# 27. University of the Ryukyus

Study Area: Engineering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fields of Study</th>
<th>Specific Research Fields</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
<td>101 Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrical and Communication Engineering</td>
<td>111 Electrical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>113 Electrical Power Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>114 Computer Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>121 Civil Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>124 Geotechnical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>131 Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>135 Urban Design Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>136 Urban Environmental Planning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1-1. Graduate School (URL of Graduate School)

Graduate School of Engineering and Science


1-2. Program Name

Asia-Pacific Engineering Design Program

1-3. Degrees

Master of Engineering

1-4. Status

Research Student (6 months)

→ Graduate School Student (2 years)

1-5. Credits and years needed for graduation

30 credits, 2.5 years including the period as a research student

1-6. Classes taught in English

Class: 114/114 (Classes in English/ All classes)

Text: English but Japanese text will be used partially while English instructions are given orally.

1-7. Desired English Level

TOEFL PBT: 550 iBT: 79 IELTS: 6.0

1-8. Prior Inquiry From Applicants (Before submission of AF)

Must/Ideal/Not mandatory/Not allowed

Contact: Yuka Matsukawa (Ms.) kggakmu@to.jim.u-ryukyu.ac.jp

1-9. Message for Applicants

University of the Ryukyus is located on the subtropical island of Okinawa, which boasts a unique culture with a long history of international exchange with neighboring and other countries. Okinawans are open-minded and friendly, making Okinawa a very comfortable place for foreigners to live and study.

1-10. Additional Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Availability/Number</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japanese Language</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) Necessity of Japanese language for study</td>
<td>Unnecessary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Japanese language classes are offered at the beginner, intermediate and advanced levels. (From below JLPT N5 to N1 level, from JF Standard A1 to C1 level). Students may select the course that is most appropriate to their language proficiency. At the same time, students may also study the history and culture of Japan and Okinawa by taking Japanese culture classes. Graduate and research students should first take the prescribed Japanese placement test and obtain guidance from their academic advisers on taking classes. No credits will be awarded for class participation.

### Foreign Students

| (1) Number of foreign students in past 3 years | 99 | Bangladesh, Indonesia, China, and etc. |
| (2) Number of PEACE participants | 13 | 5th batch (5), 6th batch (6), 7th batch (2) |
| (3) Number of female/male at the Graduate School | F4/M29 | *Master course |

### Facility Information

| (1) Dormitory available for PEACE participants | Available | Single Type: Available if we have vacancies  
Family Type: Not Available |
| (2) Prayers room or Mosque | Not available | Not available in the University, but there is a Mosque nearby the South gate. |
| (3) Halal food available in cafeteria | Not available | |

### Others

| (1) Tutor system | Available | 1 year, provided for first year only |
| (2) English counseling | Available | |

#### 2. Features of University

Okinawa was the site of the final battle of the Pacific War, which resulted in the loss of a great number of lives as well as heavy destruction to its nature and cultural heritage. To this day, vast U.S. bases still remain in Okinawa. For these reasons, the University of the Ryukyus has followed its guiding principles of "Freedom and Equality, Tolerance and Peace" since its founding. The quest for truth and the desire to make a broader and meaningful contribution to both the region and global society continue to be our primary objectives.

The mission of the University of the Ryukyus is to send promising individuals out into society with a high-quality education. We aim to cultivate individuals with the following qualities:
1. Those who can make contributions at the local level as well as on a larger societal scale
2. Those who can take an active role both nationally and globally
3. Those who will strive to accomplish their dreams
4. Those who possess drive and are open-minded
5. Those who can learn from Okinawan history and the university's guiding principles and fully utilize such knowledge for greater good.

*Reference*  
*Educational Philosophy of the University of the Ryukyus*  

3. **Features of the Graduate School**

   The Graduate School of Engineering and Science aims to educate and produce creative researchers, practical engineers and scientists; each with a broad background, international outlook, and a high degree of specialization. The Graduate School of Engineering and Science offers Master’s programs and Doctoral Programs in six majors. (NOTE: **Four of six majors are available for PEACE participants.**) In the Graduate School of Engineering and Science, activities such as carrying out basic scientific research and developing disaster prevention technologies to solve environmental problems with natural clean energy are being conducted in collaboration with the Disaster Prevention Research Center for Island Regions, which was established in April 2008.

   Participants from Afghanistan should be graduates in the fields of engineering and science. A good working level of English is required to attend lectures and write theses.

