

Human Development /Human Development and Environment

What does human development mean? It means discovering and extending the various abilities that a human or a group potentially possesses to achieve the well-being of each and every person. Established in 1992, the Faculty of Human Development has assumed the long tradition of the Faculty of Education. It was the first Faculty in Japan launched to conduct education and research on issues concerning human development. To promote this research, the Graduate School of Human Sciences was reorganized in 2007 and the Graduate School of Human Development and Environment was established. With over one hundred faculty members, the Faculty and the Graduate School is a pioneering academic community pursuing the free exchange of various scholarly knowledge.

Undergraduate Program

The Faculty consists of four departments and one across division: the Department of Human Development and Education for the comprehensive study of human development from the perspective of lifelong education; the Department of Human Behavior for researching human development from the aspect of body, health, action and behavior; the Department of Human Expression which hopes to unravel human behavior by studying expressions; the Department of Human Environmental Science for creating and sustaining a new environment to support human development; and the Division of Support for

Human and Community Development for conducting action research where research and education take place in the field.

There are approximately 1,200 students enrolled in the Faculty of Human Development. A bachelor's degree will be awarded after four years of study and approval of the diploma thesis. The characteristics of the Faculty are: a) a curriculum that helps students acquire the ability to understand issues comprehensively, b) small-group education that encourages discussion, and c) an educational program that gives students the ability to solve practical issues.

Graduate Programs

The Graduate School of Human Development and Environment consists of two departments: the Department of Human Development which consists of Psychological Development and Health Promotion, Human Expression, Human Behavior, Education and Learning; and the Department of Human Environmental Science which consists of Natural Environmental Science, Mathematics and Informatics, Living Environment, and Social Environment.

There are approximately 200 students enrolled in the master's program and 70 students in the doctoral program. The master's program is a two-year program, and the master's degree is awarded after the course work is completed and the thesis has

At a Glance

1,237
Undergraduates enrolled

280
Graduates enrolled

71
International students enrolled

103
Faculty members

been approved. The doctoral program continues after the master's program for three-years, and the doctoral degree is awarded after successfully defending one's dissertation. The defining characteristic of the Graduate School is to acquire an advanced academic ability to build up an identity in one's specialty by capturing multifaceted, comparative phenomenon. The Graduate School offers an advanced research environment where students take the initiative in pursuing fundamental, applied and practical education, activities to foster eminent professors and researchers, and the Overseas Study Tour to conduct practical education and research.

International Academic Exchange: Academic Exchange Weeks

The Graduate School holds Academic Exchange Weeks every fall. Many researchers are invited from overseas, and a series of research meetings are held during this period. Not only faculty members but also graduate and undergraduate students take an active role in the events. It is a great opportunity for participants to discuss problems beyond their field of research.

Undergraduate Program

Departments	Divisions
Human Development and Education	Developmental Psychology
	Child Development
	Science of Education
	Elementary Education
Human Behavior	Health Promotion and Education
	Behavioral Development
	Sport Sciences
Human Expression	Human Expression
Human Environmental Science	Natural Environmental Science
	Mathematics and Informatics
	Living Environment
	Social Environment
(Across Division)	Support for Human and Community Development

Research Areas Covered by the Graduate School

Departments	Divisions
Human Development	Psychological Development and Health Promotion
	Human Expression
	Human Behavior
	Education and Learning
Human Environmental Science	Natural Environmental Science
	Mathematics and Informatics
	Living Environment
	Social Environment
	Advanced Human Environmental Science (Adjunct) (Doctoral program only)

Courses Offered in English (AY2014)

	Courses
Undergraduate	Cross Cultural Understanding
Master's Program	Studies on ESD

Message from Faculty



TSUDA Eiji
Associate Professor
Community Education and Disability Studies

Communities must work together to deal with disability issues. With this philosophy in mind, we are studying how to build community awareness and get more people involved in seriously addressing such issues. From this perspective, our action research is concerned with the essence of human life such as human relationships, abilities and family functions. Cultural settings affect how communities deal with disability issues. To better understand this, we have been conducting collaborative research with universities and institutions in Korea to realize an East Asian style of inclusive society, as well as action research in local community in Kobe.

Student's Voice



Jonathan Nilas Puntervold
International Student
Denmark

I'm an exchange student at the Faculty of Human Development. I study linguistics, specifically the grammatical makeup of Japanese copulas and adjectives. This faculty is a very interesting, dare I say unconventional blend of researchers and students with a great divergence of interests and fields, which makes for a fine research environment. Research, linguistics in particular, has an unfortunate tendency to sometimes get caught up in field-specific terms and methodologies, but the diverse nature of this faculty helps you look at the issues from different perspectives. Also, I might add that the views at night are nothing less than spectacular.



Information

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