

# **Special Course for Sustainable Agriculture (Doctoral Course) 2025**

**Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences  
The University of Tokyo**

This is an official announcement of **the Special Course for Sustainable Agriculture-2025** offered to international students wishing to pursue a doctoral course at the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences (hereafter GSALS), the University of Tokyo. Details of the course are as follows:

## **1. Departments, and Annual Intake**

### **(1) Departments**

Departments of GSALS which accept applications for the Special Course for Sustainable Agriculture are as follows:

Agricultural and Environmental Biology, Aquatic Bioscience, Biological and Environmental Engineering, , Ecosystem Studies, and Veterinary Medical Sciences.

In principle, the enrolled students will obtain a specialized education for a doctoral thesis in English. The objective of this special course is to develop sustainable international partnerships in the above areas.

Applicants must choose one of the above departments and indicate the department and the academic supervisor on the application form.

Please note, in principle, the registered department cannot be changed after enrollment. The applicant is required to contact the academic supervisor before filling in the application form, and carefully discuss their research proposal and the department they wish to apply for.

### **(2) Approximate number of students to be admitted: 4**

## **2. Qualifications**

(1) Nationality: To apply for this special course, applicants must be of non-Japanese nationality and non-resident in Japan at the time of application.

(2) Academic Background: Applicants must have (or expected to obtain by the time of admission) a Master's degree or academic qualification equivalent to a Master's degree. To enroll in the Department of Veterinary Medical Sciences, applicants must have completed undergraduate course in Veterinary Medical Sciences and have a bachelor's degree or must have (or expected to obtain by the time of admission) an academic qualification equivalent to the course.

(3) Language Proficiency: Fluency in English.

(4) Time of Admission: October 1, 2025

### **Note:**

a) Application may be made if you anticipate graduating from a Master's course (or undergraduate course of Veterinary Medical Sciences), or its equivalent by the time of admission as shown in Section 2 (2). However, enrollment will be canceled if the applicant fails to graduate from the required course prior to admission.

b) Military employees, whether soldiers or civilians, are ineligible to apply.

c) Prospective Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship Students are not eligible to apply.

### 3. Requirements for the Doctorate Degree

All work for the doctorate degree must be completed within a maximum period of three years (four years for the Department of Veterinary Medical Sciences: DVMS).

Each graduate student will conduct research in a specified subject related to the selected field, under the supervision of the academic supervisor, and also take a minimum of twenty (20) credits (32 for DVMS) according to the course curriculum and regulations. A graduate student's research results can be submitted to the GSALS as a Doctoral thesis. If the GSALS certifies the qualification of the thesis, the doctorate degree will be awarded by the University of Tokyo.

### 4. Language

Primarily in English.

In this special course, lectures as well as class instruction/exercise, and laboratory work will be carried out in English. It is also possible to complete the enrollment formalities in English. Dissertation and presentation in English will be accepted. However, all graduate students are strongly encouraged to develop basic skills in Japanese which will help their research activities as well as their daily lives in Japan. Japanese language courses at the Center for Japanese Language Education are available to eligible students with permission from their academic supervisors.

### 5. Application, admission, and tuition fee

- |     |                        |             |
|-----|------------------------|-------------|
| (1) | Application fee        | 10,000 Yen  |
| (2) | Admission fee          | 282,000 Yen |
| (3) | Tuition fee (per year) | 520,800 Yen |

The above mentioned are the present fees, which may be revised in the future. If fees are revised at the time of admission or during the tenure of the enrolled course, a new fee amount will be applicable.

### 6. Financial Support and Student Services

- (1) The university offers a tuition waiver program for students who meet certain criteria. Students can apply to the program after the enrollment.
- (2) For all other students, it is their own responsibility to secure funds for fees and tuition. While students, after enrollment, can apply for internal and external scholarships, the graduate school does not guarantee that all students are financially assisted.

### 7. Selection Procedures and Notification of Acceptance

Based on the evaluation of the documents submitted by the applicants, GSALS will inform the result to the selected candidates by the end of April 2025. The selected candidates will be enrolled in the University of Tokyo as “Doctoral students.”

### 8. Application Procedure

Fields of study and names of the academic supervisors available under this special course are listed in Attachment. The field of study must be specified on the application form. However, the research proposal may be changed after discussing the research topic with the academic supervisor following selection.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with their prospective academic supervisor in their field of study.

Once you consult with your academic supervisor, the following documents must arrive by registered

airmail to the International Student Section, Academic Affairs Division, GSALS on or before January 24, 2025.