   **Mechanical Systems Engineering** (Specific Research Fields No. 101)
   **Civil Engineering and Architecture**  
   (Specific Research Fields No. 121, 123, 124, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135)
   **Electrical and Electronics Engineering** (Specific Research Fields No. 111, 112, 113, 114, 161, 171)
   **Information Engineering** (Specific Research Fields No. 114, 161)

   *Please see Annex 1 for more information about the Faculty of Engineering._*(
   (Master’s programs are on Pages 8-9).

   *Reference*  

4. **Features of the Program and Curriculum in each Field of Study**

   Four major engineering courses lead to a Master’s degree in Engineering in Mechanical Systems Engineering, Civil Engineering and Architecture, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and Information Engineering.

   All study fields are based on the research fields of faculty members. High level topics pertaining to each study field are provided by the faculty members. Graduate students should focus on their specialized area of study, but our program provides a much wider range for each research field. For example, we provide a curriculum with various aspects of building, including architectural design, structural design and environmental performances of buildings for the students who wish to study urban planning.

   At the first stage of the study in our university, all the students must be research students for 6 months. The students allot this period for training and preparation to stay and study in Japan, and to prepare for the entrance examination to qualify for graduate school. Special examinations will not be provided; participants, must take the regular entrance examination to enroll in graduate school.

   *Please refer to Annex 2 for subject details of each course in Master's program.*
5. Academic Schedule
<Application for Master’s Program>
Application Period for Spring Semester: November 1-December 15, 2017
Entrance Ceremony: Beginning of April
Application Period for Fall Semester: May 1-May 31, 2018  (tentative)
Entrance Ceremony: Beginning of October
*Please refer to Annex 3 for tentative academic calendar year 2018*

6. Facilities
Student Dormitory
There are student dormitories available for Japanese and international students. Within the Senbaru Student Dormitory complex are three different types of accommodation facilities. These buildings are separate for male and female students. Rooms are for single occupancy, and residents share kitchen and bathroom facilities (except Shin-Konju-To Dormitory). Due to the limited number of rooms for on-campus housing, there is no guarantee for one to be admitted. There are many private apartments around the campus. In general, housing costs are lower in Okinawa than in other big cities in Japan.

Room Rent & Utilities (As of 2017)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Room Rent per month</th>
<th>Electric Charges per month</th>
<th>Water and Gas Charges per month</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male Dorm</td>
<td>4,300 yen</td>
<td>according to the amount used</td>
<td>4,400 yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Dorm</td>
<td>4,700 yen</td>
<td>according to the amount used</td>
<td>8,400 yen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Konju-To</td>
<td>15,000 yen</td>
<td>according to the amount used</td>
<td>4,000 yen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please refer to our online guidebook for further details (page 21):
http://isu.u-ryukyu.ac.jp/about/publications/?lang=en

University Library
The University Library houses a wide collection of books, databases, and journals, and offers access to over 20,000 electronic journals. Our holdings are searchable on-site or via our website.

URL: http://www.lib.u-ryukyu.ac.jp/?p=389

Health Administration Center
Our university has the Health Administration Center which aims to preserve and promote the health of all staff and students. Please feel free to visit the Center if you require simple medical treatment or medication, a medical examination, first-aid treatment, or to seek medical advice. Services provided at the center are free.
For further information, please refer to our online guidebook (page 47):

http://isu.u-ryukyu.ac.jp/about/publications/?lang=en#Guidebook-for-InternationalStudents

Computing and Networking Center
The center aims to promote computer education and to offer information services for using ICT such as e-mail and internet to all of students, faculty members, and staff by administering campus computer network equipment. In addition, the center researches and develops information processing systems and next-campus computer networking systems for the future. Recently, the center has been focused on bandwidth Internet connection and wireless LAN services. The center also provides advanced network applications such as e-learning systems and technical support for using ICT to all students, faculty member, and staff.

Global Education Center
There are approximately 288 international students from 46 countries and regions around the world currently studying at the University (as of 1st May 2017). The Center, established in 1998, plays a pivotal role in promoting international exchange by providing instruction in Japanese language and culture to prepare students for their specialized studies. The Center also administers care for the academic and personal needs of international students. In addition, the Center provides information and assistance to students planning to study abroad. For further information, please visit the ISU website: http://isu.u-ryukyu.ac.jp/?lang=en

7. List of faculty members (supervisors) capable of guiding Afghan participants in English
   Please refer to Annex 4 for the list of the faculties.

