



School of International and Public Policy Hitotsubashi University

FACT SHEET FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS 2026-2027

Naka 2-1, Kunitachi, Tokyo 186-8601, JAPAN
<https://www.ipp.hit-u.ac.jp/english/index.html>

ABOUT US

School of International and Public Policy (IPP) was established in 2005 as a “joint venture” between Graduate School of Economics and Graduate School of Law at Hitotsubashi University (est. 1875) to offer innovative, interdisciplinary Master’s programs in law, economics, and international relations. Nearly half of its students are international, which makes IPP a unique intellectual community of rich diversity. Courses are offered in Japanese and English. Its main campus is well known for its beauty and tranquility, located in Kunitachi, a city in western part of Tokyo. IPP also offers some courses in its downtown Chiyoda campus.

For more information, please check the following websites.

[IPP](#)
[IPP Brochure](#)
[IPP Exchange Program](#)
[Hitotsubashi University](#)



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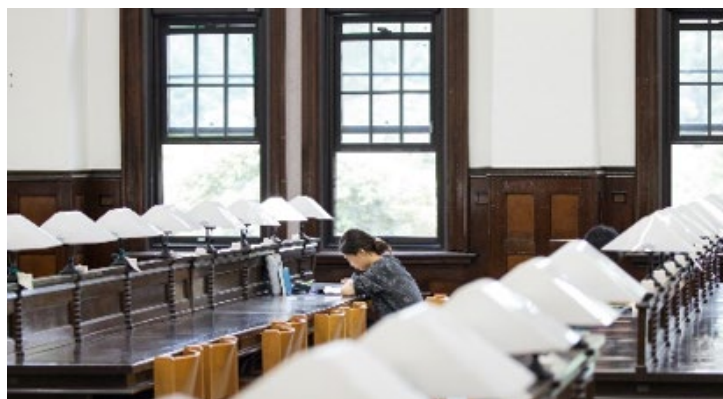
EXCHANGE PROGRAM AT IPP

IPP always welcomes exchange students from its partner universities. Students who have been nominated as exchange students can apply to study at IPP for either Autumn-Winter semester (September to January) or Spring-Summer semester (April to July). Most exchange students to IPP study for one semester, but some stay longer. Ask the person/office at your university for the duration of the exchange program.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Although IPP does not set any official language requirements, a non-native English speaker is expected to have at least TOEFL iBT 80 or equivalent score.

For enrolling in courses conducted in Japanese, exchange students must possess a minimum language proficiency in Japanese of JLPT Level 2 or N2.



STUDYING AT IPP

(1) Enroll in Specialized Courses/Seminars Conducted in English or Japanese

Exchange students can take any courses of their academic interest, except for some (e.g., thesis workshops for degree-seeking students) at IPP. Ask IPP Office when registering.

IPP Courses: Foreign Service Sub-program within Global Governance Program and Asian Public Policy Program at IPP offer many courses in English, most of which are available to exchange students. The course list will be updated in March with the definitive courses for the Spring/Summer semester and in August with the definitive courses for the Autumn/Winter semester.

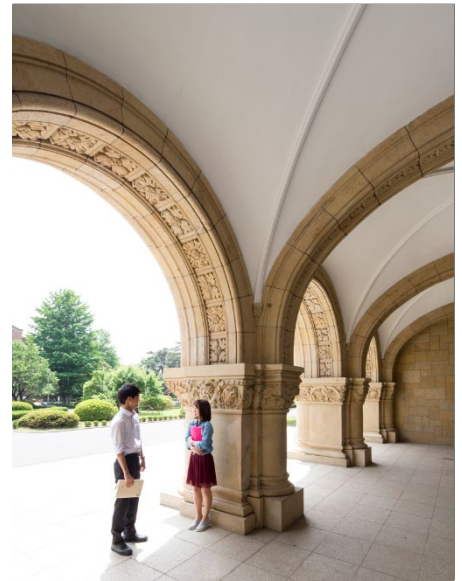
>> [English Courses at IPP](#)

Hitotsubashi University Global Education Program (HGP) :

HGP also offers courses conducted in English. Only a limited number of graduate-level courses are available in English under HGP; however, undergraduate courses conducted in English are open to graduate students.

>> [HGP courses](#)

Note: Courses offered under the Master of Business Administration Program (MBA), the School of International Corporate Strategy (ICS), and Business Law are NOT open to exchange students.



