



UNITED NATIONS
UNIVERSITY



Faculty and Learning Environment

Students benefit from working closely with an expert teaching faculty comprising both UNU-ISP academic staff and invited distinguished scholars and practitioners. Sharing a building with many UN agencies, UNU-ISP offers a unique learning environment for its diverse international student body.

The UNU Library offers access to a range of academic books, over 10,000 electronic journals, World Bank and OECD publications, and official UN documents issued since 1946. All students are provided a comprehensive library orientation session at the beginning of the course.

An online learning tool will be provided for students to access lecture notes, reading list and other materials specific to each course, as well as a message board and forum to facilitate discussion among faculty and students.

Student Support Services

UNU-ISP assists students from the time of their registration to graduation, acknowledging that students may experience difficulties adjusting to a new country and culture. An induction programme is conducted at the beginning of the academic session, introducing students to the staff responsible for specific student services, and familiarizing students with the campus through a tour of the facilities.

Housing

Students are provided with a handbook including information about living in Tokyo prior to their arrival, including information on how to find accommodation.

Fees

Application processing fee: None
Tuition fee: **USD 10,000** per year

A limited number of scholarships (covering tuition fees and living costs) are available for outstanding applicants from developing countries who can demonstrate a need for financial assistance. All students are expected to pay for their own travel expenses.

Admission Requirements

Master's degree

Applicants for the master's programme must possess at least a completed bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and have a sufficient level of English language proficiency.

Doctoral degree

Applicants for the doctoral programme must possess a master's degree in disciplines related to sustainability studies and a minimum of 2 years of practical field experience related to UNU-ISP research themes in a responsible capacity, or possess two master's degrees, at least one of which must be in disciplines related to sustainability studies. Applicants must have a GPA of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale on at least one of the master's degrees earned and a sufficient level of English language proficiency.

How to Apply

All interested applicants should apply through the UNU-ISP online application form. For more details, please visit the online postgraduate programmes page at <http://isp.unu.edu/grad/index.html>

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND PEACE

Postgraduate Degree Programmes

isp.unu.edu

United Nations University

Promoting science for human security, peace and sustainable development

The mission of the United Nations University is to contribute, through collaborative research, capacity development and advisory services, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems of human survival, development and welfare that are the concern of the United Nations, its Peoples and Member States.

The United Nations University comprises a worldwide network of institutes, presently located in 13 different countries and coordinated by the United Nations University Centre in Tokyo.

Admissions Office

UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace

53-70, Jingumae 5-chome
Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-8925, Japan
Tel : +81-3-5467-1212
Fax: +81-3-3406-7347
Website: <http://isp.unu.edu>

UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP)

Located in Tokyo, the UNU Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP) was established in January 2009. UNU-ISP takes an innovative, integrated approach to sustainability — one that encompasses global change, development, peace and security. The Institute bridges these cross-cutting issues through research, educational and collaborative initiatives with the aim of solving current problems and anticipating future challenges. UNU-ISP works in collaboration with other UNU institutes as well as through co-operative relationships with the global academic and policy-making communities.

Within the context of sustainability and peace, UNU-ISP:

- Conducts research; undertakes education training and capacity development; and facilitates the dissemination of scientific knowledge and information to the United Nations and its agencies, to scholars and to the public.
- Provides opportunities for postgraduate students and professionals to collaborate within a structured learning environment.
- Integrates the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities into a transdisciplinary approach that contributes to the development and strengthening of policy frameworks and management actions at all levels.

The United Nations University Institute for Sustainability and Peace (UNU-ISP) invites applications for its postgraduate programmes – the Master of Science in Sustainability, Development and Peace, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Sustainability Science.

Master of Science in Sustainability, Development and Peace

The master's programme addresses pressing global issues of sustainability, climate change, development, peacebuilding and human rights through an innovative interdisciplinary approach that integrates the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities.

Doctor of Philosophy in Sustainability Science

The doctoral programme focuses on environmental sustainability as the central theme and provides young scholars and researchers with comprehensive multidisciplinary knowledge to understand sustainability problems in a holistic sense. The programme also fosters a deeper understanding of sustainability science through the analysis of current issues related to global change with perspectives from peace and development fields.

The programmes are practically oriented, user focused, and of the highest academic quality. Both programmes offer opportunities to gain both theoretical and empirical knowledge from the courses and practical experience and skills through training courses including internships or field research with UN agencies or other international organizations.

Distinct opportunities at the United Nations University

With UNU-ISP's broad network of international researchers and experts, students are provided with opportunities that allow and encourage collaborative research between UNU-ISP and its international network of universities. The faculty at UNU-ISP has extensive postgraduate teaching experiences at recognized universities worldwide, and works closely with leading experts in the fields of environment, development and peace.

Students will benefit from the proximity of the UNU-ISP to the United Nations and will have the opportunity to be a part of its international network of young scholars as well as the opportunity to interact with leading academics, researchers, policy makers and practitioners.

UNU-ISP welcomes applicants with:

- A keen interest in the pressing global issues on the UN agenda, and in particular those of sustainability, development and peace.
- An aspiration 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 research and academic institutions.
- The intention to proactively apply academic research findings to policymaking.
- A strong desire to contribute to the solving of problems concerning global environment, peace and development, through an interdisciplinary approach.