- (1) Application Form (Form 1) \* Please print back to back. [\(word\)](#)
- (2) Field of Study and Research Proposal (Form 2) \* Please print back to back. [\(word\)](#)
- (3) Letter of Acceptance (Form 3) from the academic supervisor in GSALS, the University of Tokyo. [\(word\)](#)
- (4) Certificates of university degree/diploma of Bachelor and Master, or a certificate which guarantees successful completion of a Master's course before September 30, 2025 (or the undergraduate course for Veterinary Medical Sciences).  
Copies of Bachelor and Master degree/diploma certificates must be certified as original certified by the university.
- (5) Certified academic records/transcript of all applicable undergraduate and graduate course work clearly indicating the GPA grades (or percentage of marks) obtained for the respective courses. Copies of certified academic records/transcript of Bachelor and Master must be certified as original certified by the university.
- (6) Summary of the Master's thesis (or equivalent research papers). If a Master's thesis is not a requirement of the university attended, this should be specifically indicated in the Application Form (Form 1), and equivalent research papers must be submitted.
- (7) TOEFL Score Report or IELTS Test Report Form. Those unable to submit these certificates should submit supporting document or a certificate from the affiliated university certifying the applicant's English language ability. Applicants whose mother tongue is English need not submit this document.
- (8) Photocopy of passport
- (9) Letter of recommendation by the President or Dean of the applicant's institution, or equivalent, or head of the applicant's employer. It should be addressed to the Dean, GSALS, The University of Tokyo. In addition to this, letters from the applicant's advisor/teachers may also be submitted.
- (10) Photographs (4cm×3cm) taken within 6 months prior to the deadline, with name and nationality written on the reverse side - 2 copies. One of the copies should be posted in the designated part on the Application Form (Form 1).
- (11) Confirmation of payment of the application fee 10,000yen (cf. Remarks g))

The postal address is as follows:

International Student Section, Academic Affairs Division, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, The University of Tokyo

1-1-1 Yayoi, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8657 JAPAN

\* Please write the name of your academic supervisor in GSALS on the envelope.

## 9) Remarks

- a) Academic supervisors have to submit the supervision plan after the applicant is selected. Hence applicants must consult with the academic supervisors at GSALS in advance.
- b) All application related documents should be typed in Japanese or English on A4-size paper.
- c) Of the above-mentioned documents to be submitted, items (1), (2) and (3) must be in the format prescribed by the University of Tokyo.
- d) No application will be accepted unless all the above required documents are enclosed. Incomplete applications, and applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

- e) Submitted documents will be retained by the University of Tokyo for record and will not be returned to the applicant.
- f) The University of Tokyo shall use the personal information obtained through the application process only for the purpose of 1) Selection procedures, 2) Notification of results and 3) Enrollment procedures. For those who enroll, this personal information and the examination results used for admission selection shall also be used for 4) Educational Affairs (school registration, attendance, etc.), 5) Student Support (healthcare, career support, application procedure for tuition exemption and scholarships, use of libraries, etc.) and 6) the Management of tuition payment.

- g) The application fee is JPY 10,000.

The application fee must be paid by one of the following methods.

If you paid more than 10,000 yen, the fee will not be refunded in principle.

Please check the information carefully and pay the correct fee.

- (1) Online payment with a credit card at <https://e-shiharai.net/english/>

Select our graduate school and “Doctoral Course (Special Course for Sustainable Agriculture)”  
Print “payment confirmation page” and submit. The website will become operational two weeks before the application period begins.

Cf. “\*THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO (Graduate Schools) How to make a Payment of Examination Fee by Credit Card. ”

- (2) Overseas remittance: Follow the “Guide for overseas remittance of entrance examination fees” and submit a photocopy of the remittance request form. Write down the applicant’s name on the form if the remitter’s name is different from the applicant’s.

## 10. Important Notice

- (1) If any of his/her application documents are later found to have false information, the enrollment of the student will be cancelled even after he/she has joined the university.
- (3) The University of Tokyo has established the “The University of Tokyo Security Export Control Regulations” in accordance with Japan’s “Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act”, and rigorously implements security export control including screening of potential international students before and after their enrollment on the basis of these regulations. In particular, pre-enrollment screenings are mandatory for all international students and also for Japanese students in certain circumstances. Please be aware that international applicants who fall under any of the conditions set out in the act and regulations may not receive permission to enroll at the university or may have their research activities restricted after their enrollment even if they have passed the entrance examinations.