8. Message from PEACE participants
   First let me clarify since the way anyone of us are experiencing and exploring the life is unique and different than the others and even the sense of feeling that the same experience give anyone of us is completely different and changes from person to person the following statements that you are going to read are all just my own personal experiences and perspectives of studying here in Okinawa. Hope them to be worthy and useful to you and could help you through your decision-making process to choose the best, most appropriate university for yourself.
   First, let me divide my statements into two categories: Social Life and Academic Life.

1. Social Life
   I think the following expression quite well describe almost anything when it comes to the experience of the life in the societies different than your own. "There’s no place like home". It is quite clear that you cannot find anywhere else to be the same as your own home or even community, and society. But when any one of us come to the point and realize the studying abroad is the best, most appropriate option for us, we were all aware of the difficulties and challenges that this decision will add to our life. Surely, it will be harder and more complicated for us (Afghans) who are accustomed to living in a colonized, family dependent society like Afghanistan. But what makes Okinawa different from other places to choose for your studying and give me the ability to suggest you choose it for your studying is:
   Here in Okinawa, you will never, ever realize you are alone. Since the first day you enter the Okinawa you will realize, always, there will be the nice and kind staffs of the Okinawa International Center (OIC), the University of Ryukyus, or the small local Afghan community that will never let you walk alone. They
are always there for you on any occasion, no matter how difficult and complicated your situation would be. I am sure this will make it much, much easier for anyone who is new to the society to adapt to the new situation and environment.

Another specific feature of living here in Japan that you will experience is their special manner and unique culture. Soon, you will understand that “Respect” is the base of Japanese culture but I assure you there will be no better example than Okinawa to make you feel it to the bones. This is one of those experiences that you have to feel it personally to understand exactly what am I talking about.

2. Academic Life
I think there are some few special examples that their quality is as much high and clear for anyone that there will be no better explanation for you than calling their brand if you want to define their quality. A good example of my claim could be the "Rolex". Studying in Japan is something like that. This is one of those things that I am sure will tempt anyone all around the world no matter where they are living if they ever could get an opportunity to study in Japan. I can assure you the quality of the universities here in Japan is as much high that you don’t have to be afraid, even a little bit if you want to evaluate them according to the academic quality. No matter which university you will choose, always, there will be too many things left there for you to learn. Again what makes me strongly suggest you choose the University of Ryukyus for your studying is, their academic quality and facilities. There are many kind and qualified professors that for sure it would be a great honor for anyone if he or she could finally qualified to work under their supervision. Personally, I am learning so much thing from them every day.

At the end it is good to emphasize that “Our life is the result of our decision” and it is only the time that shows you the result, so I want to kindly ask you to think twice before choosing the best university for your studying.

Personally, for me, it was a great decision to choose the University of the Ryukyus and if I’ve been come with the same opportunity, again and again, I will choose the same university and the same professor for my studying.

(Ansari Mohammad Reza, Master Degree Student, PEACE Participant (6th Batch))

Having trips to different countries, meeting various types of people gave me this sense to pursue my higher education studies in a great university. This means that my university should be good in many ways. It should be collegiate research, learning, teaching university, located in a charming, historical unique city, and have great environment. Due to these facts that are explained as follows; I chose University of the Ryukyus and came to Okinawa.

One of the best ways of learning is collaborative method. Quickly, I experienced that I could attain a better understanding of the subjects first to think about it, then share and finally discuss the critical relationships between different readings, studies. This is what my professor and lab team helped me to conceive soon.

The diversity of cultural events and good behavior of Okinawans gives you long lasting and continuous happiness, excitement and joy. When I went to the university for the first time, it was the most interesting day that I went to my faculty and visited my professor. I thought it was over and was once. However, much more interesting days came later when I saw the long bridge in the valley of the campus with a view that makes you fall in love with this university. More than that comes when you visit aquarium, parks, beaches, cities, and make friends in Okinawa. In addition, when you are free you can head into the cities’ centers to experience all Okinawa offers you. An example of that is festivals.

Finally, I reassure those who want to make great memories, make friends internationally, be satisfied after graduation, and importantly enjoy studying to get this golden chance and be part of the great University of the Ryukyus.

(Ghulam Mohammad Asim, Research Student, PEACE Participant (7th Batch))

9. Additional Information for Female participants