Application deadline is 5 July 2019 for the IC Courses - Autumn 2019. Please visit our website at http://ias.unu.edu/en/admissions/credited-courses for a copy of the brochure and the application forms.

Application deadline in our graduate school is June 21st.

United Nations University: Promoting science for human security, peace and sustainable development

The United Nations University (UNU) Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) is a leading research and teaching institute based in Tokyo, Japan. Its mission is to advance efforts towards a more sustainable future, through policy-oriented research and capacity development focused on sustainability and its social, economic and environmental dimensions. UNU-IAS serves the international community through innovative contributions to high-level policymaking and debates, addressing priority issues for the UN system.

Acknowledgements:
- UNU Women’s Association
- Kunishiri City Home-Stay Programme

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Target Applicants:
- Those who are interested in a Master’s or Doctoral programme in any discipline;
- Young professionals (with a college or university degree) in various occupations in Japan and abroad; and
- Those who wish to pursue careers in international fields in public service or private organizations, including the United Nations, multinational corporations and non-governmental organizations, as well as national foreign service organizations.

T he United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS) will organize Intensive Core (IC) Courses of the Master of Science (MSc.) in Sustainability and Doctoral Degree in Sustainability Science Programmes for a four-week duration at UNU Centre in Tokyo, Japan.

The courses are designed to provide analyses of global issues from both theoretical and empirical perspectives. The courses, though advanced in nature, are open to postgraduate students and professionals in various occupations who are not necessarily specialists in the field. The courses also draw on the research projects undertaken at UNU-IAS in Tokyo and at other UNU institutes located around the world.
## Intensive Core Courses of UNU-IAS Master of Science in Sustainability; and Doctoral Degree in Sustainability

### Course Programme

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<th>I: UN System and Sustainable Development - 2 credits</th>
<th>II: Global Change and Planetary Boundaries – 2 credits</th>
<th>III: Natural Capital and Biodiversity – 2 credits</th>
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<td>This course will present students with an overview of the United Nations system — the only truly universal and comprehensive multinational institutional framework. It consists of the United Nations organizations inclusive of their Funds and Programmes, and specialized and technical agencies established by intergovernmental agreements as well as other entities such as the IAEA and WTO. The course will review its major institutional and policy-related tasks, and examine the relevance and role of the UN system in the global governance of various challenges faced by the international community. This course will study how UN public policy has evolved in achieving its core mandate to maintain international peace and security from reducing direct threats to peace towards achieving sustainable development as an indispensable condition for peace through coordinated endeavors by multi-stakeholders under the Sustainable Development Agenda with its economic, social and environmental dimensions.</td>
<td>Global change, which largely refers to planetary-scale changes in the Earth system mainly caused by anthropogenic activities, is threatening sustainable development prospects in multiple ways. In the last century, global change has become critical although interactions between people and the environment have been taking place over thousands of years. Global changes like rapid urbanization, population growth, industrialization, and land conversions have affected life support systems by challenging different demands and deteriorating environmental systems extensively. This course will cover the concepts related to such global environmental changes; their implications on food, water and health; and various solutions including climate change adaptation and mitigation measures; and initiatives such as Future Earth and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This course is structured into four clusters with 12 lectures and 2 debate sessions including an interactive lecture by Johan Rockstrom via video from Stockholm.</td>
<td>This course, part of the UNU-IUC, is intended to provide graduate students with an understanding and a multidisciplinary perspective on natural capital, biodiversity, human well-being and their interactions, as well as the integration of human needs and ecosystem functioning in ecosystem management and governance. The course will provide an overview of global, national and local consequences of ecosystem changes and drivers of these changes, to introduce a sustainable approach for nature-based solutions and ecosystem management at different levels. The course will introduce the latest conceptual framework developed by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), which has been promoting four key functions at the sub-global and global scales: assessment, knowledge generation, capacity building and policy support. Students will become familiar with the concepts and tools of ecosystem assessment, and gain an ability to choose appropriate analysis methods and management options (solutions) for sustainable development in harmony with nature.</td>
<td>The three IC Courses provide students with a solid grounding in the essential theories and multilateral approaches to issues of sustainability and development, while emphasizing interdisciplinary perspectives. <strong>Selection of Courses</strong> Students are allowed to choose a maximum of two courses. There will be fifteen 90-minute sessions per course — i.e., three to four sessions per week over the four-week course period. The courses will involve considerable reading and study, but will be scheduled to allow students to have sufficient preparatory and review time for each session. <strong>Completion of Courses and Credit Transfer</strong> Students who successfully complete the course will be awarded a Certificate of Completion and a transcript from UNU-IAS. Each course is designed to be worth 2 credits and comprises of 30 hours of learning time. While a number of universities have negotiated credit transfer agreements with UNU-IAS, ultimately the decision on whether credits are transferable will be made by the student’s university. <strong>Faculty and Learning Environment</strong> The IC Courses are taught in a cooperative fashion by a team of scholars and practitioners comprising both in-house and outside experts. One of the unique features of the IC Courses is that many of the practitioners come from UN organizations. Another important characteristic is the direct access to teaching faculty and the support provided to course participants by the UNU-IAS in-house academic staff who serve as academic counselors. Because it shares a building with many UN agencies, UNU-IAS offers a unique learning environment. <strong>UNU Library</strong> The UNU Library offers access to a wide range of academic books, over 20,000 electronic journals, official UN documents, and publications in the International Monetary Fund, World Bank and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development e-libraries. All students will receive a comprehensive library orientation session at the beginning of the course. <strong>Daily Schedule</strong> There will be two options: 120-minute sessions per course — i.e., three sessions of courses each day (10:00-12:00; 13:00-15:00) and 16:00-18:00; though one course will take the entire three sessions of one day. <strong>More information is available at</strong> <a href="http://ias.unu.edu/en/missions/core-courses/unu-intensive-core-courses.html#overview">http://ias.unu.edu/en/missions/core-courses/unu-intensive-core-courses.html#overview</a></td>
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### Course Outline

