RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY

Ritsumeikan University
Graduate School of Life Sciences

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Graduate School of Life Sciences Website
https://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsls/

Ritsumeikan University Graduate School of Life Sciences

Guide 2026

RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY

Applied Chemistry Course | Biotechnology Course | Bioinformatics Course | Biomedical Sciences Course

Infinite possibilities emerge from the fusion and collaboration of four academic disciplines

In the Graduate School of Life Sciences, our aim is to train individuals to acquire wide-ranging knowledge and a high level of specialization in the life sciences, so that they are capable of contributing to the solution of problems facing humanity as a whole in the 21st century.

Modern society is facing a variety of challenges that need to be solved on a global scale and across various fields. Among these challenges, it could be said that resource and energy issues, environmental issues, food supply issues and medical issues are the four major problems facing the world. In order to solve them, in addition to the fundamental disciplines of engineering, physical science, agriculture, medicine and pharmaceutics, we must further develop the life sciences which developed out of the intersection, or perhaps the integration, of such disciplines, and implement the ensuing research results into society.
The Graduate School of Life Sciences consists of four academic disciplines: applied chemistry, biotechnology, bioinformatics, and biomedical sciences. These disciplines are grounded in, or have evolved from, the fields of engineering, physical science, agriculture, medicine, and pharmaceutics. In other words, these disciplines cover the academic fields required to address the four major problems mentioned above.
I am confident that learning and research in the Graduate School of Life Sciences will fully meet the expectations of students who want to take on the various challenges facing the modern world and create a richer society.

International Program for Life Sciences

(September enrollment, English-based)

International students are accepted for all courses, which are taught in English. The program is designed to foster the acquisition of broad knowledge and specialized skills related to the Life Sciences.

WATCH OUR MOVIE FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION!

https://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsls/movie/

P4

Applied Chemistry Course

Using an atomic and molecular level approach to solve problems in regards to materials, energy and the environment

Expected Career Fields

- Chemical industry
- Functional materials manufacturer
- Electrical/Mechanical
- Clothing
- Food

P7

Biomedical Sciences Course

Aiming to develop preventive medicine and regenerative medicine by clarifying various biomedical phenomena

Expected Career Fields

- Medical institutions
- Medical equipment
- Pharmaceuticals
- Food
- Cosmetics

New substance
Nanotechnology
Environmental analysis
Energy conversion
Functional material

Microorganism
Bioenergy
Molecular biology
Environmental cleanup
Biological resources

Environment
Energy

Chemistry
Medical
Life

Biocompatible material
Drug

Biotechnology
Proteomics

Genome
RNA
DNA

Genomic medical science
Tailor made medical
Gene therapy
Preventive health medicine

System biology
Genome analysis
Information science
BioInformatics

DOCTOR
Major in Advanced Life Sciences

MASTER
Major in Advanced Life Sciences

P5

Biotechnology Course

Pursuing useful functions from organisms to overcome challenges of the environment, food, resources, and energy

Expected Career Fields

- Chemical industry
- Environment related
- Cosmetic
- Food
- Clothing

P6

Bioinformatics Course

Explaining how biological activities work through the integration of life sciences and information sciences

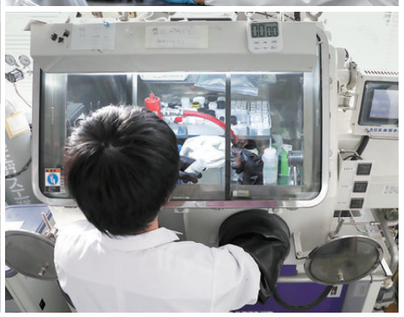
Expected Career Fields

- Clothing
- IT-related
- Medical equipment
- Food
- Electronics-related

Ritsumeikan University Graduate School of Life Sciences

Applied Chemistry Course





Using an atomic and molecular level approach to solve problems in regards to materials, energy and the environment

In the Applied Chemistry Course, students immerse themselves in an expansive field of chemistry theories and technologies,building on a foundation on physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry, analytical chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry in order to explain the functions of existing substances, and to invent new substances. Students in this course develop specialized knowledge in a broad range of fields, from materials chemistry to energy and biological matter.

