



Study in Japan and Australia

College of Global Liberal Arts

Department	College of Global Liberal Arts
Major	RU-ANU Major *
Degree	RU : Bachelor of Global Liberal Arts ANU : Bachelor of Asia-Pacific Affairs
Enrollment Period	April / September
Location	April Enrollment Semester 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8 : RU, Osaka Ibaraki Campus Semester 4, 5 : ANU, Acton Campus (Canberra, Australia)
	September Enrollment Semester 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8 : RU, Osaka Ibaraki Campus Semester 5, 6 : ANU, Acton Campus (Canberra, Australia)
Duration	4 Years
Annual Student Intake	100 The intake includes 10 students enrolling into ANU

*All students are initially enrolled in the RU-ANU Major. Following admission to Ritsumeikan University, enrollment may be transferred to the RU Major based on the outcome of the Admission Evaluation conducted by ANU.

Information

GLA Website
<https://www.ritsumeikan.ac.jp/gla/>



RU International Admissions Website
 Latest information on Admissions and Events
en.ritsumeikan.ac.jp/e-ug/



 **YouTube**
 Ritsumeikan University International Admissions



CONTACT

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 • The information in this booklet is for students applying to enter the College of Global Liberal Arts, Ritsumeikan University.



Australian National University

That's why GLA

A Multifaceted View Shaped by Studying Across Fields

LE Ha Phuong

Second-Year Student
Hanoi-Amsterdam High School for the Gifted, Vietnam

Why I chose GLA

I applied to the College of Global Liberal Arts primarily because of my interest in interdisciplinary studies. I have multiple hobbies and academic interests spanning Social Sciences, Humanities, Linguistics, and the Arts, and I wanted to keep exploring everything I like—without having to give up any subject. At GLA, classes are not limited to only one discipline but fall into distinctive yet interconnected categories, allowing knowledge to be built on each other and creating a firmly interconnected basis for one's critical agency in any future studies. This was exactly what I was looking for: a place where different fields are linked rather than treated as "unrelated," and where I could expand my horizons while gaining both academic and real-world knowledge to inform my future direction. The Dual Degree Program with the Australian National University (ANU) nailed the decision. Being able to experience two countries, two academic environments, and multiple structures of classes and ways of studying, while focusing on the Asia-Pacific, is a rare opportunity to be overlooked. Finally, Ritsumeikan offers wide-ranging student support—from financial aids and counselling to extracurricular activities and connection-building—and GLA's location at OIC, where Japanese and English degrees coexist, extends the experience of internationality. I am very glad to have the opportunity to be where I am right now.

The best things about studying at GLA

What I really value at GLA is the small classroom size that makes real dialogue possible through discussions and debates—we can connect with classmates and have more chances to gain knowledge from professors who are always respectable and approachable. This encourages me to ask more and ask better, and nurtures active class and self-contribution, expanding our potential. The lecture-tutorial combo works incredibly well, with substantial weekly readings that build an active reading habit and enable deep, informed discussions, especially on Asia-Pacific topics. Studying across categories truly helps knowledge be built on each other, thus develops a multifaceted view of the world.

Message to prospective students

As future citizens of the world, you have everything to gain, and GLA will be a perfect steppingstone to the skills you need. You can look forward to exploring an array of distinctive, yet interconnected fields presented by top-tier professors who are always beyond supportive. Small classes will help you step out of your shell to think, speak, and ask, while a supportive community—on campus and in the dorm—will keep you connected and broaden your horizons with academic as well as real-world knowledge. With two countries and two academic cultures through the Dual Degree with ANU, you can grow your confidence and shape your future with critical agency. I am very glad to have the opportunity to be where I am right now, and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I do.

GLA — the perfect place to explore your options

Seojin Park

GLA Graduate
Master's Student, Global East Asia, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
Graduate of Michuhol Foreign Language High School, Korea

Why I chose GLA

During my time in high school, I realized I wanted to explore the world more and study beyond what was typically expected of a Korean student, but it was difficult to find a university that satisfied me. GLA turned out to be the only college that fulfilled my criteria. Firstly, GLA is one of the very few places in Japan that offers a dual degree program. Secondly, it provides a rare opportunity to study at ANU, which is one of the most prestigious universities in the world. As my field of interest is international relations, being able to study at both Ritsumeikan and ANU was a huge merit for me. Thirdly, the internationality within GLA provides a unique space for not only domestic students, but also us international students. Fourthly, the GLA curriculum offers a wide variety of courses, from history and politics to business, design, and computer programming. That means you are free to pursue your own interests and goals by selecting from the great variety of subjects within the GLA curriculum. In short, GLA provides an experience that is not available at any other university in Japan.