## 11. Contact

Any enquiries related to this announcement:

International Student Section, Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences

TEL: +81-3-5841-5485, FAX: +81-3-5841-5339

E-mail: ryugaku.a@gs.mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp

## LIST OF FIELDS OF STUDY AND ACADEMIC ADVISORS

Special Course for Sustainable Agriculture (Doctoral Course) 2025

Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences

The University of Tokyo

As of November, 2024

**Agricultural and Environmental Biology**

Prof.	Naohiro AOKI; Crop Science
"	Sachiko ISOBE; Horticultural Science
"	Yasuyuki YAMAJI; Plant Pathology, Clinical Plant Science
"	Susumu KATSUMA; Insect Genetics and Pathology
"	Takeshi IZAWA; Plant Breeding and Genetics
"	Hiroyoshi IWATA; Biometry and Bioinformatics
"	Masami SHIMODA; Applied Entomology
"	Shin-ichi ARIMURA; Plant Molecular Genetics
"	Akihiko KAMOSHITA; Asian Biological Resources
Assoc. Prof.	Masaru FUJIMOTO; Agronomy
"	Yohei HIGUCHI; Horticultural Science
"	Kensaku MAEJIMA; Plant Pathology
"	Takashi KIUCHI; Insect Genetics and Pathology
"	Junichi ITO; Plant Breeding and Genetics
"	Gota MOROTA; Biometry and Bioinformatics
"	Takashi MATSUO; Applied Entomology
"	Chikako HONDA; Field Production Science
"	Wataru YAMORI; Field Production Science
"	Yoshihiro OMORI; Field Production Science
"	Wei GUO; Field Production Science
"	Daisuke TSUGAMA; Asian Biological Resources

**Aquatic Bioscience**

Prof.	Akinori TAKASUKA; Fisheries Biology
"	Kazutaka TAKAHASHI; Biological Oceanography
"	Hideki USHIO; Marine Biochemistry
"	Michiaki YAMASHITA; Marine Biochemistry
"	Shuichi ASAKAWA; Aquatic Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
"	Shigeharu KINOSHITA; Aquatic Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
"	Kiyoshi KIKUCHI; Applied Marine Biology
"	Hiroaki SAITO; Biological Oceanography and Marine Biogeochemistry
"	Tomohiko KAWAMURA; Fisheries Biology
"	Shinichi ITO; Fisheries Environmental Oceanography
"	Koji HAMASAKI; Marine Microbiology
"	Katsufumi SATO; Behavior, Ecology, and Observation Systems
"	Koji INOUE; Molecular Marine Biology
"	Hajime OBATA; Marine Inorganic Chemistry

//	Shingo KIMURA; Fisheries Environmental Oceanography
//	Susumu HYODO; Fish Physiology
//	Mitsutaku MAKINO; Fisheries and Marine Policy
//	Kataaki OKUBO; Fish Reproductive Biology
//	Kentaro MORITA; Fisheries Biology
//	Takashi KITAGAWA; Fisheries Biology
//	Naoki ITO; Fish and Shellfish Diseases
//	Shigeru OKADA; Aquatic Natural Products Chemistry
Assoc. Prof.	
//	Soichi WATANABE; Marine Biochemistry
//	Mitsunori IWATAKI; Coastal Marine Environment
//	Yuichiro NISHIBE; Marine Planktology
//	Yoko IWATA; Fisheries Biology
//	Kosei KOMATSU; Fisheries Environmental Oceanography
//	Sachihiko ITO; Fisheries Oceanography
//	Takuhei SHIOZAKI; Marine Microbiology
//	Kentaro SAKAMOTO; Behavior, Ecology, and Observation Systems
//	Mari KUROKI; Fisheries Biology
//	Taketoshi KODAMA; Chemical and Biological Oceanography
//	Jun INOUE; Molecular Phylogenetics
//	Jun HAYAKAWA; Fisheries Biology
//	Haruka TAKAGI; Protistan Plankton Ecology
Lecturer	Junya HIRAI; Marine Planktology

### **Biological and Environmental Engineering**

Prof.	Shuichiro YOSHIDA; Land Environmental Engineering
//	Taku NISHIMURA; Soil Physics and Soil Hydrology
//	Kazuhiro FUJIWARA; Bio-environmental Engineering
//	Ryo MATSUDA; Bioenvironmental Engineering
//	Fumiki HOSOI; Biological and Environmental Information Engineering
//	Noriko YAMAGUCHI; Ecological Safety Studies, Soil Chemistry
//	Rota WAGAI; Ecological Safety Studies, Carbon and Nutrient Cycles
//	Takehiko YAMANAKA; Ecological Safety Studies, Ecosystem Informatics
//	Saneyuki KAWABATA; Sustainable Agro-ecosystem Engineering (Cooperative course)
Assoc. Prof.	Kazuhiro NISHIDA; Land Environmental Engineering
//	Keigo NODA; Water Environmental Engineering
//	Yutaka KAIZU; Biological and Mechanical Engineering
//	Itaru SOTOME; Bioprocess Engineering
//	Keisuke ONO; Ecological Safety Studies, Agrometeorology
//	Wataru YAMORI; Sustainable Agro-ecosystem Engineering (Cooperative course)