[Laboratory]

Laboratory Name	Supervisor	Research Topic
Inorganic Catalysis Chemistry Laboratory	INADA Yasuhiro	Understanding the Functional Principles of Metal Catalysts and Developing Next-Generation Materials
Inorganic Electrochemistry Laboratory	ORIKASA Yuki	Development of Next Generation Rechargeable Battery Based on Solid Electrochemistry
Biophysical Chemistry Laboratory	KATO Minoru	Molecular Mechanisms of Structure Formation and Conformational Change of Biomacromolecules
Functional Coordination Chemistry Laboratory	KUWATA Shigeki	Design of New Metal Complexes and Their Application to Transformation of Inert Molecules
Bioinorganic Reaction Chemistry Laboratory	KOSHIYAMA Tomomi	Design and Construction of Chemical Reaction Spaces Using Biomolecules
Photofunctional Physical Chemistry Laboratory	KOBAYASHI Yoichi	Developments of Novel High-Performance Photofunctional Materials Based on Physical Chemistry
Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry Laboratory	SOHTOME Yoshihiro	Creating Bioactive Molecules Using Catalytic and Enzymatic Transformations
Analytical Biochemistry Laboratory	TAKAGI Kazuyoshi	Redox Biochemistry
Polymer Materials Chemistry Laboratory	TSUTSUMI Osamu	Creating Future Polymer Materials by State-of-the-Art Nanotechnology
Laser Photochemistry Laboratory	NAGASAWA Yutaka	Elucidating the Molecular Dynamics of Photochemical Reactions and the Primary Processes of Photosynthesis Using Ultrafast Spectroscopy
Organic Materials Chemistry Laboratory	HANASAKI Tomonori	Synthesis and Physical Properties of Novel Organic Functional Materials
Supramolecular Chemistry Laboratory	MAEDA Hiromitsu	Fabrication of Electronically and Electrooptically Functional Materials Through Synthesis and Assembly of Unexplored Molecules

PICK UP

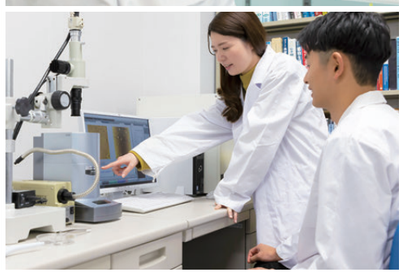
Elucidating the Molecular Dynamics of Photochemical Reactions and the Primary Processes of Photosynthesis Using Ultrafast Spectroscopy

[Laser Photochemistry Laboratory] Professor NAGASAWA Yutaka

Chemical reactions occur due to atomic rearrangement within molecules. In our laboratory, we use ultrashort laser pulses to observe how photochemical reactions occur on the timescale of picoseconds and femtoseconds. Photosynthesis, performed by plants and other organisms, is also a type of photochemical reaction, and elucidating its mechanism could lead to the development of new methods for light energy conversion.

Biotechnology Course





Pursuing useful functions from organisms to overcome challenges of the environment, food, resources, and energy

In the Biotechnology Course, students build on a foundation of biochemistry, molecular biology, and microbiology and expand their knowledge of theories and technologies related to the environment, food, resources, and energy. Building on fundamental research topics, such as biological function, structural and functional analysis of ecosystems, and biomaterials science, students apply their knowledge to questions of the environment, food, resources, and energy.

[Laboratory]

Laboratory Name	Supervisor	Research Topic
Plant Biochemistry Laboratory	ISHIMIZU Takeshi	Functional Analysis of Plant Carbohydrate-Active Enzymes and Carbohydrate Compounds
Plant Molecular Biology Laboratory	KASAHARA Masahiro	cAMP Signaling System in Plants
Plant Biotechnology Laboratory	TAKEDA Atsushi	Generation of Virus- and Viroid-Resistant Plants through Genome Editing
Biomolecular Chemistry I Laboratory	TAKEDA Yoichi	Clarification of Biological Roles of Glycans by Synthetic Molecular Probes
Microbial Genome Dynamics Laboratory	TAKEMATA Naomichi	Elucidating the Principles and Functions of Archaeal Genome Organization
Structural Bioscience Laboratory	MATSUMURA Hiroyoshi	Structural Bioscience for Improvement of Nature Environment and Drug Design
Applied Molecular Microbiology Laboratory	MIHARA Hisaaki	Mechanism of Bacterial Metabolic Pathways
Enzyme Technology Laboratory	WAKAYAMA Mamoru	Development of the Production System of Valuable Materials Using Enzymes and Fermentation