The best things about studying at GLA

Thanks to the variety of courses and excellent teaching staff of both Ritsumeikan and ANU, you will be able to learn a great deal and enhance your skill set. You will also be able to broaden your perspective as you study with staff and students from many different international backgrounds. What was really good about studying at GLA was that I was able to study in small-sized classes. That means you can ask more questions and participate more actively in the class. Moreover, many GLA courses adopt a one-lecture, one-tutorial system, which really supports two-way communication with teachers and classmates. GLA was the perfect place for students who sought more than just a series of lectures.

Message to prospective students

A university is about exploring what you want to do in the future and GLA is the perfect place to discover your options if you do not have a clear career path. As long as you put in the effort, you will reap a reward in the end. The GLA community was a warm and welcoming place for me, and I hope you will have the chance to experience it. I wish you all the best of luck!



Graduate with 2 degrees from 2 universities

History

125+
Years

Ritsumeikan University

Ritsumeikan University is a leading comprehensive private university in west Japan with over 125 years of history. It was selected to lead the globalization of Japanese higher education as part of the "Top Global University Project" funded by the Japanese government. Today, around 38,000 students are studying and conducting research on its four campuses in Kyoto, Shiga, and Osaka. Ritsumeikan University is pioneering new programs utilizing Japan's well-developed education with their English-medium Bachelor Programs.



College of Global Liberal Arts

The College of Global Liberal Arts (GLA) was inaugurated in April 2019 at the Osaka Ibaraki Campus. Under the partnership with the College of Asia and the Pacific at the prestigious Australian National University (ANU), all GLA students pursue a four-year dual degree program leading to degree qualifications from both Ritsumeikan and ANU. The Ritsumeikan component provides thorough training in the liberal arts education and is aimed at promoting social progress through the application of wide-ranging knowledge of the arts and sciences. GLA also offers extensive global career support to students from a diverse range of international backgrounds.



The Australian National University

Founded in 1946, ANU is Australia's national university and is a research-centered institution focused on finding solutions to global problems. Occupying a high position in a range of university ranking systems, it is equally renowned for its outstanding alumni, who include Australian prime ministers and Nobel Prize winners. The university's campus is centrally located in the Australian capital city of Canberra, and features a setting of striking natural beauty, where approximately 17,000 students from 100 countries study and pursue their research.



ANU College of Asia and the Pacific

GLA's partner, the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, has one of the world's largest concentrations of English-speaking researchers specializing in the Asia-Pacific region. It plays an important role not only as a source of expertise on Australia's domestic public policy, but also as a knowledge base for the societies, cultures, and economies of the Asia-Pacific region. Meanwhile, the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs (Bell School for short), in which students from GLA are enrolled, is a world-leader in Asia-Pacific and international politics, society, strategy, security, and diplomacy.



**Australia's
Leading
University**

#11

**in the World
for Politics**

*QS World University Rankings
2025

#32

in the World

*QS World University Rankings
2026

Global Network

**471 Universities
and Institutions
in 69 Countries
and Regions**

3000+

**International
Students**

Define yourself and make a difference to the world

KEY FEATURES

Dual degree program with ANU

Through the four-year program, students will graduate with a Bachelor of Global Liberal Arts from RU and a Bachelor of Asia-Pacific Affairs from ANU upon completion of the requirements and credits of both universities. In Japan, students study liberal arts with a focus on becoming a proactive member of the global society in the twenty-first century. In Australia, students experience the dynamism of globalization firsthand and deepen their studies of the Asia-Pacific region. To be eligible to take the ANU courses, students must take the admission evaluation conducted by ANU.

3 Years at RU in Japan + 1 Year at ANU in Australia

In this 4-year program, students spend 3 years in total at RU in Osaka and 1 year at ANU in Canberra. Students will have an opportunity to learn from ANU faculty members at OIC before they go abroad to ANU. Upon their return to Japan, students continue taking ANU courses at OIC to complete their studies of Global Liberal Arts and Asia-Pacific Affairs.