(2) Enroll in Japanese Language Courses

Japanese language courses (basic, intermediate, and advanced) are offered by the Hitotsubashi Japanese Language Education Program (not by IPP) and are available for exchange students.

>> [Japanese Language Education Program](#)

(3) Research Under a Supervisor

Graduate exchange students can do their research under a supervisor who specializes in a field that matches their interests if they are permitted to do so.

REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT

Except for those who have been permitted to research under a supervisor at IPP, exchange students are required to register for 6 slots (1 slot=1h45m) per week throughout the semester to maintain their visa status.

WEB SYLLABUS (Open to Public)

Please refer to the online syllabus service “CELS” (open to public) for detailed course information.

>> [CELS](#)

COURSE REGISTRATION

Course registration will be done during the first week of each semester. Details on online registration will be given in an orientation session for exchange students at the beginning of each semester.

>> [Course Registration for Exchange Students](#)

>> [International Student Orientation](#)

GRADE POLICY

In accordance with the Academic Calendar, grades will be announced on Grade release dates. Official transcripts will be issued at the end of August for Spring-Summer Semester and at the end of March for Autumn-Winter Semester. IPP grading scale is: A+ (Outstanding), A (Excellent), B (Good), C (Satisfactory), and F (Fail). A and A+ shall be given to no more than one-third of the students in each course. A+ shall be given to no more than one-third of A students.

CREDITS

In general, one once-a-week course per semester at IPP makes 2 credits. 44 credits are required to earn a MA degree at IPP. Requirements for exchange students (non-degree students) are set by their home universities.

CREDIT TRANSFER

Exchange students must confirm with their home university in advance if the courses they take are recognized for credit transfer. Although all courses at IPP are for graduate students only, some in other graduate programs at Hitotsubashi (e.g., Graduate School of Economics or Law) are open to advanced undergraduate students. Those courses may not be recognized as “graduate” courses at their home institution.

FEES

Tuition fees are exempt for exchange students from partner universities with a tuition waiver agreement.

HOUSING

Hitotsubashi University has two residential halls for exchange students: Residence Hall Kunitachi on our Kunitachi campus and Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo on our Kodaira campus. Exchange students at IPP are given priority for a single room in Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo, with use of a common area to be shared with residents on the same floor. However, not all exchange students are guaranteed a room due to limited availability.

>> [Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo](#)



APPLICATIONS

After being nominated to study as an exchange student at IPP by their home institution, applicants wishing to apply for student exchange should submit the application forms through the relevant office of their home institution. Application forms submitted directly to the IPP Office will not be accepted. For IPP's application procedures as well as application forms, please contact the IPP Office at ipp.g@ad.hit-u.ac.jp through the relevant office of their home institution.

For September 2026 Admission deadlines;

Nomination: April 14, 2026

Application: April 24, 2026

For April 2027 Admission deadlines;

Nomination: October 9, 2026

Application: October 23, 2026



ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR EXCHANGE STUDENTS 2026-2027 (TBD)

The academic year begins on April 1 and ends on the following March 31. Before the classes begin, exchange students shall attend the international student orientation. Examinations may occur during or at the end of the lecture period. The academic calendar 2026-2027 will be finalized in January 2026. For exchange students participating in Spring-Summer 2027 semester, the calendar of Spring-Summer 2026 will help to consider the schedule, as the academic calendar 2027-2028 has not yet been determined.

>> [Academic Calendar for Exchange Students 2026-27](#)

	Spring - Summer 2026	Autumn – Winter 2026-27
Residence hall move-in day	March 25	End of August (TBD)
Orientation for new residents	March 26	End of August (TBD)
International student orientation <i>*Mandatory</i>	March 30 – April 1	Beginning of September (TBD)
Course registration	April 8 -15	September 11 – 18
Spring or Autumn quarter Classes start – end	April 9 – June 1	September 14 – November 5
Summer or Winter quarter Classes start – end	June 2 – July 22	November 6 – January 5
Summer or Winter Intensive Course <i>Optional</i>	July 23 – August 3	(I) January 6 – 18 (II) January 19 – 27 (III) January 28 – February 3
Last day to move out of the residence hall	August 17	March 15
Grade/transcript release day	August 31	March 8

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USEFUL LINKS for EXCHANGE STUDENTS

1. General Information for Exchange Students
<https://www.hit-u.ac.jp/eng/information/prospective.html>

Please note that online application procedures on the website above are different from IPP's application procedures.