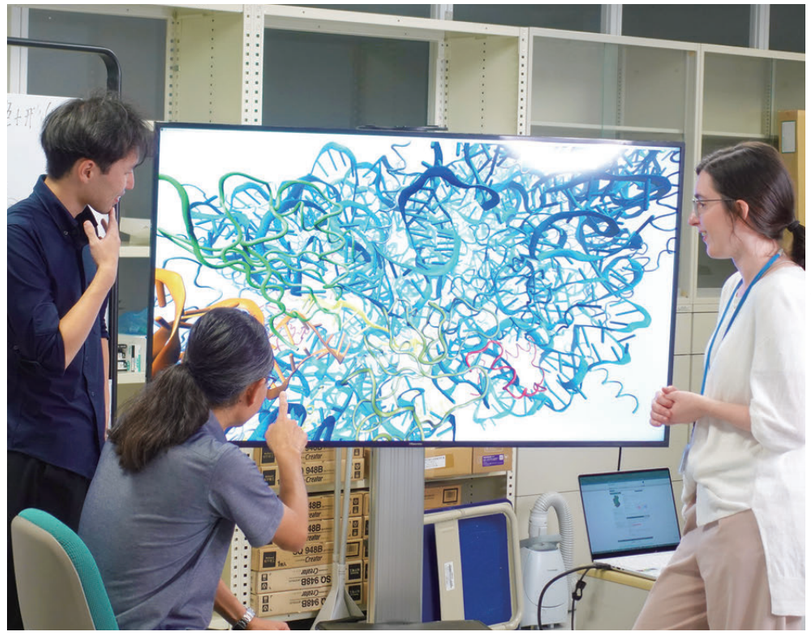
PICK UP

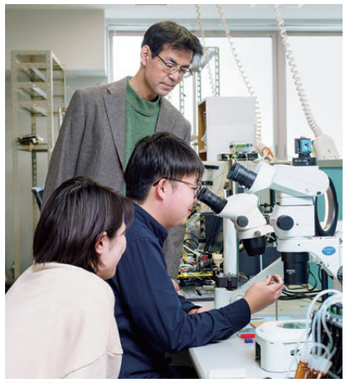
Elucidating the Principles and Functions of Archaeal Genome Organization

[Microbial Genome Dynamics Laboratory] Professor TAKEMATA Naomichi

Genomic DNA forms a highly organized three-dimensional structure within a cell. We are studying how genomes are spatially and functionally organized in Archaea—the domain of microorganisms from which eukaryotes are thought to have emerged. Our goal is to advance the evolutionary understanding of archaeal genomes and explore their potential industrial applications.

Bioinformatics Course





Explaining how biological activities work through the integration of life sciences and information sciences

In the Bioinformatics Course, students have the opportunity to pursue an expansive range of specialized knowledge related to life science, information science, and biological function analysis technology, which form the basis of explaining the workings of biological activities using information science. Specific research topics include mathematical analysis of genetic information, the structure-function relationship of protein molecules, and biological function, with applications in life science, medicine and pharmaceuticals, food products, and information technology.

[Laboratory]

Laboratory Name	Supervisor	Research Topic
Tissue and Organ Function Analysis Laboratory	AMANO Akira	Analyze Tissue and Organ Function Based on the Accurate Cell Level Model
Information Biology Laboratory	ITO Masahiro	Understanding from Genome to Life System
Brain Network Information Laboratory	KITSUKAWA Takashi	Rhythms in Motion and Rhythms in Brain: Deciphering Neural Information Processing from Rhythm
Computational Structural Biology Laboratory	TAKAHASHI Takuya	Elucidation and Application of Structure-Function Relationship of Bio-molecules
Biomolecular Network Laboratory	TERAUCHI Kazuki	How Photosynthetic Microorganisms Respond to Changes in Their Environment?
Biological Computation Laboratory	TOGASHI Yuichi	Mathematical Models for Understanding Life as Information Processing Machinery
Plant Molecular Physiology Laboratory	FUKAO Yoichiro	Molecular Mechanisms of Environmental Stresses Tolerance in Plants

PICK UP

Constructing Digital Copies of Cells and Organs inside a Computer

[Tissue and Organ Function Analysis Laboratory] Professor AMANO Akira

Knowledge about the functions of molecules inside cells is rapidly growing. To deploy this knowledge in medical applications, it is necessary to understand how these molecules cooperate with each other to realize cellular and organ functions. We are constructing cell and organ models by combining numerous mathematical models of molecules inside cells and analyzing their functions using these models.

Biomedical Sciences Course

Aiming to develop preventive medicine and regenerative medicine by clarifying various biomedical phenomena

In the Biomedical Sciences Course, students explore interdisciplinary applications related to the medical field. Possible research topics cover a broad spectrum of the life sciences field and include unknown biological phenomena and pathogenic mechanisms of various diseases as well as applications of state of the art pharmaceutical product development and frontier medical technologies.

[Laboratory]

Laboratory Name	Supervisor	Research Topic
Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine Laboratory	KAWAMURA Teruhisa	Dissecting the Process of Somatic Cell Reprogramming and Stem Cell Differentiation and Its Application to Regenerative Medicine
Protein Modification Biology Laboratory	SHIRAKABE Kyoko	Roles of Protein Modifications in Biological Phenomena and Disease Onsets
Context-dependent Cell Immunology Laborator	TACHIBANA Masashi	Development of Innovative Therapy Targeting Immunosuppressive Cells
Pharmacology Laboratory	TANAKA Hidekazu	Remodeling of Neural Network Underlies Vigorous Adaptability of the Brain
Proteomics Laboratory	HAYANO Toshiya	Proteomic Study on the Diseases
Medical Physiology and Metabolism Laboratory	MUKAI Eri	Study for Pathologic Elucidation and Treatment of Diabetes
Health Policy and Management Laboratory	MORIWAKI Kensuke	Assessing the Value of Health Technologies and Supporting Policy Decision Making

PICK UP

Development of Innovative Therapy Targeting Immunosuppressive Cells

[Context-dependent Cell Immunology Laboratory] Professor TACHIBANA Masashi

Myeloid-derived suppressor cells (MDSCs) emerge due to disruption of homeostasis, such as when triggered by illness. We believe that depletion or functional inhibition of MDSCs is effective to restore homeostasis, and are investigating the specific mechanisms of differentiation, proliferation, and function of MDSCs to develop innovative therapeutic strategies.