	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4	
April Enrollment	Spring 1	Fall 2	Spring 3	Fall 4	Spring 5	Fall 6	Spring 7	Fall 8
	RU Courses		RU+ANU Courses	ANU Courses		RU+ANU Courses		
September Enrollment	Fall 1	Spring 2	Fall 3	Spring 4	Fall 5	Spring 6	Fall 7	Spring 8
	RU Courses		RU+ANU Courses		ANU Courses		RU+ANU Courses	

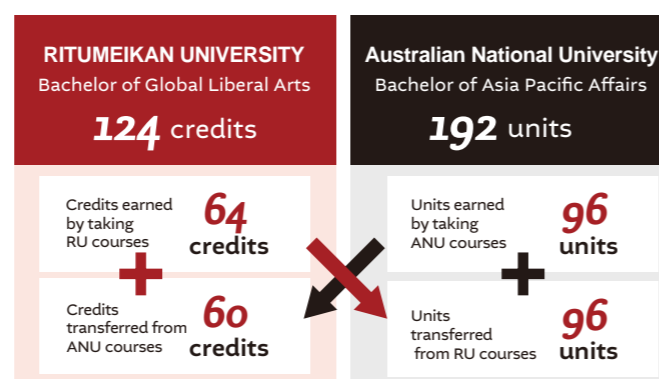
Liberal Arts education to nurture global citizens

GLA provides students with a flexible yet rigorous interdisciplinary education through systematic exposure to fundamental knowledge from diverse disciplines. With an eye to their career or study path after graduation, students can freely decide the contents of their own study program by selecting courses from a wide range of options spanning the arts and sciences.

Philosophy	History	Political Science	Economics	Sociology	Cultural Studies	International Relations	Data Science & AI
Business Management	Design	Psychology	Sustainability Science	Education	Disability Studies	Linguistics	Marketing

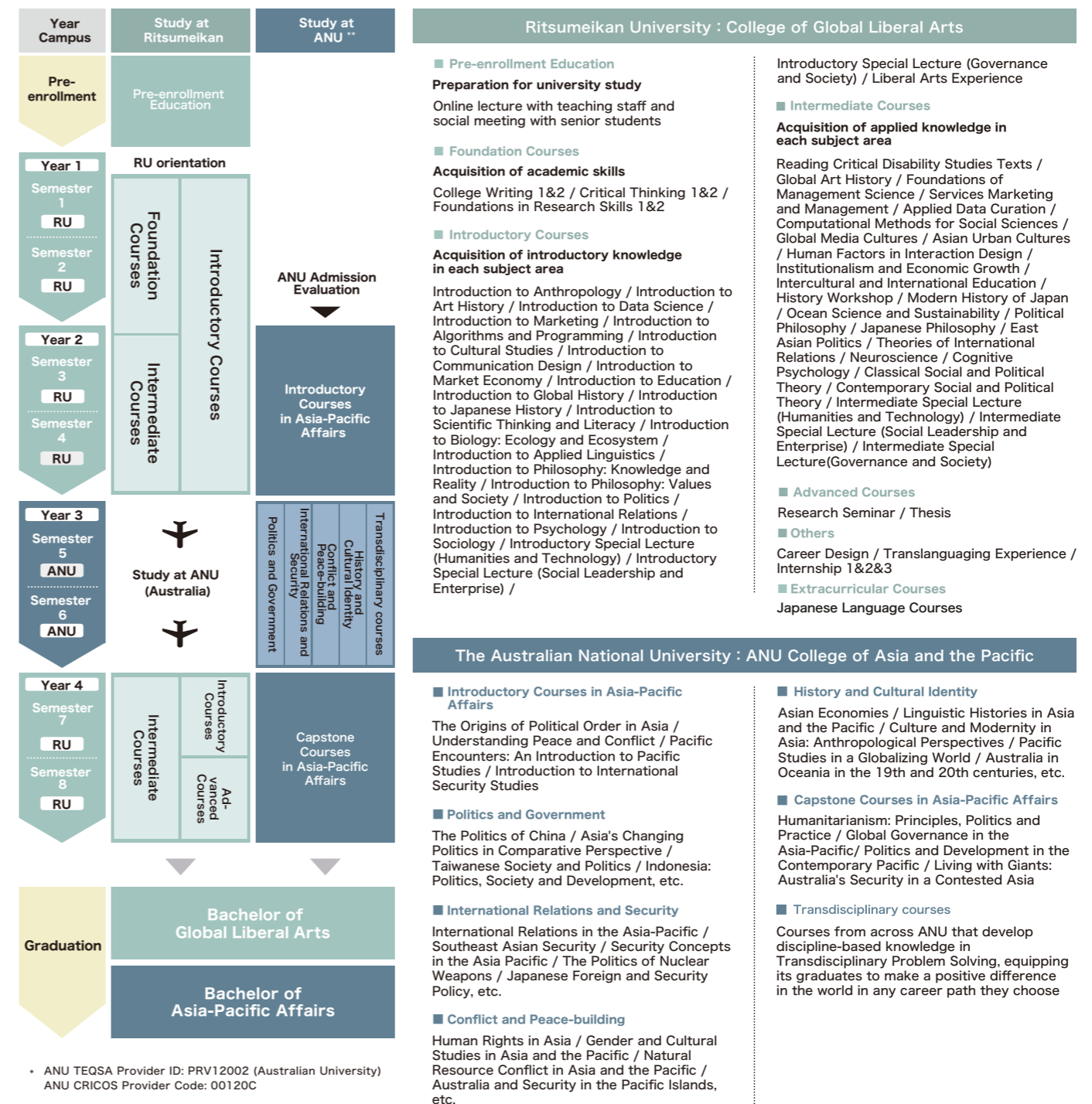
Graduate with 2 degrees from 2 universities