2. International Student & Study Abroad Advising: Incoming Exchange Students
https://international.hit-u.ac.jp/en/cgee/advising/study_abroad_advising/



CONTACT INFORMATION

School of International and Public Policy Administration Office, Hitotsubashi University

Email: ipp.g@ad.hit-u.ac.jp

Address: 2-1 Naka, Kunitachi, Tokyo, Japan 186-8601

VOICES FROM EXCHANGE STUDENTS

My exchange semester at IPP was the best experience of my master's studies. I chose the IPP because, as a student of international affairs, I found it attractive to be able to choose from a wide range of courses in this discipline. I found the courses related to Japan's security and foreign policy particularly exciting, as such courses are rarely offered in Europe. In addition to the academic aspect, I really enjoyed spending time with my fellow students at HU. I loved living in the Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo and organizing intercultural events together with my floor mates. My semester at IPP gave me completely new insights both academically and culturally, which will certainly be helpful for my international career.

Martina, Spain



Coming to Japan and joining the IPP was a decision driven by my desire to expand my understanding and knowledge of foreign affairs from an East Asian perspective. I wanted to explore how institutions like the United Nations mediate conflict and promote peace—and how this is viewed and studied outside a European and American perspective and framework.

I have greatly enjoyed the learning environment at IPP. With classes ranging around ten students, each class allows for meaningful discussion and personal interaction with the professor and other students. Professors are highly engaged with students and remarkably generous with their time and care—evident in how many remember every student's name. The role of technology and AI in global governance, and its challenges in modern diplomacy and peacebuilding, has been a particularly fascinating point of learning. Professor Sumie Nakaya's UN and NGOs class was highly informative in this regard. Her passion—along with that of other faculty members—created an inspiring and academically enriching experience.

This exchange has changed how I view global affairs. It has challenged previously held assumptions, broadened my worldview, and inspired me to pursue future opportunities in international organizations like the UN. I leave IPP with a deeper appreciation for cross-cultural dialogue and a desire to learn more. I am incredibly grateful for this time, and I hope that it continues to serve other exchange students, enriching both their personal lives and academic journeys.

Marie-Helena, Switzerland





My time at IPP has broadened my understanding of policy analysis in an international context. Most of the courses I took were part of the APPP curriculum. I found them to be of very high quality—engaging, diverse, and well-structured. Many classes here were structured like seminars, with a strong focus on discussion and interaction, which I found intellectually stimulating.

Student life at Hitotsubashi University has been outstanding. The campus facilities are excellent, but what impressed me the most was the incredible support provided by the administrative staff, who were always willing to help with any issue. Living at Ikkyo-ryo was also a great experience—comfortable, well-located, and well-equipped.

This exchange may influence both my academic research interests and future career decisions. It even made me consider returning to Japan in the future for academic or professional opportunities. In my view, the main strengths of IPP are the quality of instruction, the expertise of the faculty, the wide range of courses offered, and the small class sizes that encourage interaction and personalized learning.

Naim, France

My exchange semester at IPP was the best experience of my master's studies. I chose the IPP because, as a student of international affairs, I found it attractive to be able to choose from a wide range of courses in this discipline. I found the courses related to Japan's security and foreign policy particularly exciting, as such courses are rarely offered in Europe. In addition to the academic aspect, I really enjoyed spending time with my fellow students at HU. I loved living in the Residence Hall Ikkyo-Ryo and organizing intercultural events together with my floor mates. My semester at IPP gave me completely new insights both academically and culturally, which will certainly be helpful for my international career.



Lukas, Germany

The choice of Hitotsubashi University and IPP was very straightforward for me. Its specialization in international politics and global cooperation, along with its location in one of the most dynamic regions in the world, made the decision very easy for me. I was not disappointed either. The courses cover a wide variety of topics, from international organizations to free trade agreements and behavioral economics, which have advanced me on various levels. This includes academic advancement as well as the cultural and social growth, where I had the opportunity to collaborate with students from Japan and all over the world. In addition, I had the opportunity to immerse myself in Japanese society and gaining a better understanding of the culture and its people.

Celestino, Switzerland