Graduate School of Life Sciences has many international students from all over the world.

*Number of International Students after 2012 (September 2025)

LAW King Chuen
Level of Study: Doctoral Program
Course: Advanced Life Sciences

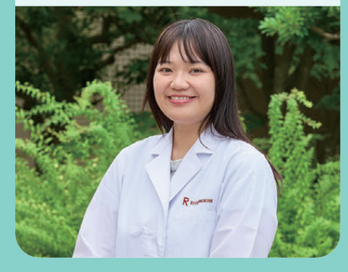
Why did you choose to study at Ritsumeikan University?

Ritsumeikan University is a prestigious private university that offers world class education and research facilities. Professors of Ritsumeikan University are experts in their respective fields and willing to share their extensive knowledge with young scientists in order to advance scientific research. I chose Ritsumeikan University because it offers an exceptional and positive learning environment where I can benefit from the expertise and guidance of my professors and foster my own personal and academic growth.

LI Ludi
Level of Study: Master's Program
Course: Biotechnology Course

Were you worried about your new life at Ritsumeikan University before your arrival? If so, how did your worries change after arriving?

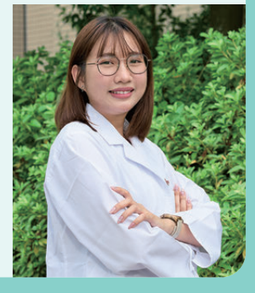
Before coming to Ritsumeikan, I was worried about whether I could adapt to a different education system, especially since I did my undergraduate studies in Italy. I was also unsure about my Japanese level and whether I could make new friends. However, after arriving, I found the professors and classmates to be very friendly and helpful. I was able to make friends with students from various countries and gradually adapted to the academic environment. The transition turned out to be much smoother than I expected.



WACHIRAPONGPORN Satakan
Level of Study: Master's Program
Course: Biotechnology Course

How do you think your experience at Ritsumeikan University will help you achieve your goals?

My experience at Ritsumeikan University is helping me build the skills and mindset I need to achieve my long-term goals. Academically, I've gained a solid foundation in my field of study, along with valuable research experience that will help me pursue graduate studies or a career in science. More importantly, I've learned how to think critically, communicate effectively across cultures, and solve problems in diverse teams. These are essential skills in today's global job market. Living and studying in Japan has also made me more independent, adaptable, and open-minded—qualities that I believe are just as important as technical knowledge. Whether I continue my career in Japan or in another country, I know that what I've learned at Ritsumeikan both inside and outside the classroom will serve as a strong foundation for whatever I choose to do next.



KUMAR Siddhant
Level of Study: Doctoral Program Graduate
Post-doc Fellow Queens University, Canada

Tell us about your research theme.

My research theme is based on synthesizing and performing extensive photoluminescence studies on Au(I) based N-heterocyclic carbene polymeric complexes. These gold based polymeric complexes are very useful options for various practical applications like OPLEDs, sensors, smart materials, etc.

What do you think are the advantages of studying in GSLS, Ritsumeikan University?

GSLS provides a very ethical environment for performing research activities. Also, it also provides a Japanese class for those who wants to learn the Japanese language which makes job hunting easier in Japan. The GSLS are always ready to help international students in the job-hunting process.

How are you using what you have learned in your job?

In my PhD studies, I learnt various analytical techniques and also new synthetic skills and I believe that working independently here has improved my knowledge. Moreover, in the future I will only be indulging in research activities therefore, I will use my experience of these three years in the other labs which will help me to grow as a good research scientist.

Any advice about job hunting for the current students?

Students should be very clear from the start of their courses whether they will become a post-doc or work in a company in Japan in the future. If students are willing to do post-doc, they should invest most of their time in research activities, but if they are going to look for a job in a Japanese company, they should also improve their Japanese language skills, which will make the job-hunting process easier.

SAHU Abhilash
Level of Study: Doctoral Program
Course: Advanced Life Sciences

What is your favorite thing about Ritsumeikan University?

My favorite aspect of Ritsumeikan University is the warm and inclusive environment that it creates for students from all backgrounds. The vibrant community, supportive faculty, and modern research facilities make it an excellent place to learn and grow. I particularly value how approachable the staff and professors are, always ready to guide students and make them feel comfortable. Even as an international student, I never feel isolated because the university offers language classes, career support, and various resources that make daily life and academic activities much easier.