Typically, students must earn a minimum of 124 credits to be awarded the RU degree and 192 units to be awarded the ANU degree. However, under the agreement between the two universities in the dual degree program, 64 credits transferred from RU courses are recognized as 96 units at ANU, and 96 units transferred from ANU courses are recognized as 60 credits at RU. This arrangement allows students to obtain both degrees in four years by completing 64 credits of RU courses and 96 units of ANU courses.



CURRICULUM College of Global Liberal Arts study flowchart* (September enrollees)

** For more information, check the ANU website



ANU Admission Evaluation

The Admission Evaluation by ANU is conducted after admission to RU. If admitted by ANU, students will be able to begin taking courses offered by ANU and continue working toward earning degrees from both universities. Students who are not admitted through the Admission Evaluation by ANU will be transferred to the RU Major (the single degree track) and may pursue the Bachelor of Global Liberal Arts degree awarded by RU.

English Language Requirement (conducted shortly after admission to RU)

Students must meet the English language requirements specified in the ANU Policy: English language admission requirements and post-admission support.

Academic Requirement

(conducted at the end of the semester in which they have taken courses totaling 32 credits (in principle, at the end of the second semester). This evaluation is conducted only once while enrolled at Ritsumeikan University.) Students must achieve a GPA of 2.00 or higher at RU.

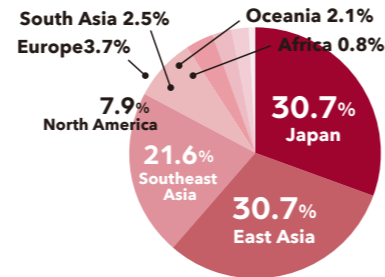
For more details on the English Language Requirement and the Academic Requirement, please refer to the GLA website.



