

Hiroshima City University

Graduate School of International Studies

April 2026 Admission

Application Guidelines

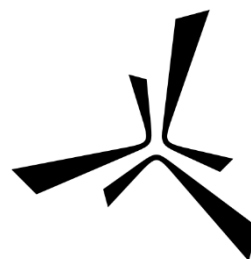
Doctoral Program

**Recommendation-Based Exam for Institutions
with International Academic Exchange Agreement**

Designated Application Forms

(Please download the following forms from HCU website.)

- Application Form
- Curriculum Vitae
- Letter of Recommendation



Hiroshima City University

Issued: September 2025

1. Admission Policy

Hiroshima City University (HCU) develops professionals having sensitivity and passion toward seeking the truth, respecting diverse cultures and values, and wishing for lasting world peace. HCU also aims to train students to become professionals who have the ability to contribute to both the local and global communities, with a wide-ranging knowledge and solid expertise, as well as a strong sense of ethics.

For the purpose of nurturing such competent professionals, HCU seeks to admit:

- Persons who are well rounded and have a strong enthusiasm for learning.
- Persons who are intellectually curious, inquisitive, and eager to create and utilize new knowledge.
- Persons who wish to contribute positively to world peace and the development of local communities and the international community.

The Graduate School of International Studies Doctoral Program seeks following applicants:

- Those who wish to pursue advanced professional research and tackle the challenges facing local and global communities.
- Those who seek to enrich their expertise and possess the logic and persuasiveness to deepen their thinking and discussion.
- Those who have advanced knowledge in their field of research, sufficient language skills for research activities, and the desire to further enhance their specialized knowledge and research abilities.
- Those who wish to strive for self-improvement through specialized research at this graduate school.

2. Degrees Conferred

The Doctoral Program of Graduate School of International Studies confers “Doctor of Philosophy”.

3. Number of Students to Be Admitted

Department	Recruitment category	Number of students to be recruited
International Studies	Recommendation-Based Exam for Institutions with International Academic Exchange Agreement	A Few

4. Application Qualifications

Applicants must meet all the following requirements and must have completed a master program of an overseas university that has concluded an International Academic Exchange Agreement with Hiroshima City University (“partner institution”), and have obtained a master degree, or be expected to complete a master program of a partner university by March 31, 2026.

- 1) A person who can obtain recommendations from two or more faculty members (including the Dean of the graduate school) in the partner institution attended.
- 2) A person who has the ability to write the Doctor thesis in Japanese or English.

5. Application Procedures

(1) Prior Consultation

Before applying, applicants need to seek consultation about their intended research themes from a faculty member they wish to supervise. Referring to " List of Faculty Members " on pages 7 and 8 or HCU website, select your desired supervisor.

For seeking prior consultation, applicants are required to send an e-mail with the subject line “Prior Consultation for Partner University Recommendation-Based Entrance Exam (Doctor Course)” to the Admissions Office (nyushi@m.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp). The e-mail must include: your name, and the name of a faculty member you wish to work with, and attach ② Curriculum Vitae, ⑨ Abstract of Master Thesis and ⑩ Research plan data in “(6) Application Documentation”.

[Inquiry deadline] October 30 (Thu), 2025.

* If you would like to receive a prior consultation after the deadline, please contact HCU Admissions Office.

(2) Application Period

November 4 (Tue) to 13 (Thu), 2025 (Must arrive by 5:00 p.m. JST on final day)

(3) Submission of Application Documents

After consultation with a faculty member you wish to work with, please enclose all application documents in an envelope and submit it by mail to the Admissions Office by the deadline. Be sure to write in red **“Application Documents Enclosed for Partner University Recommendation-Based Entrance Exam”** on the envelope.

* We recommend using a tracking service such as Express Mail Service (EMS) or DHL when mailing.

* If you are residing in Japan, please contact the Admissions Office to seek consultation concerning your application.

(4) Exemption from Examination Fee

The entrance examination fee is waived.