WATCH OUR MOVIE FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION!

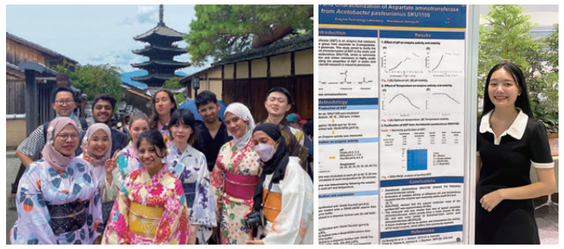
https://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsls/movie/

Student LIFE

Living Expenses

Living expenses will vary depending on each student's individual lifestyle, but the following is a list of estimated expenses for the average student.

Item	Approximate Monthly Cost
Rent	30,000 - 60,000 JPY
Utilities	10,000 JPY
Internet	4,000 JPY
Basic Food	30,000 - 50,000 JPY
National Health Insurance	2,000 JPY
Mobile Phone	4,000 JPY
Local Transportation	12,000 JPY
Leisure Activities	25,000 JPY
Total	**117,000 - 167,000 JPY**



International Student Dormitory

BKC International House

The BKC International House sits in a quiet neighborhood, so it offers students both a peaceful setting and the convenience of close proximity to all of the university's facilities. The BKC International House aims to help international students transition to living in Japan while providing an environment where students can adjust to the local language and culture as well as interact with fellow scholars from around the world.

Rooms Include

- Refrigerator
- Internet Connection
- Bed & Bedding (with cleaning)
- Desk & Chair
- Air Conditioning & Lighting
- Sink & Toilet

"Type B" rooms include individual shower!

Private Room Type A

Common Use Facilities

- Kitchen Lounge (with TV & DVD player)
- Shower Rooms
- Laundry Rooms & Dryers
- Multipurpose Hall with Tatami Corner (with TV & DVD player)
- Billiard Table, Table Tennis, Basketball Hoop
- Bicycle Parking

Common-Use Kitchen

Tatami Corner

Curriculum

Completion Requirements

Master's Program

Category		Credits Required		Total
Common Subjects		Not less than 4 credits		Not less than 30 credits
Major Subjects	Core Subjects	Not less than 6 credits	Not less than 10 credits	
	Electives			
Research Subjects		16 credits		

Doctoral Program

Category	Credits Required	Total
Major Subjects	—	Not less than 8 credits
Research Subjects	Not less than 8 credits	

List of Subject

Master's Program

Common Subjects

Electives	Presentation in Science and Technology, Advanced Technology Management, Introduction to Research in Life Sciences, Field Work, Study Abroad
Free Electives	Technical Japanese 1, Technical Japanese 2, Applied Technical Japanese 1, Applied Technical Japanese 2

Major Subjects

Core Subjects

Applied Chemistry Course	• Advanced Course of Physical Reaction Chemistry • Advanced Course of Physical Inorganic Chemistry • Advanced Course of Applied Biological Chemistry • Advanced Course of Organic Molecular Chemistry • Advanced Course of Physical Chemistry for Chemical Reactions • Advanced Course of Physical Chemistry for Molecular Structure • Advanced Course of Inorganic Functional Materials Chemistry • Advanced Course of X-Ray Analysis in Chemistry • Advanced Course of Functional Organic Materials Chemistry • Advanced Course of Organic Reactions and Structural Chemistry
Biotechnology Course	• Advanced Course of Environmental Biotechnology • Advanced Course of Plant and Microbial Biotechnologies • Advanced Course of Biotechnology for Energy and Resources • Advanced Course of Molecular Biotechnology
Bioinformatics Course	• Advanced Topics in Genome Informatics • Advanced Topics in Molecular Design • Advanced Topics in Molecular Structure and Function • Advanced Topics in Biomolecular Network • Advanced Topics in Mathematical Biology • Advanced Topics in Plant Physiology
Biomedical Sciences Course	• Basic Biomedical Science • Applied Biomedical Science • Cutting-edge Biomedical Science • Introduction to research methods for biomedical sciences

Electives

Applied Chemistry Course	• Advanced Course of Biotechnology for Energy and Resources • Advanced Course of Molecular Biotechnology
Biotechnology Course	• Basic Biomedical Science • Cutting-edge Biomedical Science • Introduction to research methods for biomedical sciences • Advanced Topics in Molecular Structure and Function • Advanced Topics in Biomolecular Network • Advanced Topics in Plant Physiology • Advanced Course of Applied Biological Chemistry • Advanced Course of Organic Reactions and Structural Chemistry
Bioinformatics Course	• Basic Biomedical Science • Cutting-edge Biomedical Science • Applied Biomedical Science • Advanced Course of Biotechnology for Energy and Resources • Advanced Course of Environmental Biotechnology • Advanced Course of Plant and Microbial Biotechnologies
Biomedical Sciences Course	• Advanced Course of Environmental Biotechnology • Advanced Course of Biotechnology for Energy and Resources • Advanced Course of Plant and Microbial Biotechnologies • Advanced Topics in Genome Informatics • Advanced Topics in Molecular Structure and Function • Advanced Course of Applied Biological Chemistry • Advanced Course of Organic Molecular Chemistry • Advanced Course of Functional Organic Materials Chemistry

