



GRADUATE SCHOOLS FOR
LAW AND POLITICS
FACULTY OF LAW
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO



Contents

- **Message from the Dean**
- **About Us**
- **History**
- **Global Network**
- **International Exchange Programs**
- **Life and Study at The University of Tokyo**
- **Research in Law and Politics**





Message from the Dean

-Takashi Hashizume -

My name is Takashi Hashizume, and I have served as Dean of the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics as well as Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Tokyo since July 24, 2025. My academic field is criminal law.

Our Faculty of Law (“FL”) and Graduate School of Law and Politics (“GSLP”) constitute Japan’s oldest center for research and education in law and political science, founded 150 years ago. They have produced numerous outstanding scholars in these disciplines and have played a leading role in advancing academic discourse in Japan. They have also nurtured individuals who have gone on to play vital roles in upholding the state and society.

Our programs offer a distinctive educational opportunity for students, with law and political science being the core of the study. This is one of the defining strengths of our FL and GSLP. This approach is not widely adopted in other countries, making it a distinctive and valuable tradition in Japan. In a society comprised of individuals with diverse values, perspectives, positions and backgrounds, law and politics, interrelated and interconnected, are indispensable for solving various problems that arise in society.

Japanese law has also developed in unique ways, beginning with the transplantation of Western legal systems in the late 19th century to a distinctively Japanese legal system, shaped by adaptation to Japan's evolving society and continuous engagement with comparative law. This aspect of Japanese law lends itself to fascinating research opportunities, particularly within the framework of comparative law. Our FL and GSLP are optimal platforms for such investigations.

Another distinctive strength of our FL and GSLP is the depth and diversity of our faculty. Approximately 80 professors and associate professors who are active at the forefront of their respective fields are dedicated to advancing research and education. The scale of our faculty fosters a rich diversity of research areas.

Our research and educational endeavors are supported by an extensive collection of books and archival materials. The Law Library, a library specializing in law and political, boasts the largest collection of books and materials of its kind in Japan.

Most notably, we have a long-standing tradition of building an inclusive community of learning and practice around the FL and GSLP, which is centered on ongoing scholarship in law and politics, and composed of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and a wide range of partners and collaborators.

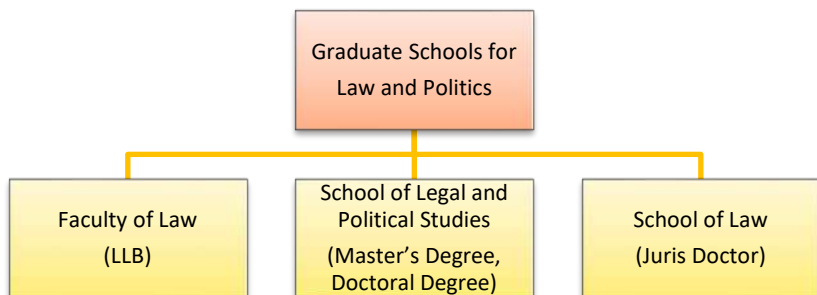
We look forward to welcoming you to the community of our UTokyo Faculty of Law and Graduate Schools for Law and Politics.



About Us

The School of Legal and Political Studies is one of the two graduate schools that make up the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics. It offers masters and doctoral degrees in either law or political science. It is a graduate program designed for individuals who desire to become legal or political science researchers, as well as those who want to use their research findings in their professional lives – including lawyers, in-house legal staff and civil servants.

It is also a graduate school for international students who wish to acquire a deep knowledge of law and political science in Japan. Those wishing to undertake masters or doctoral degrees in the School of Legal and Political Studies can specialize in one of the following areas: 1) substantive law; 2) comparative, historical and theoretical approaches to law; or 3) political science.



History

The origins of the University of Tokyo's Faculty of Law can be traced back to the Hōgakkō (a law school under the Ministry of Justice), established in July 1872, and the Department of Law at the Tokyo Kaisei School, founded in April 1873 under the Ministry of Education.

For more than 150 years since its establishment, the Faculty of Law has been a central force in legal and political research in Japan. Its long - standing role in shaping national thought and policy has enabled the Faculty to offer education of the highest caliber.

Graduates of our LLB program are active in a wide range of fields, including the judiciary, public administration, politics, economics, journalism, and academia. Sixteen Japanese prime ministers have studied at the University of Tokyo - fifteen of whom received their education at the Faculty of Law.