(5) Application Submission Address and Inquiries regarding Applications and Examinations

Admissions Office, Hiroshima City University

Address: 3-4-1 Ozuka-Higashi, Asa-Minami-ku, Hiroshima-shi 731-3194, Japan

E-mail: nyushi@m.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp

(6) Application Documentation

Document to Submit		Instructions
①	Application Form	Enter the required information on the HCU designated form. When making entries, carefully read the NOTES items shown in the margins. Photos must be taken within 3 months prior to application, 4 cm H x 3 cm W, showing upper body, uncovered head, facing camera, and no background. Write your name and Date of Birth on the back before affixing it.
②	Curriculum Vitae	Enter the required information on the HCU designated form. When making entries, carefully read the NOTES items shown in the margins.
③	Letter of Recommendation	A University-designated form must be used. Sealed letters of recommendation must be submitted by two or more faculty members (including the head of the graduate school) of the partner institution attended. This must be issued within 6 months of the application deadline. If the official seal of the university is not available, the recommender's handwritten signature is required (electronic signatures are not accepted).
④	Academic Transcript [Original]	Must be issued by the university president or the head of the graduate school of the partner institution attended.
⑤	Certificate of (Expected) Completion of Master's Program [Original]	Must be issued by the dean or head of the graduate school of the partner institution attended. If there is any other certificate of the degree conferred, photocopies of such certificates should be submitted. If the date of completion date is written on the academic transcript, a degree certificate alone is also acceptable.

Document to Submit		Instructions
⑥	Proof of Japanese or English Language Proficiency [Native speakers of Japanese or English, or applicants with Master's degree in Japanese or English do not need to submit this document.]	<p>Submit one of the following exam score certificates (showing score, Original and one copy). We accept only scores from these tests taken after October of 2023. Original documents will be returned after the exam.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) TOEIC®L&R (IP test also accepted) 2) TOEFL® (PBT or iBT) 3) IELTS™(Academic Module) 4) Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) 5) Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU, taken the "Japanese as a foreign language" subject) <p>If you are submitting a TOEIC®L&R score certificate, please follow the instructions below:</p> <p>[For tests conducted in a multiple-choice format] Submit either one printed copy of your TOEIC Digital Official Score Certificate, or the original official score certificate along with one copy.</p> <p>[For tests conducted online] Submit one printed copy of the screen displaying your score.</p> <p>* We will only accept scores from tests with a proctor. Proctored exam score is an exam score that is identified and monitored by a proctor based on camera footage during the online exam.</p>
⑦	Statement of Purpose	Use Japanese or English. Write in detail the specific reason(s) you decided to apply. Japanese should be in about 2,000 characters, or English should be in about 1,200 words. Write the applicant's name on the first page and print it on one side of A4 paper.
⑧	Master Thesis, etc.	If you do not have a master thesis, please submit a suitable alternative paper related to your intended research field. If you want the thesis/paper to be returned, let us know at the time of application.
⑨	Abstract of Master Thesis	Prepare an abstract in Japanese or English of the master thesis mentioned above (item ⑧). Japanese should be in about 1,200 characters, or English should be in about 700 words. Write the applicant's name on the first page and print it on one side of A4 paper.
⑩	Research Plan	Use Japanese or English. Write in detail your plan how to research in the Doctoral Program. Japanese should be in about 2,000 characters, or English should be in about 1,200 words. Write the applicant's name on the first page and print it on one side of A4 paper.

Notes: 1. Please download the forms for documents ①, ② and ③ from HCU website.

2. If a document in ③, ④ and ⑤ is written in a language other than Japanese or English, be sure to attach a Japanese or English translation of it. However, Japanese or English translation of a document in ⑧, Master Thesis is not required.

3. Inadequately completed application documents may not be accepted.

4. A certificate with the applicant's maiden name may be used. In such a case, please attach a document stating the date of the name change, the new name and the maiden name filled in by the applicant. (The format is optional.)

5. It is the responsibility of each applicant to carefully consider and submit the application documents.

(7) Other Important Points for Application

1) Applications will not be accepted if any of the required documents are missing or if the application arrives after the designated application period.

2) No change can be made to application documents that have been submitted. If, however, your name, address, telephone number, and/or e-mail address changes, promptly contact the Admissions Office.

3) Submitted application documents shall not be returned.