Research Subjects	Special Research 1-4

Doctoral Program

Major Subjects

Electives	Field Work, Study Abroad
Free Electives	Research Presentation in English

Research Subjects	Research 1-6

Tuition, Scholarships, Financial Aids

Tuition

Master's

	Admission Fee	1st Semester	All other semesters
Ritsumeikan graduates	—	633,800 JPY	633,800 JPY
All other university graduates	200,000 JPY	633,800 JPY	633,800 JPY

*Miscellaneous Membership Fees (Graduate Student Association Fee: 4,000 JPY/year, Alumni Fee: 30,000 JPY) are required.
*The Tuition Reduction Scheme for self-paying international students is available

Doctoral

	Admission Fee	1st Semester	All other semesters
Ritsumeikan graduates	—	250,000 JPY	250,000 JPY
All other university graduates	200,000 JPY	250,000 JPY	250,000 JPY

*Miscellaneous Membership Fees (Graduate Student Association Fee: 4,000 JPY) are required.
*The Tuition Reduction Scheme for self-paying international students is available

Scholarships

There are various scholarships and support systems available on campus. These are the programs available as of AY2025. Please note that they may be subject to change from AY2026. Be sure to check the contact information and application guidelines when applying.

Click here for more information about scholarships
https://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/gsls/scholarship/

For Master's Students

SEISEKI-YUSHUSHA Scholarship for 1st Year of Enrollment (Academic Excellence Scholarship for 1st Year of Enrollment)

This scholarship is awarded to students who achieved great results in their entrance examinations and are entering the Master's Program or the Integrated Doctoral Program (to the first-year) at Ritsumeikan University. Each graduate school will select prospective recipients for this scholarship among those who passed the entrance examinations by their designated method with outstanding results and the prospective recipients will be informed of their eligibility at the time of the announcement of the entrance examination results.

Scholarship Amount (per semester)	Number of Recipients
150,000 JPY	Approximately 30% of newly enrolled students

*For 2nd year, applicants must apply for this scholarship in the third semester while enrollment.
Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of their applications at an application screening.

SEISEKI-YUSHUSHA Scholarship For 2nd Year Students (Academic Excellence Scholarship for 2nd Year Students)

The SEISEKI-YUSHUSHA Scholarship is a scholarship awarded to graduate students during the third and fourth semester of Master 's Program.
This excludes MEXT Japanese government-sponsored students, JICA sponsored students, and foreign government scholarship recipients.
The SEISEKI-YUSHUSHA Scholarship for 2nd Year Students may undergo partial changes starting in the 2026 academic year. Please carefully review the application guidelines.

Scholarship Amount (per semester)	Number of Recipients
I: 150,000 JPY II: 300,000 JPY	I: Approximately 30% of M2 students *1 II: 10 students at maximum *2

*1 Those who have achieved a higher rank in the overall evaluation among all M2 students. (Spring application: As of April1/Fall application: As of September 25)
*2 Those who wish to study in the Doctoral Program at the Graduate School of Life Sciences and have achieved a higher rank in the overall evaluation.

Application Period: Spring Application: May / Fall Application: October
Students who are enrolled in the 3rd Semester.



For Doctoral Students

Research Grant for Doctoral Students

The purpose of this grant is to reduce the financial burden for the realization of outstanding research plans by outstanding students in the doctoral programs, and to promote research activities that contribute to the completion of their doctoral dissertations as early as possible, thereby supporting the completion of their doctoral programs within the standard period of study.

Grant amount: One of three grant categories: 100,000 JPY, 300,000 JPY, or 500,000 JPY per case.

More information on scholarship

JASSO scholarship: 48,000 JPY/month (for 6 months after enrollment)
For further information on scholarships, please refer to the following website.

Research Assistant

A work permit is not necessary for research assistants (RA) who work to support the university's education and research activities. Please consult to your supervisors for employment.
Hourly rate:1650 JPY per hour. (Maximum Yearly salary: 500,000 JPY)
Work hours must be less than 19.75 hours a week and within 7.5 hours a day

RARA Student Fellow

"RARA Student Fellow" aims to be equipped with the qualities and abilities to play an active role in the international community.
This program was adopted by the" Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation" of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and has been under implementation since AY2021.

*The duration of receiving these funds is up to 3 years.

For Master's and Doctoral students

Tuition Reduction Scheme for Privately-Financed International Students

This scholarship is provided to the privately-financed international students(*) in order to reduce their financial burden.