Learning at GLA

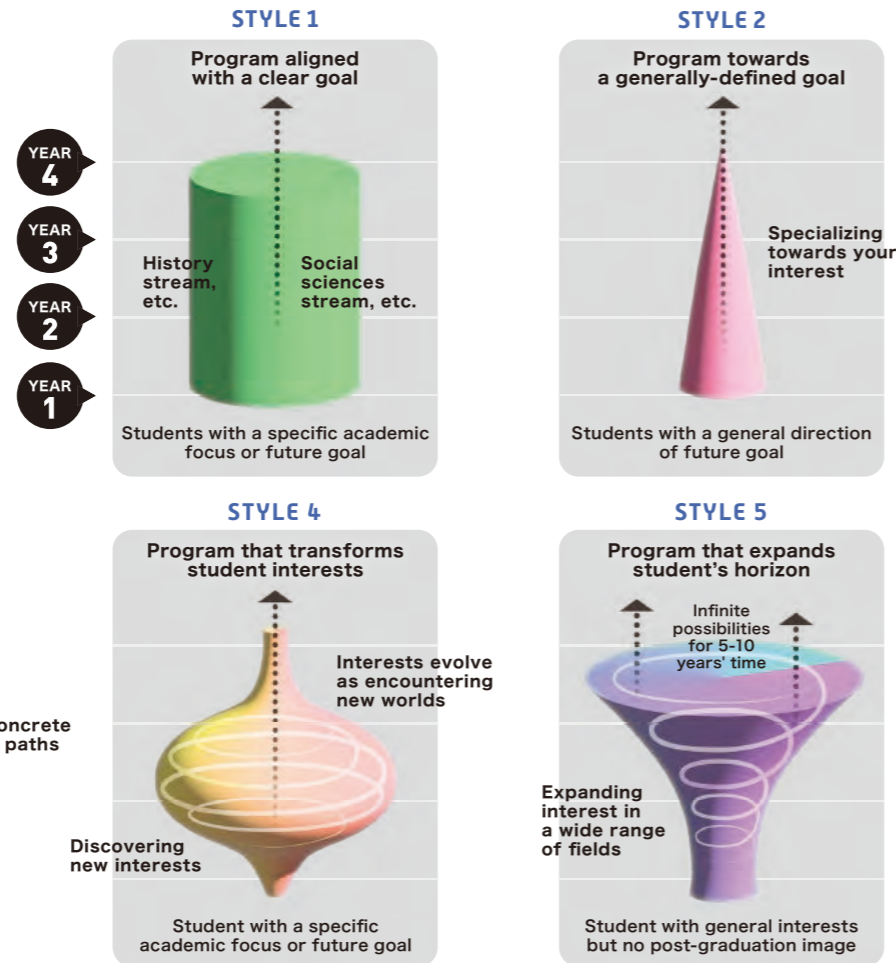
Truly international learning environment

GLA has 100 students per year, about 70% of whom are international students from around the world. 90 students start studying at RU and the remaining 10 at ANU. Outside of the classroom, both domestic and international students live in an on-campus dormitory. This international learning environment helps students develop cross-cultural communication skills.



GLA's tailor-made learning styles

With an eye to their career or study path after graduation, students can freely decide the contents of their own study program by selecting courses from a wide range of options spanning the arts and sciences.



Strengths of the Dual-Degree Program

CHOW Samantha Feriolla
Second-Year Student
Graduate of Middlesex University London

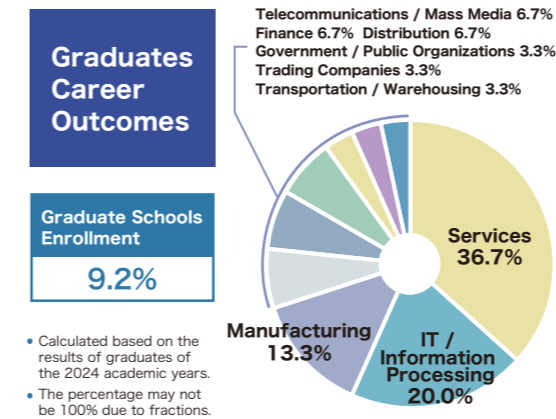
GLA's strength lies in its wide range of social science courses it offers, and the chance to live in both Japan and Australia through its dual-degree program with ANU. Being able to experience different teaching and assessment styles between the two universities has been insightful, and I often find myself implementing what I have learnt from GLA lectures to my ANU assignments and vice versa. The program also comes with unique opportunities, including a fieldwork trip in Nepal that I had the chance to participate in, where we were able to do direct research with primary sources such as government officials, NGOs, and local communities on real-world issues. This hands-on approach enables a level of depth and accuracy that is difficult to achieve through online research alone.



Career

Carving out World-Class Careers

GLA graduates are employed by global companies in Japan and overseas (IT businesses, trading companies, advertising agencies, consultancies, etc.), or continue studying at top-ranking graduate schools such as those in the Australian National University and in the USA. Further deepening their specialisms at graduate school will throw open the path to global careers in government agencies, international organizations, NGOs, and other activities at the international level.