#### Cluster 1: UN System: Origin, Governance and Structure

- Origins of the UN System — Historical Development of International Organizations
- The UN System and Emerging Mechanisms for Global Governance
- Operation (Budgeting/Personnel Management) of the UN System and International Resource Management for the Globe
- Effectiveness and Accountability of the UN System

#### Cluster 2: Maintenance of Peace and Security

- Realist and Liberal Approaches to Peace and Security
- Origins of International Conflicts
- Nuclear Proliferation and Arms Control
- Risk Analysis and Securitization

#### Cluster 3: Sustainable Development Goals

- Stability and Peace Operations
- International Environmental Governance and Climate Change
- Trade and Investment in the Globalized Economy
- Global Health and Resilience
- Peace and Development in Africa
- Oversight and UN System Reform for the SDGs

#### Cluster 1: Introduction, Global Environment and Governance

- Introduction and Overview: Introduction of the Course Outline
- Global Environmental Change and Urban Environment

#### Cluster 2: Planetary Boundaries and Challenges for Global Change

- Planetary Boundaries Overview
- Challenges for Global Change in Asia
- Sustainable Development Goals in Future Earth

#### Cluster 3: Climate and Social Impact on Food, Water and Health

- Climate Science and Projection
- Water Sustainability under Climate Change
- Urban Water Management in Developing Countries
- Food Sustainability under Climate Change Stress
- Sustainable Sanitation

#### Cluster 4: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

- Climate Change Adaptation for Regional Sustainability
- Climate Change Mitigation, Practical Approach in Developing Countries
- Lectures and Debates on Climate Change Issues

#### Cluster 1: Biodiversity in the Context of Global Change and Ecosystem Assessments from Local, National, Regional to Global Scale

- Global Change and Challenges of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
- Convention on Biological Diversity, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and IPBES
- Toward the Creation of a Sustainability Society in Harmony with Nature
- Scenario in Environmental Assessments
- Japan Satoyama and Satounori Assessment and sustainable social-ecological systems

#### Cluster 2: The Economics and Governance of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

- Economic Assessments of Ecosystem Services
- Mid-term interactive session
- Ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction and integration of local knowledge
- Governance of biodiversity and ecosystem services
- National Capital and Wealth Accounts
- Nature-based Solutions
- Payment for ecosystem services I
- Payment for ecosystem services II
- Final group presentation and wrap-up session