Category	Amount	Application	Period
Category I	100% exemption from tuition	To be decided on the evaluation of entrance examination	2 years (Master) 3 years (Doctor)
Category II	20% exemption from tuition	Apply after enrollment	1 year

*Their residence status must be "Student" in order to apply.

MEXT Scholarship

Recommend to contact a professor whom you want to be supervised by in advance. Be sure to check our website to find our researcher's works. Please visit our website to check if we recruit any students for the MEXT Scholarship in the year you are planning to apply.

Monthly Allowance	Tuition	Travel Expenses(to Japan/return)	Screening Method
144,000~145,000 JPY (*based on 2025 figures)	Exempted	To be covered by scholarship	Based on submitted application documents and e-mail interviews.

Graduate School of Life Sciences Global Stage Scholarship

The Graduate School of Life Sciences Global Stage Scholarship program was established in AY 2024 with the aim of fostering individuals to play active roles on the global stage. There are three types of scholarships, designed to subsidize the costs of international activities such as study abroad and presenting at international conferences, as detailed below.

Scholarship Types Type	Scholarship Name	Payment Amount
Scheme A	Program Scholarship (*)	10,000yen – 200,000yen (varies among programs)
Scheme B	International Conference Scholarship (Participation Overseas)	30,000yen – 60,000yen (varies among destinations)
Scheme C	International Conference Scholarship (Participation in Japan)	20,000yen

(*) Scheme A, Program Scholarship, subsidizes travel expenses for students participating in the programs shown below. Scholarship value and other details will be provided to students at the time of applying for each program.

- Life Science Program in University of Putra Malaysia
- Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad PBL Program
- Global-ready Graduate Program
- University of Strasbourg Student Exchange Program

Career and Support

Language Support for International Students

Students can learn daily Japanese conversation and basic Japanese characters. For those who wish to find a job in Japan, we offer classes for JLPT test. Placement test will be conducted before class. Also, we will discuss each student's purpose, level and future career and set the goal together.

Career Services

We support students to gain careers in various sectors, including companies, institutions, universities both in Japan and oversea. We have the following career service offices.

Ritsumeikan University Graduate Student Career Path Support Center

Ritsumeikan University Career Center

Career of International Students

Research Institute / University in Japan

The Research Institute for Humanity and Nature
Ritsumeikan University
Nara Women's University

Companies in Japan

Ezaki Glico Co., Ltd.
Olympus Corporation
Pharma Foods International Co., Ltd.
FUJI OIL CO., LTD.
International Hospitality and Conference Service Association
Peppy Kid's Club
Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd
vitom Co.,Ltd.
SOFIX
HONEY COFFEE CO., LTD

Companies Oversea

Bristol Myer Squibb (United States)
Sima Arome (Indonesia)
NISSIN Foods Co., LTD. (Thailand)
Focuz Manufacturing (Thailand)
C.P. Thai Rice Co., Ltd (Thailand)
AMEZ (Thailand)
The First Affiliated Hospital of Dalian Medical University (China)
IQVIA (China)
Xincere (China)

Governments Oversea

The President (AOP) in Afghanistan Ministry of Defense
the Center of Pharmaceutical and Medical Technology-BPPT, Indonesia
National Science and Technology Development Agency, Thailand
Nairobi City, Kenya

Research Institute / University Oversea

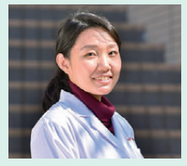
Moffitt Cancer Center USA
The University of Adelaide, Australia
Queens university, Canada
Assiut University, Egypt
Kandahar University, Afghanistan
Natural Resources Institute Finland
Nano center Indonesia
Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, Sweden
University of Potsdam, Germany
The University of Brawijaya, Indonesia
Thailand Institute of Scientific and Technological Research
Udayana University, Indonesia
State University of Malang, Indonesia
Kasetsart University, Thailand
Mahidol University, Thailand
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand
Shenzhen Institute of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

ANDRIANI Furoida

Level of Study: Doctoral Program Graduate
Company: Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd

What are you doing now?
How are you using what you have learned in your job?

I am currently working at Sekisui Chemical Co., Ltd. as an engineer in the Research and Development Department. My work focuses on developing technologies for functional plastic materials used as components in devices such as smartphones and personal computers. The research field I am currently engaged in—functional polymer microparticles—differs significantly from the research I conducted as a student at Ritsumeikan University. Although I have had to learn many aspects from scratch, the skills I acquired at university, such as conducting literature searches, performing experiments, and evaluating data, have been essential for my work. In addition, Japanese language proficiency is crucial when working in a Japanese company, and I am grateful that I consistently studied Japanese during my time as a student because now I can use it at work.



