

KYUSHU UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW

BILINGUAL LL.M. PROGRAM IN LAW

For October 2010 Admissions

APPLICATION GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

I. Purpose of Program

The Bilingual Master's (LL.M.) degree program in Law (*BiP*) offers students the unique opportunity to engage in graduate level study of law in a "bilingual" environment at a law faculty in Japan. The program seeks to overcome one of the principal obstacles to graduate legal education in Japan, namely language, by providing students with the possibility of taking classes and writing a thesis in English, as well as Japanese. As such, the program facilitates rapid improvement in Japanese ability whilst allowing students to engage in classroom study and supervised research across a wide range of subjects in the field of law.

II. The Degree

Upon successful completion of the program, students shall be conferred a Master's Degree in Law.

III. Requirements for Completion

All students are expected to complete:

1. A 20-credit coursework requirement (approximately five courses per semester over one year/two semesters). Courses may be chosen from a wide selection offered by the Faculty of Law in both Japanese and English. An up-to-date list of the courses offered both in English & Japanese can be found at:
<http://www.law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/programs/english/>
<http://www.law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/student/mainpage.htm>
2. A 50 pages Master's thesis written in either English or Japanese on a legal subject agreed in consultation with the academic supervisor. A 20 pages summary in the other language is also required.

IV. Program Duration

BiP is taught on a full time basis and takes a minimum of 12 months for completion, beginning in either April or October every year and ending in March or September of the following year. Students are able to extend the period of study for an additional 6 or 12 months (one or two semesters) if they so wish.

Please note that the decision to extend the period of study is subject to faculty approval.

V. Admission Requirements

For admission to *BiP*, students must meet the following requirements:

1. An undergraduate degree in either Law OR Japanese/East Asian Studies.
2. A good command of oral, written and reading Japanese. Although there is no formal Japanese language requirement for *BiP*, an interview will be conducted with all candidates to ensure that students have the ability to fully participate in courses taught in Japanese. In addition, students will be obliged to submit a personal statement written in Japanese as part of the application process.
3. A good command of English. A TOEFL score of 213+ (computer-based), 550+ (paper-based), or 79+ (internet-based) or equivalent is required for non-native English speakers.
4. Sufficient financial support for the duration of the program.

VI. Tuition & Fees

For the academic year 2010-2011, tuition fees will total around ¥900,000. Please note this amount may be subject to review. The final amount is available upon request.

A fee waiver scheme operates for students demonstrating a high level of academic performance.

VII. Application Process

Applicants are requested to submit by registered airmail or equivalent (i.e. Federal Express, DHL etc.), **an original and one copy** of the following documents to the Faculty of Law, Kyushu University **before May 31st 2010**:

1. Completed ***BiP* Application Form**;
2. Photocopy of **Graduation Certificate** of the last university and graduate school, or a **Certified Letter** from the university at which the applicant is currently attending, stating the expected graduation date;

3. **Official School Transcript** of the last school from which the applicant graduated and that which the applicant is currently attending;

4. **Certificate of Citizenship (e.g. Passport) or Proof of Residence** in the applicant's home country, i.e., census register, passport (photocopy), or other positive proof of citizenship;

5. **Two Letters of Recommendation** from the Dean, the applicant's supervising professor or other teaching staff who have had direct contact with the applicant; or from a supervisor in the employing body with personal knowledge of the applicant (forms attached below);

6. **Three photographs** taken within the past 6 months (6cm x 4cm). Two photos should be attached to the Application Forms;

7. For non-native speakers, **proof of English proficiency** must be provided. A TOEFL score of 213+ (computer-based), 550+ (paper-based), or 79+ (internet-based) or equivalent is required for non-native English speakers.

VIII. Additional Notes

1. All application materials should be typed **in English and/or Japanese** on attached forms or A4 paper. In the event materials required above are in a language other than English or Japanese, a translation into one of these languages must be attached.
2. All application materials must arrive by **May 31st 2010**. No application materials will be accepted after this date.
3. Application materials will **not** be returned to applicants.

IX. Interview

Candidates will be interviewed either by phone or (if it is convenient) in person in early December 2009. The main purpose of the interview is to assess whether an applicants' Japanese language is of an appropriate standard to pursue graduate study in Japan.

X. Notification of Results

Students will be informed of the result of their application by the end of June 2010.

XI. Inquiries

Inquiries by phone cannot be accepted. Written inquiries regarding this program should be addressed to:

Admission Office of the LL.M. Program,
Graduate School of Law, Kyushu University,
6-19-1 Hakozaki, Higashi-ku,
Fukuoka 812-8581, Japan.

Alternatively, candidates may correspond by fax or e-mail:

Fax: 81[Japan]-92-642-4162

E-mail: *admission@law.kyushu-u.ac.jp*

XII. Warning

Students will have their enrollment at Kyushu University withdrawn immediately in the event of **any** of the following:

- If the applicant is found to have made false statements on his/her application.
- If the applicant is subject to disciplinary measures or has been found to have no promise for academic achievement by the University.
- If the applicant is absent from University for a prolonged period of time without permission.
- If the applicant has insufficient resources to finance their studies in Kyushu University.