

# Law



**Professor** *Political and Diplomatic History*

## Tosh Minohara, Ph.D.

What is truly unique about this department is that it does not confine itself to mere legal studies. As a result, you have a vibrant and diverse faculty which encompasses the subjects of modern diplomatic/political history, international relations, political science and political philosophy in addition to the usual cohort of those teaching various aspects of the law. Of course, the study of law need

not limit itself to the Japanese legal system. Among the 65 academic staff here, there are also experts on the legal system of other countries, as well as the ancient Roman Empire. However, my personal joy can be found in being able to work side by side with political scientists and international relations theorists as this would be absurd (if not worse) in many other countries and regions. This interaction among disciplines greatly enhances the educational experience here at the Faculty of Law.



International Student Ukraine

## Antonina Yevgenivna Morozova

I came to Kobe university as a research student in April 2009. The purpose of my research is to analyse the Japanese system of intellectual property rights protection and make suggestions on how to apply the Japanese experience in my mother country. I chose this university mainly because I knew that here I would be able to perform my research under

the supervision of the best specialists in the field. And I am absolutely satisfied with my choice. I have an opportunity to participate in the most challenging discussions, take classes with postgraduate students who work for well-known Japanese companies, use a wide range of library resources and meet people from all over the world. I would strongly recommend Kobe university to those who are looking for high quality legal education and international student friendly environment.

The Graduate School of Law (GSL)/Faculty of Law (FL) was established in May 1949 with the legal studies section of the former Kobe University of Commerce (Kobe University of Economics) at its foundation. Sparing no effort in its quest to become a leading institution of higher learning in the field of legal and political studies, the GSL/FL has been successful in becoming a reputable academic center that is ranked nationally. Located on the foothills of the lush green Rokko Mountains, the campus provides a spectacular view of the city and port of Kobe, providing a serene and ideal environment for the pursuit of academic studies. Supported by a long and rich tradition, the GSL/FL has strong links with the Japanese legal, academic, industry, and public sectors. Furthermore, through its alumni program, former students - many whom are actively pursuing professional careers on the international stage - also continue to maintain strong ties with the school.

**Faculty of Law (FL)**  
The Faculty of Law (FL) is one of the largest educational and research institutions for legal studies and politics in Japan, with 63 faculty members

including 1 non-Japanese scholar. FL provides comprehensive education to students who are planning to enter legal professions, become public administrators or diplomats, and specialists in the private sector.

**Graduate School of Law (GSL)**  
The Graduate School of Law (GSL) is comprised of three divisions: Professional Legal Studies ("School of Law"), Academic Legal Studies, and Political Science. The "School of Law" provides a two-year course for students with a required degree of legal background and a three-year course for students with no legal background. The latter two divisions provide a five-year graduate program consisting of a two-year program leading to the master's degree program and a three-year program leading to the doctoral degree.

In 2003, GSL/FL was given the distinct honor of becoming a site for the prestigious Center of Excellence academic research program. Furthermore, in 2004, the GSL/FL successfully inaugurated the aforementioned "School of Law", with the first class of students completing their degree in 2006. In this way, the GSL/FL is seriously committed to its mission of continuously striving for the pursuit of academic excellence.

### Undergraduate Program

Faculty	Areas of Study
Law (includes politics)	•Theory and History of Law
	•Sociology of Law
	•Public Law
	•Criminal Law
	•Civil Law
	•Commercial Law
	•Social Law
	•International Law
	•International Relations
	•Political Theory
	•Political Process

### Master's Degree Programs

<p><b>1. Academic Program</b> For those who wish to become academic researchers in the areas of international civil law, international law, theory of law, legal history, or political science.</p>
<p><b>2. Advanced Studies Program</b> For students who wish to obtain more expertise in theory of law, legal history, or political science.</p>
<p><b>3. Recurrent Program for those with Working Experience</b> For those who wish to expand their working experience by obtaining knowledge in business law, public law, political science, or sociology of law.</p>
<p><b>4. Legal Recurrent Program for Practicing Lawyers</b> For practicing lawyers who wish to obtain more expertise in certain emerging area of law.</p>

### Doctoral Programs

Divisions	Specializations
<b>Professional Legal Education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Professional Transaction Law</li> <li>•Professional Public Law</li> <li>•Advanced Legal Areas</li> </ul>
<b>Academic Legal Studies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Academic Transaction Law</li> <li>•Academic Public Law</li> <li>•Theory and History of Law</li> </ul>
<b>Political Science (includes International Relations and History)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Political Theory</li> <li>•International Policy Analysis</li> <li>•Analysis of Contemporary Politics</li> </ul>

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