4) Once granted, admission may be cancelled if it is determined that contents stated in the submitted documents differ from actual facts.

(8) Notice of an Examination number

An Examination number will be noticed after the application deadline. If you do not receive it by November 28 (Fri), 2025, please inquire with our Admissions Office.

6. Persons requesting considerations in study

Persons who would like considerations in study, such as persons with disabilities or other circumstances, please refer to the details available on HCU website.

If you wish to consult with us prior to submitting your application, please contact the Admissions Office.

[HCU website] <https://www.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp/guide/category0001/c00080213/>

(Top > Admissions Information > Graduate school > Prior consultation if you wish to take the exam)

[Contact information] Admissions Office, Hiroshima City University,

E-mail: nyushi@m.hiroshima-cu.ac.jp

7. Handling of Personal Information

1) Personal information contained in application documents (such as your name, date of birth, sex, etc.) will be used for entrant selection, notification of acceptance, enrollment procedures, providing scholarship information and surveys/research (entrance exam improvement, application trend surveys/analyses, etc.).

Also, said information will be managed by the university in connection with the educational affairs of enrolled students (student registration, school guidance, etc.) and student support services (health management, scholarship applications, tuition waiver applications, etc.).

2) With some of the operations and services mentioned above, outside companies may be employed, after necessary steps are taken to ensure that personal information is appropriately managed.

8. Admission Criteria

Submitted documents are reviewed and evaluated comprehensively.

9. Notification of Acceptance

December 15 (Mon), 2025, noon (JST)

A notification of acceptance will be delivered to the successful applicants.

The application numbers of successful applicants will be posted on HCU website. However, since this is reference information, please check for the official notification of acceptance letter, which is sent to successful applicants.

Inquiries regarding results by e-mail or other means will absolutely not be accepted.

10. Enrollment Procedures

(1) Enrollment procedure period

December 18 (Thu), 2025 to January 7 (Wed), 2026 (Must arrive by 5:00 p.m. JST on final day.)

(2) Enrollment Procedures

1) Documents necessary for enrollment procedures, together with the notification of acceptance, will be sent directly to successful applicants.

2) Please enclose all documents to be submitted in an envelope and **send it by mail by the deadline mentioned above.**

* We recommend using a tracking service such as Express Mail Service (EMS) or DHL when mailing.

3) After completing the enrollment procedures, an admission letter will be sent to all accepted applications.

(3) Points to Note about Enrollment Procedures

- 1) Those who have not completed all the necessary enrollment procedures will be regarded as having declined the offer of admission.
- 2) Check the accuracy of all materials before submission. Inadequately completed documents will not be accepted.
- 3) Submitted enrollment procedure documents will not be returned, and paid enrollment fees will not be refunded.**
- 4) Applicants who applied pending completion of a master program are required to submit the Certificate of Completion as soon as possible. If you are unable to complete of a master's program by the day before the entrance date, your enrollment will be cancelled.**

11. Fees

(1) Payment due by enrollment procedure

Fee Type	Amount
Admission Fee	¥ 423,000

(2) Payment due after enrollment

Fee Type	Amount	Due Date
Tuition (¥ 535,800 /year)	¥ 267,900	By the end of April
	¥ 267,900	By the end of October

Notes: Amounts shown are current as of April 2025. If revisions are made, the new tuition rate will apply at the time of revision.

(3) Scholarships

International students who have obtained residence status are eligible to apply for scholarships sponsored by local governments and organizations that provide support for international students.

(4) Reduction and Exemption of Admission Fee

Applicants to whom any of the following items apply may be exempt from paying their admission fees. Please consult the Admissions Office.

Those who find it difficult to pay the admission fee because

- 1) The person scheduled to bear the cost of the student's study dies, no more than one year before his/her admission to the graduate program; or
- 2) The student or the person scheduled to bear the cost of study is a victim of a natural disaster, including but not limited to storm and flood damage, no more than one year before admission to the graduate program.

(5) Reduction and Exemption of Tuition

The University has a system for reducing and exempting tuition for international students. Please consult us after enrollment.