Employers hiring graduates

Accenture Inc. AlphaSights Ltd. Amazon Japan G.K. Dentsu Inc. Digital Arts Inc. Itochu Corporation Japan Material Co., Ltd. Kubota Corporation Mercedes-Benz Japan Co., Ltd. Nagase & Co., Ltd. Nippon Express Co., Ltd. Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha (NYK Line) Okasan Securities Co., Ltd. ORIX Corporation Progrit Co., Ltd. Robert Walters Japan K.K. Shanghai Commercial Bank Ltd. Singapore Airlines Ltd. SoftBank Corp. Swissport Japan K.K. Terumo Corporation Tokai Tokyo Financial Holdings, Inc. Daikin Industries, Ltd. Deloitte Tohmatsu Financial Advisory LLC NEC Corporation Rakuten Group, Inc.

Graduate Schools

The University of Chicago Seoul National University The Australian National University The Chinese University of Hong Kong The University of Melbourne The University of Sydney The University of Tokyo Osaka University



The Value of the Dual Degree Program – Understanding where we live

Kim Kunhee
M.A. in International Studies, Seoul National University, and M.A. in Public Policy, The University of Tokyo
B.A. in Global Liberal Arts, Ritsumeikan University, and B.A. in Asia-Pacific Affairs, the Australian National University, 2023

Throughout the dual degree program, I was able to get a thorough understanding of the Indo-Pacific. Being aware of what is happening in the region cannot be done only by looking into political relations, but also requires understanding economic flows, technological developments, and cultural exchanges. My professors were very active in supporting me in these diverse areas of study, and through this I was able to acquire the knowledge I needed to understand the region. After graduating, I am continuing my studies at graduate school. I plan to use the expertise I have developed to work on the international stage as a diplomat.



Beyond Borders: How My Dual Degree Shaped Me

Chan Jun Hao
MUFG Bank
B.A. in Global Liberal Arts, Ritsumeikan University, and B.A. in Asia-Pacific Affairs, the Australian National University, 2023

The four-year journey was intense yet deeply enriching. The Dual Degree Program pushed me to step out of my comfort zone. Despite the challenges, the program offered a unique blend of academic and cultural insights. At Ritsumeikan, I honed my critical thinking and adaptability through a liberal arts curriculum, while ANU provided a rigorous foundation in Asia-Pacific affairs, economics, and regional strategy. The journey won't always be easy, but it will surely be transformative. Stay open-minded, embrace different cultures, and see every challenge as an opportunity to grow. This is more than just earning two degrees — it's a journey beyond borders. Are you ready to take the first step?



WATCH ON YouTube

The message from graduates is available on RU International Admissions channel.



Live & Learn

OIC Global House for GLA students



A Perfect Environment for Connecting with International Peers and Staying Focused on Your Studies

ITO Karin

Second-Year Student
Attended Shanghai Ganquan Foreign Languages Middle School, China



Living in the OIC Global House has been a major advantage. Located on campus, it allows me to focus fully on my studies without worrying about commuting. Each student has a private room for quiet study, while shared spaces such as kitchens and study areas provide opportunities to cook and interact with residents from around the world. Managing my own schedule, meals, and daily life for the first time has strengthened my independence and selfmanagement.

In this supportive international environment, I hope to deepen my studies in philosophy and psychology. From the second semester of my second year, I will study abroad in Australia, and I am eager to further broaden my academic interests.

Living and learning in the student residence on campus

OIC Global House is a student residence that forms part of the Wakebayashi International Plaza completed at the Osaka Ibaraki Campus (OIC) in 2019. Many students of the College of Global Liberal Arts reside here to enjoy an experience of shared learning and shared living within the campus environment. Alongside 200 single bedrooms, the facility also offers a traditional tea room, a Japanese-style garden, a multipurpose hall with a Noh performance stage, and other spaces promoting diverse international encounters within a Japanese-themed cultural setting.



For more details, check the RU website.



