



Invitation to Doctoral Course in International Law at GSICS, Kobe University (For enrollment in April or October 2019)

In order to pursue a graduate level study at Kobe University starting 2019, we strongly encourage that you apply for the Japanese government scholarship through your respective embassies **by the end of May 2018**. Please note that in Japan the academic year starts from 1 April, with the enrollment opportunities at GSICS in both April and October 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 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 the fields of Arctic legal issues, the Antarctic Treaty System, the law of the sea, and international environmental law, 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 will start soon and its **deadline is between late May and early June 2018**, 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. Please note the MEXT scholarship is very competitive, and, in order to improve your candidacy, it is best that you consult with Professor Shibata before submitting your application, particularly regarding your "Research Proposal". After initial screening by embassies in June to July, the final screening by the Japanese Ministry of Education (MEXT) will be held in December 2018. For the details, please see following MEXT's websites:

- Study in Japan <http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj/toj0302e.html>.
- Application guidelines http://www.mext.go.jp/component/a_menu/education/detail/_icsFiles/afieldfile/2017/04/21/1384499_02.pdf

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 start from November 2018, 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 inquiries, please contact kobe_arctic_research@diamond.kobe-u.ac.jp