### **Ecosystem Studies**

Prof.	Toshiya OKURO; Landscape Ecology and Planning
//	Koichiro KURAJI; Forest and Water Resources Management
//	Nina YASUDA ; Aquatic Conservation
//	Takehito YOSHIDA; Conservation Ecology
//	Kiyoshi KIKUCHI; General Fisheries, Aquatic Bioproduction Science

//	Tsutom HIURA; Forest Ecosystem Studies
//	Shizuka HASHIMOTO; Landscape Ecology and Planning
//	Jun NISHIHIRO; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Conservation Ecology)
//	Takuya SAITO; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Forest Ecosystem Studies)
//	Akira MORI; Forest Ecosystem Studies
Assoc. Prof.	
//	Gaku TAKIMOTO; Biodiversity Science
//	Chikako HONDA; Agricultural Field Ecology
//	Susumu GOTO; Forest Genetics; Tree Improvement
//	Shigehiro KAMODA; Forest Chemistry
//	Naoki YASUMURA; Forest and Human Society Relationship
//	Toshiaki OWARI; Forest and Water Resources Management
//	Yoko SAITO; Forest Ecosystem Studies
//	Masashi SOGA; Conservation Ecology
//	Shin-ichiro MATSUZAKI; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Aquatic Conservation)
//	Yuya WATAR; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Biodiversity Science)
//	Hisashi SATO; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Forest Ecosystem Studies)
//	Takehisa YAMAKITA; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Aquatic Conservation)
//	Masato YAMAMICHI; Bioresources and Eco-Environmental Studies (Conservation Ecology)
Lecturer	Toshihide HIRAO; Forest Ecology and Biodiversity Conservation
//	Dai KUSUMOTO; Forest Pathology
//	Haruo SAITO; Forest and Human Society Relationship
//	Yuko ASANO; Forest and Water Resources Management
//	Dai FUKUI; Forest Ecology and Mammalogy
//	Nobuaki TANAKA; Forest and Water Resources Management

### **Veterinary Medical Sciences**

Prof.	Yoshiakira KANAI; Veterinary Anatomy
//	Keitaro YAMANOUCI; Veterinary Physiology
//	Masatoshi HORI; Veterinary Pharmacology
//	Taisuke HORIMOTO; Veterinary Microbiology
//	Kazuhiro HIRAYAMA; Veterinary Public Health
//	Kazuyuki UCHIDA; Veterinary Pathology
//	Takeshi HAGA; Infection Control and Disease Prevention
//	Masaru OKUDA; Internal Medicine
//	Yasuyuki MOMOI; Veterinary Clinical Pathology
//	Yasuyuki GOTO; Molecular Immunology
//	Satoshi TANAKA; Cellular Biochemistry
//	Yukari TAKEUCHI; Veterinary Ethology
//	Manabu MOCHIZUKI; Veterinary Orthopedics
//	Yasunobu MATSUMOTO; Veterinary Immunology and Vaccinology
//	Yasushi KAWAGUCHI; Molecular Virology
//	Yuki OKADA; Experimental Pathology
Assoc. Prof.	Fuko MATSUDA; Veterinary Theriogenology
//	Ryuji HIRAMATSU; Veterinary Anatomy
//	Takashi MATSUWAKI; Veterinary Physiology
//	Takahisa MURATA; Veterinary Pharmacology
//	James CHAMBERS; Veterinary Pathology

"	Shin MURAKAMI; Veterinary Microbiology
"	Kozue MIURA; Veterinary Public Health
"	Shinichi SEKIZAWA; Comparative Pathophysiology
"	Takayuki NAKAGAWA; Veterinary Surgery
"	Shigeru KAKUTA; Biomedical Science
"	Hirotaaka TOMIYASU; Veterinary Internal Medicine
"	Tomohiro YONEZAWA; Veterinary Clinical Pathobiology
"	Shingo MAEDA; Veterinary Clinical Pathobiology
"	Chizu SANJOBA ; Molecular Immunology
"	Koji SUGIURA; Applied Genetics
"	Yasushi KIYOKAWA; Veterinary Ethology
Project Assoc. Prof.	Koichi ITO; Neuroscience