CHERDVORAPONG Vipavee

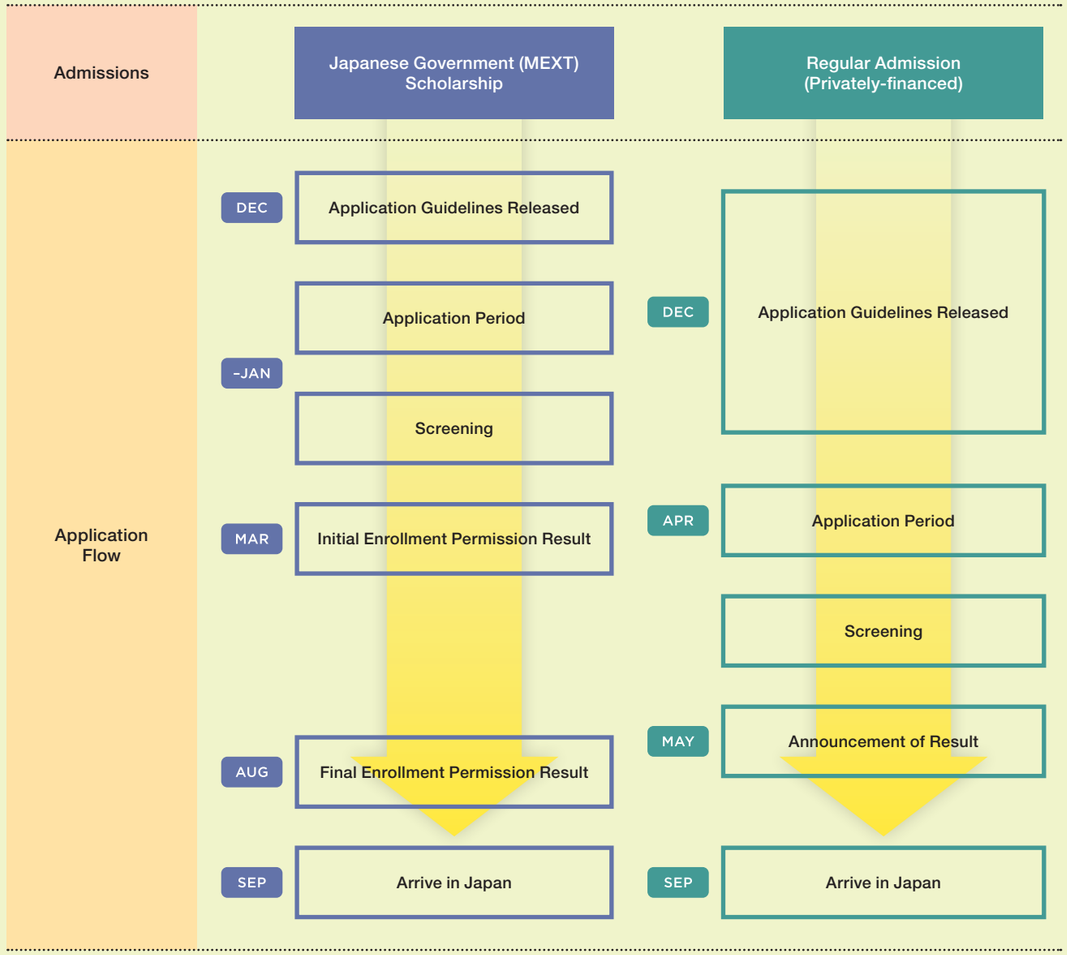
Level of Study: Doctoral Program Graduate
Company: FUJI OIL CO., LTD.

What do you think are the advantages of studying in GSLS, Ritsumeikan University?

First, the facilities and data resources are ample, not only within the university but also outside it as well. We have access to resources from other universities and companies which Ritsumeikan has contracts with. These ample resources made research more productive. Second, the weekly seminars and monthly personal discussions encouraged me to keep progressing with my research. In addition, the support for attending conferences benefited me from both experience and education perspectives. The location, teachers, and staff familiar with assisting international students made my daily life easier, thus allowing me to focus on my research without anxiety. Lastly, to improve my Japanese skills, there were Japanese courses for international students, which can start from the basic level or you can choose to start from the intermediate level. The university's library also provides Japanese textbooks to improve your proficiency on your own.

Admission Information for International Students

*Based on 2025 application schedule



Biwako-Kusatsu Campus in SHIGA

A Campus where world-class research and education are offered in a serene and natural environment

Offering top tier science education and equipped with some of the largest research facilities, Biwako-Kusatsu Campus (BKC) is a campus where students can conduct research activities that take advantage of the campus's location surrounded by nature and nearby Lake Biwa, Japan's biggest lake, and where numerous companies have established their own research facilities. It is an innovative campus which creates and disseminates world - class educational research, knowledge and technologies to all regions of the globe. From Biwako-Kusatsu Campus, it takes only about 40 minutes to get to Kyoto Station.

Campus Locations
http://en.ritsumei.ac.jp/access/