List of Faculty Members (Doctoral Program)

Courses	Name		Subject	Research Field
International Society	Professor	INOUE, Yasuhiro *	•Mass Media	•Mass Media •International Communication
	Professor	URABE, Masashi	•Comparative and International Education •Education for Sustainable Development	•Comparative and International Education
	Professor	OTA, Ikuko *	•International Law	•International Law and Human Rights
	Professor	KANAYA, Nobuko *	•Nonprofit Organization	•Nonprofit Organization •Public Policy •Social Welfare Policy
	Professor	CARSON, Luke	•Learning, Education and Culture	•TESL/TEFL •Cross-cultural Communication
	Professor	KIM, Yeongho *	•Comparative Politics	•Politics •Contemporary Korean Studies
	Professor	TAKAHASHI, Hiromasa	•Economic Policy	•Theoretical Economics
	Professor	FURUZAWA, Yoshiaki	•Conflict Resolution	•Conflict Resolution •Peacebuilding
	Professor	MORITA, Mitsuhiro	•Applied Linguistics	•Applied Linguistics
	Professor	YAMAGUCHI, Mitsuaki *	•Psychology for Health	•Health Psychology
	Professor	YAMANE, Fumihiro	•Environmental Economics	•Environmental Economics •Econometrics and Risk Perception
	Professor	YUASA, Masae **	•Sociology	•Sociology
	Professor	YOKOYAMA, Tomoyuki *	•Translation Studies	•Translation Studies •Language Education
	Professor	YOSHIDA, Haruhiko	•International Cooperation	•International Relations
	Professor	LEE, Jaeho	•International Management	•International Management •Supply Chain Management
	Associate Professor	IDEYOSHI, Masayoshi	•Accounting	•Accounting •International Accounting
	Associate Professor	UEO, Masamichi	•Contemporary Thought	•Philosophy
	Associate Professor	SHIGETA, Misaki	•Japanese Education	•Japanese Language Education: Japanese for Specific Purposes
	Associate Professor	TAKAKU, Kenya	•International Finance	•International Finance •International Macroeconomics
	Associate Professor	TERAI, Risa	•International Commerce	•Private International Law •International Business Law •International Company Law
	Associate Professor	FUJIWARA, Yubi	•Contrastive Linguistics	•Linguistics (Comparison of Chinese and Japanese)
	Associate Professor	MEGURO, Toshio	•International Development Studies	•Environmental Sociology •African Area Studies
	Associate Professor	LI, Ling	•Marketing	•International Marketing •Global Brand Studies
	Lecturer	YAMASAKI, Masao	•Human Resource Management	•Human Resource Management •Organization Management

Courses		Name	Subject	Research Field
Regional Studies	Professor	WÖHR, Ulrike **	•Japanese Society	•Gender History of Modern Japan
	Professor	OBA, Shizue	•French Literature and Culture	•French Literature, Area and Cultural Studies.
	Professor	OBA, Chieko **	•East European Studies	•History of International Relations
	Professor	GORMAN, Michael	•American Literature and Culture	•American Literature and American Studies
	Professor	TAGAWA, Gen	•African Society	•Cultural Anthropology
	Associate Professor	IJIMA, Noriko	•Chinese Studies	•Modern Chinese History •Theory of Overseas Chinese
	Associate Professor	ITAYA, Taisei	•Southeast Asian Studies	•Southeast Asian Studies
	Associate Professor	SAITO, Shohei	•Russian History	•Modern Russian History •Russian Studies
	Associate Professor	TAKEDA, Yu	•Japanese Diplomacy and Politics	•Japanese Diplomacy and Politics
	Associate Professor	TANAMI, Aoe	•Middle East Studies	•Middle Eastern Studies •Arab Society and Culture
	Associate Professor	YAMAGUCHI, Eri	•Japanese Cultural History	•Ancient Japanese History, Global Japanese Studies
	Associate Professor	YOSHIE, Takafumi	•Latin American Culture and History	•Anthropology

NOTES

- 1: Subjects shown are those expected to be offered in April 2025.
- 2: Faculty members scheduled to retire at March 2026 are not included in this list.
- 3: Faculty members indicated with asterisks (*) are expected to retire at March 2027.
- 4: Faculty members indicated with asterisks (**) are expected to retire at March 2028.