“Illustration of the Kaisei School Opening Ceremony”
(Hanging scroll held by the University of Tokyo Main Library)

Global Network

Main Study Abroad Destinations

Country	University (English Name)
Australia	Australian National University / University of Melbourne
Belgium	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)
Canada	University of Toronto
Denmark	University of Copenhagen
France	Sciences Po (Paris Institute of Political Studies)
Malaysia	University of Malaya
Mexico	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (National Autonomous University of Mexico)
Netherlands	Leiden University
Sweden	Uppsala University
Turkey	Boğaziçi University
United Kingdom	University of Exeter / University of Sheffield / University of Manchester / University College London
United States	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign / University of California, Davis / University of California, Berkeley / Johns Hopkins University / Swarthmore College / Northeastern University / Northwestern University

Faculty - to - Faculty Partnerships

Country	University (English Name)
Australia	Australian National University College of Law, Governance and Policy
Belgium	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven Faculteit Rechtsgeleerdheid en Criminologie
China	Peking University Law School / Peking University School of International Studies
Singapore	National University of Singapore Faculty of Law
South Korea	Seoul National University School of Law
United States	Harvard Law School

International Exchange Programs

Summer School



Since 2004, we have held an annual 6-day residential summer school at an off-campus training facility during our August summer holidays. All classes and the final examination are conducted entirely in English. The program's main purpose is to provide students with foundational knowledge and experience that will help them become internationally active legal professionals in the future.

Winter School

The purpose of this annual week-long seminar is to provide a rare opportunity for students, early career researchers and legal professionals from overseas with an interest in Japan and Japanese law to deepen their understanding of Japan's legal system, society and economy through the medium of English. The inclusion of UTokyo Law students each year allows them to gain insight into how Japanese law is viewed from abroad.

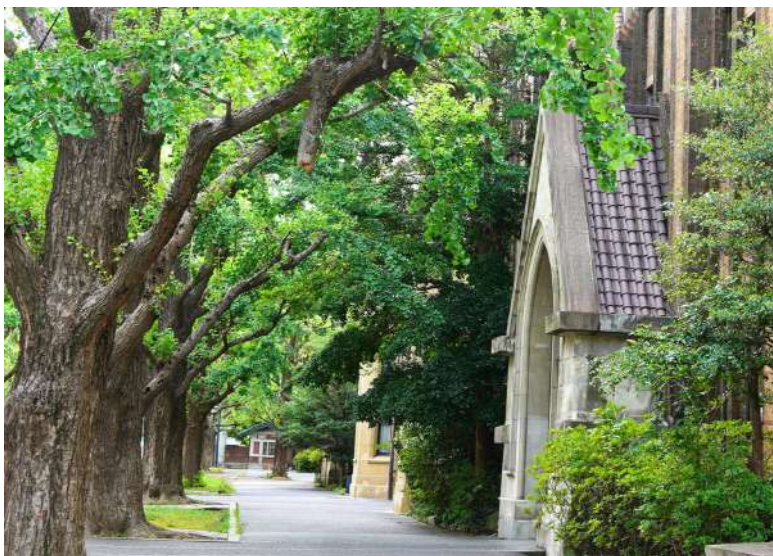


Life and Study at The University of Tokyo

Accommodation Facilities

The University operates the University of Tokyo International Lodges (Komaba and Kashiwa), International Halls of Residence (Mitaka and Toshima) and Mejirodai International Village, which provide lodging facilities for students from abroad.

However, these accommodation options for international students have limited capacity, so most international students live in privately-run dormitories, apartments or boarding houses.



Japanese Language Education



The Center for Global Education offers a variety of Japanese language courses catering to different levels and learning durations. For the convenience of students and researchers on various campuses, all classes are conducted online. Students from various countries and regions around the world can gather to learn Japanese as a second language.

Research in Law and Politics

Faculty

The Faculty of Law and the Graduate Schools for Law and Politics are home to 159 faculty and staff members, including 75 Professors and 6 Associate Professors who teach lectures and seminars.

Research Areas

Law

Private and Business Law / Criminal Law and Procedure / Procedural Law and Dispute Resolution / Labor and Social Law / Administrative Law / Regulation and Governance / International and Comparative Law / Legal History, Philosophy, and Sociology

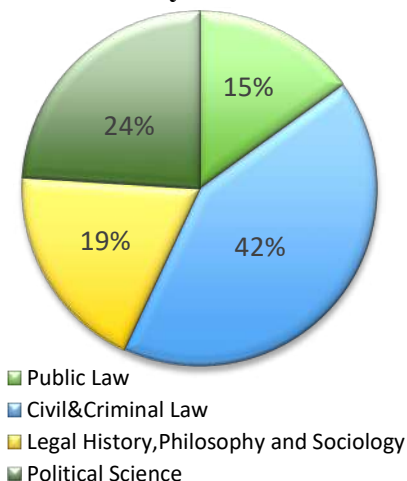
Political Science

Political Theory and Methodology / International Relations and Diplomacy / Comparative and Regional Politics / Public Administration and Policy

Position	No.
Professor	75
Associate Professor	6
Lecturer	6
Assistant Professor	22
Research Assistant	4
Administrative Staff	46

(As of July 2025)

Faculty Fields



Publications



The Journal of the
Association of Legal
Studies



The University of Tokyo
Law Review



Soft Law Journal



The Journal of the
Association of
Political and Social
Sciences



IBC
Annual Report

Research and Academic Facilities



【Center for Modern Japanese Legal
and Political Documents】



【Law Library】



【Teaching Facilities 】



7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, JAPAN
Tel: +81-3-5841-3124
www.j.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/

