethnic groups, races, and languages, and were also the driving force of the world in the 20th century. In the 21st century, an age of increasing globalization, these regions must be contextualized and studied comparatively. This department is therefore divided into the fields of European area studies and American area studies, which elucidate the uniqueness and diversity of the cultures and societies of each region through education based on students' specific professional research aims. The department also works to understand European and American cultures through close cooperation between research fields. Based on this rigorous education system, the department aims to develop scholars and professionals that combine essential expertise and broad-ranging perspectives for our global era.

Professor **Mariko ICHIKAWA**  
 Professor **Naruhiko TERAMOTO**  
 Professor **Toyoshi OBARA**  
 Professor **Keisuke NOMURA**  
 Associate Professor **Shigeto YOSHIDA**  
 Associate Professor **Ryō YAMAUCHI**

## Department of Asian and African Studies

The Department of Asian and African Studies was primarily established to elucidate the contemporary realities of China and the Islamic region covering from Southeast Asia to North Africa. We believe that it is important to investigate former's presence in Asia and Africa in the 21st century from a historical and cultural perspective in order to understand the basis of its development as a leader of the world's political economy. The latter, on the other hand, has historically both maintained ties and been a source of friction between Asia and Africa, and the necessity of empirical studies on the characteristics of Islamic communities are now widely recognized. This department's students are trained to become internationally active and highly specialized professionals, professors, or researchers equipped for the current period of change in Asia and Africa. They focus on Islamic areas or Chinese history and culture, learn, if necessary, languages such as Arabic or Chinese (one of the official languages of the United Nations), and engage in individual, cross-sectional, and original research to write a thesis or dissertation. This department therefore is comprised of scholars specializing in North Africa and China that can provide guidance for students to fully acquire the academic skills they need.



Professor **Takashi KURODA**  
 Professor **Minoru KATSUYAMA**  
 Professor **Tomoki ŌKAWARA**  
 Associate Professor **Lin ZHU**

## Department of Global Japanese Studies

The Department of Global Japanese Studies consists of faculty members from various disciplines, such as literature, comparative culture, Japanese intellectual history, and sociology. The department was launched with Japanese studies faculty members that had belonged to departments in the former Graduate School of International Cultural Studies. In today's modern era of globalization, Japanese studies is undergoing a transformation. Traditionally the field has been centered on scholarship about Japan's unique culture, disconnected from the rest of the world, as well as research concerning the reception and impact of foreign cultures in the country. However, today, manga, anime, and other Japanese cultures are spreading throughout the world. The department therefore promotes a more complex and nuanced approach that takes history into account and examines "the world in Japan" as well as "Japan in the world." One of the features of this department is the wide range of historical periods covered, from ancient to modern and contemporary times. Students could carry out diachronic research on an aspect of cultural exchange, or explore Japan's relationships with foreign countries to understand the social phenomena of a certain era. The Department of Global Japanese Studies provides a forum for academic study and the exchange of ideas for those who have a strong interest in Japan and its relationship with other countries, and who want to acquire a broad perspective and deep knowledge about Japan and the world.

Professor **Michio SUZUKI**  
 Professor **Sekiko SATŌ**  
 Associate Professor **Masato SANO**  
 Associate Professor **Orion KLAUTAU**  
 Associate Professor **Shinobu MYŌKI**  
 Associate Professor **Clinton GODART**

# Division of Global Symbiotic Societies

Fostering skills to solve global issues



## Department of International Politics and Economics

Today, international politics and the international economy are increasingly inseparable. These rapid changes can only be understood from a multi-faceted perspective that goes beyond the frameworks of traditional political science and economics. In the Department of International Politics and Economics, we adopt such a perspective to engage in leading cutting-edge research and education that highlights the close international connections between politics and economics, covering Asia and globalization, as well as political and economic relationships between Asia, the United States, and other areas. It offers courses on the international politics surrounding Japan in areas such as national security, regional conflicts, and nationalism, as well as courses that analyze international economic relations, including international market competition, trade, finance and investment, regional economic integration, and the world economic system. Applying various social science fields, such as international relations, political science, and economics, we strive to develop students with a wide range of knowledge and astute analytical skills that can unlock the complex and diverse realities of contemporary international society.

Associate Professor **Hiro KATSUMATA**  
Associate Professor **Ryō IKEDA**  
Associate Professor **Yōichi TSUCHIYA**

## Department of International Environmental and Resources Policy

In the modern world, there is a strong demand for environmental protection measures and resolutions for global environmental problems. The Department of International Environmental and Resources Policy has five faculty members from a variety of fields who work to develop knowledge and human resources to address such issues. The following are three major features of the department.