Faculty Members

- Saeeda Batool**
Development Economics, Gender Inequality, Health Economics
- Kayoko Fujita**
History of Japanese Foreign Relations, Maritime Asian History, Global History of Material Culture
- Miki Horie**
Education, Intercultural Education, Educational Policy and Administration
- Christopher Johnson**
Moral Philosophy, Political Philosophy, Philosophy of Sport
- D. Moritz Marutschke**
Data Science, E-Learning Technology, Software Engineering Education
- U. Aytun Ozturk**
Management Science, Operations Research, Business Analytics
- Christophe Thouny**
Cultural Studies, Modern Japanese Visual Culture/Literature, Urban Studies, Ecocriticism, Critical Theory
- Eri Yamashita**
Philippines Area Studies, Disability Studies
- Helena Ćapková**
Interdisciplinary Visual Art Studies, Exhibition Curating, Japanese Art History, Architecture and Design History
- Paul Haimes**
Design Studies, Digital Design, Interaction Design (IxD), Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), Aesthetics, Interactive Art
- Yuko Ishihara**
Kyoto School Tradition, Phenomenology, Comparative Philosophy, Philosophy of Play
- Chika Kitano**
Sociolinguistics, Gender Studies in Japan, Sociology of Language Learning
- Kazuma Morii**
British Imperial History, History of Abolition and Slavery, Parliamentary and Political History
- Huseyin Rasit**
Revolutions, State-Building, Ideologies, Media and Propaganda, Social and Political Theory, Middle East Studies
- Hanae Tsukada**
Internationalization of Higher Education, Discourse and Practice of Diversity, Social Justice Education
- Emily Chung-Moya**
Consumer research, Marketing, Branding
- Miwa Hirono**
China, Peacebuilding, Peacekeeping, Humanitarianism, Disasters, Conflict, East Asia, Developing Countries, Foreign Policy
- Kiyu Itoi**
Internationalization of Higher Education, Translanguaging, Globalization of English
- Gian Powell Marquez**
Biomass and Bioenergy, Sustainability Science, Marine Science, Environmental Biotechnology, Systematic Innovation
- Saeko Ogiso**
Foreign/Second Language Education, Japanese Language Education, Second Language Vocabulary Learning
- Mayumi Shimura**
Intersection of International Politics and International Law, Peace Studies
- Noriko Yamagishi**
Cognitive Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience, Psychological Sciences, Vision, Attention, Emotion, Brain Science

Scholarships

100% Tuition Reduction Scholarships / Government Scholarship (MEXT)

Tuition Reduction / Scholarship	Amount of Tuition Reduction / Scholarship Benefits	Number of Students Accepted*	Eligibility	Screening Method	Enrollment Period	Period
100% Tuition Reduction for International Students	100% Reduction	Top 10% or less of the admissions capacity	Those who possess the status of residence "Student" by the time of enrollment.	The 1st Year: decided based on admission result. The 2nd Year and onwards: decided based on the grades of each year.	—	One Year
Government Scholarship (MEXT University Recommendation Scholarship, Special Selection)	- Full waiver of tuition and admission fees - Living Stipend: 117,000 JPY per month - Travel Costs: Round-trip flight tickets	8 per year	Students from Southeast Asian countries	Decided based on admission result. Please check the RU International admissions website for more details.	September 2026 September 2027 September 2028	Four Years

Scholarships Awarded to All Students Studying at ANU in the Dual Degree Program

Scholarship	Amount of Tuition Reduction	Eligibility	Note
College of Global Liberal Arts Scholarship for Study Abroad	700,000JPY	All Cohort A students studying at ANU in the Dual Degree Program	- Though students can receive both scholarships at the same time, neither of them can be awarded in combination with other scholarships specified in RU policies. - The scholarship systems may be subject to change.
Ritsumeikan University Study Abroad Challenge Scholarship	300,000JPY		

Fees

In taking the Dual Degree Program, tuition fees of ANU shall not be charged separately. However, travel expenses, dormitory fees, living expenses, etc. shall be paid by students. In addition, admission fees and miscellaneous membership fees are required. Tuition fees for 2026 Enrollees may change. For more details, please check the RU International admissions website.

Admission Fees and Tuition Fees 2026 Enrollees

(Unit : JPY)

Year 1				Year 2 and onwards *		
Admission Fee	Tuition Fee for Spring Semester	Tuition Fee for Fall Semester	Total	Tuition Fee for Spring Semester	Tuition Fee for Fall Semester	Total
200,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	2,600,000	1,434,000	1,434,000	2,868,000

Miscellaneous Membership Fees 2026 Enrollees

(Unit : JPY)

Student Government Board **		Parents Association of Student Education Assistance		Total
Registration Fee	Annual Membership Fee	Registration Fee	Annual Membership Fee	
3,000	5,000	5,000	10,000	23,000



RU International Admissions Website (Tuition & Fees)

* All students are initially enrolled in the RU-ANU Major. Following admission to Ritsumeikan University, enrollment may be transferred to the RU Major based on the outcome of the Admission Evaluation conducted by ANU.

** Membership fees for the Alumni Association and the Parents Association for Student Education Assistance are payable only in the first year of enrollment.