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Course Information

Degree Awarded

MSc in Sustainability, Development and Peace

Credit requirement: At least 30 credits
Length: 2 years
Start: September

Degree Awarded

PhD in Sustainability Science

Credit requirement: At least 14 credits
Length: 3 years
Start: September

Course offerings will be updated at the beginning of each semester.

Compulsory (MSc / 24 credits PhD / 8 credits*)

*Doctoral students are required to take three core courses and Research Seminar IV.

Core Courses (2 credits each)

UN System and Global Challenges

Global Change and Sustainability

International Peace and Security

International Co-operation and Development

Research Seminars (2 credits each)

Seminar I: Introduction to Interdisciplinary Research

Seminar II: Research Development

Seminar III: The Practice of Interdisciplinary Research

Seminar IV: Interdisciplinary Research Development

Master's Thesis (8 credits)

Doctoral Dissertation

Core Courses

These four courses provide students with a solid grounding in the essential theories and multilateral approaches to issues of sustainability, development and peace, while emphasizing interdisciplinary perspectives.

UN System and Global Challenges

This course presents the institutional background and policy tasks of the UN system, and provides an analytical framework to study complex problems on the UN agenda.

Global Change and Sustainability

This course explores sustainable development and the interaction among its constituent components (environment, society and economy) in four key areas: Water, Energy, Agriculture and Biodiversity.

International Peace and Security

This course examines issues of international peace and security, and human rights that are central to the UN agenda. It analyses the concept of 'threats to the peace', the evolution of the concept, and the responses that have been developed.

International Co-operation and Development

This course surveys the most pressing issues in development by focusing on the linkages between international co-operation and development outcomes.

Research Seminars

These seminars are designed to equip students with the necessary skills to undertake interdisciplinary research in sustainability, development and peace. Seminars emphasize collaborative knowledge building, and

incorporate a wide range of learning approaches. Critical analysis, research design, quantitative and qualitative methodologies, and thesis writing are among the skills developed through these interactive and student-centered

seminars. Other learning activities include group projects, guest lectures, workshops, and visits to United Nations and government agencies in Tokyo.

Master's Thesis

Master's students are required to write a thesis of between 20,000 and 40,000 words. It is an independently and individually written paper, involving rigorous analysis on a specific research

question which results in an original academic contribution.

Doctoral Dissertation

The doctoral dissertation will be on one of the research themes of UNU-ISP, directly connected with the research projects of the university that involve problem-oriented research.

Elective 6 or more credits

Specialized Courses (2 credits each)

GLOBAL CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Applied Hydrology

Sustainable Land Management

Sustainable Bioproduction and Ecosystems Management

INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Contemporary Security Issues

Human Rights in a Globalized World

Ethics and World Politics

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Science and Technology for Global Society

Global Governance and South-North Relations

Sociology of Development

Practical Training (Optional)

Internship

Field Research

Specialized Courses

These courses are designed to provide students with specialized knowledge and skills.

GLOBAL CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Applied Hydrology

The course aims to provide a broad understanding of hydrological processes, their quantitative estimation and how they are related to issues of water resources and sustainability. Systems analysis concepts are introduced to examine what constitutes a sustainable system.

Sustainable Land Management

This course provides students with a multi-disciplinary perspective and understanding of land management and its impacts on ecology as well as society, and integration of human needs and ecosystem functioning in land management systems.

Sustainable Bioproduction and Ecosystems Management

The aim of this course is to provide an overview of global consequences of ecosystem changes and drivers of these changes and to introduce sustainable approach to land and ecosystem management at different levels.

INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

Contemporary Security Issues

This course offers a deeper understanding of recent conflicts, their changing nature and characteristics, the development of collective responses to conflicts and broader security challenges, and the evolution of peacebuilding.

Human Rights in a Globalized World

This course examines human rights in a globalised world, focusing on its relation to peace and development and the existing gaps between norms and reality in the field.

Ethics and World Politics

This course introduces the major ethical debates and dilemmas in world politics such as: just war, humanitarian intervention, human rights, peace and reconciliation, global capitalism and poverty, and environmental justice.

INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Science and Technology for Global Society

The aim of this course is to give students a holistic understanding of the issues surrounding the role of international co-operation in development, with a particular focus on science and technology.

Global Governance and South-North Relations

This course explores the governance, policy and regulatory implications of emerging transnational issues that affect developing countries (broadly classified as the South) and industrialized countries (broadly classified as the North) in an inter-dependent and globalizing world.

Sociology of Development

This course will take a sociological and cultural analysis approach to contemporary development problems, the formulation of policy and the evaluation of development outcomes, and examines the cause of the failure of well-intentioned development projects. The course will also stress methodologies for analyzing the sociological and cultural components of development.

Practical Training (Optional)

Students may choose to gain practical experience by completing an internship in an international organization (including UN agencies located within

the UNU Headquarters building), or by planning and conducting field research in collaboration with overseas partners. Students are offered unique oppor-

tunities to actively participate in UNU projects in developing countries and local communities.