*An emphasis on practical applications.* This department seeks to address real-world problems, and therefore takes a field-oriented approach to research and education while working to deepen our knowledge regarding public policies and societal welfare.

*An integrated scientific approach.* Environmental problems take many forms. Even the same problem can take different ones depending on the cultural or economic context. Therefore, it is necessary to study them from a multi-faceted and integrated approach that makes full use of knowledge from subjects such as environmental engineering, social engineering, economics, and environmental psychology.

*An emphasis on international perspectives.* Many of the environmental problems that have occurred on a global scale are complexly intertwined with globalization. It is therefore necessary to understand situations abroad, especially in other Asian countries, and consider environmental measures from an international perspective.

Professor **Jeongsoo Yu**  
Professor **Dinil PUSHPALAL**  
Associate Professor **Toshiaki AOKI**  
Associate Professor **Masahiro SATO**  
Assistant Professor **Kazuaki ŌKUBO**  
Associate Professor **Takako IZUMI**

## Department of Multiculturalism

With the advancement of globalization, there is now active movement of people and goods, and opportunities to come into contact with a diverse set of cultures have increased. Today, conversations about other cultures are a daily occurrence. In this context, however, ethnic and cultural friction resulting from different backgrounds often occurs. Solving such problems and building a society where people with different backgrounds can coexist is a pressing matter, both internationally and domestically. The Department of Multiculturalism engages in interdisciplinary and comparative education and research on various cultural and ethnic groups with this as our ultimate aim. The department has six faculty members, each with a different area of expertise. While their fields are diverse—philosophy, literature, history, Asian and European area studies—they share an interest in plurality and coexistence. Students can acquire a broad perspective through their courses as well as the division's common subjects and comprehensive field-based learning.



Professor **Kyōko FUJITA**  
Professor **Tōru SATO**  
Professor **Kōji SAKAMAKI**  
Associate Professor **Yukino SATO**

# Division of Language Research

Fostering communication skills



## Department of Theoretical Linguistics

The Department of Theoretical Linguistics boasts a diverse set of faculty members who study semantics, lexicology, pragmatics, and syntax from the perspective of cognitive and generative linguistics. We carry out comparative studies of not only Japanese and English but also other languages of the world, clarifying their similarities and differences. Our research aims to elucidate the nature of natural language, as well as its acquisition, learning, understanding, and usage that underlie human cognitive abilities and language functions. In close cooperation with the Department of Applied Linguistics, we apply the findings of theoretical research on language acquisition and education to offer a broad educational program. Furthermore, using the knowledge acquired through the Tohoku University 21st Century COE (Center of Excellence) Program, we have broadened our research to empirically validate the results of psychological and neuroscientific linguistic research, thereby adding interdisciplinary elements to our offerings. We welcome students with intellectual curiosity who are interested in discovering and analyzing languages' similarities and differences as well as elucidating the grammar and cognitive abilities underlying language phenomena.

Professor  
Professor  
Professor  
Professor  
Professor  
Associate Professor  
Associate Professor  
Associate Professor

Yoshio KAWAHIRA  
Naoyuki ONO  
Hiroyuki ETO  
Daikō TAKAHASHI  
Satoshi UEHARA  
Takeshi NAKAMOTO  
Kensaku SOEJIMA  
Mariko NAKAYAMA

## Department of Applied Linguistics

In the Department of Applied Linguistics, faculty and students research language by using various related sciences and technologies and apply their findings to language education. As indicated by the department's name, "application" is a keyword in our research.

The research interests of our faculty members are as follows: grammar research and Japanese language education that incorporates cognitive science and computational linguistics methods; corpus studies and teaching English as a second/foreign language; Spanish language teaching and language instructor education based on language education research; development of, implementation of, and research on German language education that applies ICT; research on higher education language teaching methods, evaluation, quality assurance, and professional development; second language acquisition research and bilingual education; syntax as seen from functionalist and cognitivist linguistic theories, and contrastive linguistic and linguistic typology research related to semantics; and research on the acquisition of Japanese as a second language as well as Japanese language education. Faculty members of our department are in charge of Japanese, English, German, and Spanish language education at Tohoku University, and apply their research to education as well as incorporate feedback from education into their research. By bridging these two spheres, the department is opening up new horizons for applied linguistics research.

Professor  
Professor  
Professor  
Professor  
Professor  
Associate Professor  
Associate Professor  
Associate Professor  
Senior Assistant Professor

Takeshi OKADA  
Mitsuhiro SHIGAKI  
Kensuke SUGIURA  
Kei YOSHIMOTO  
Yoshio KITAHARA  
Peter John WANNER  
Wataru NAKAMURA  
Natsue SUGAYA  
Hyeonjeong JEONG

