Embrace Differences

東京大学グローバル教育センター
Center for Global Education, The University of Tokyo
Greetings

Teruo Fujii
President

Center for Global Education, or GlobE, was established as a university-wide research and educational facility to further global education at the University of Tokyo.

As I have laid out in UTokyo Compass, cultivating the ability to initiate constructive dialogues across boundaries is one of the fundamental missions of higher education. GlobE now plays an integral role in that mission. Its educational programs are designed to nurture a deep insight into the present world and a robust global outlook towards the future among our students.

GlobE is a testament to the UTokyo's commitment to creating a campus environment that celebrates the global exchange of people and values and that contributes to the peace and prosperity of the world.

As Executive Vice President in charge of both global and diversity issues at the University of Tokyo, I believe these are two sides of the same coin, as nurturing a global outlook among our students is part of our larger effort to enhance appreciation for diversity, equity, and inclusion on our campuses and throughout society.

The University of Tokyo is committed to offering our students opportunities to encounter people and cultures beyond the confines of their previous experience. GlobE will be leading this effort to introduce our students to a new world of exciting discoveries so that they may understand and appreciate a wide range of ideas and values that exist beyond their boundaries.

I hope that all UTokyo students will take advantage of GlobE's many educational programs, from Go Global Gateway to USTEP to Global Liberal Arts Courses, and learn to appreciate the challenges and value of embracing diversity in today's world.

Kaori Hayashi
Executive Vice President
(Diversity and Global Affairs)

Center for Global Education (UTokyo GlobE) was launched in April of 2023 to support the UTokyo students to gain more global experiences. UTokyo GlobE is a university facility that serves all undergraduate and graduate students. By aligning itself closely with the goal set by the university headquarters and coordinating its functions with various faculties and schools, it functions as a platform for international education for the entire university.

One of the features of UTokyo GlobE is Global Liberal Arts Courses, offered to all undergraduate students in the Senior Division and graduate students. These courses give opportunities for our students to learn and discuss topics related to the SDGs in English. They serve as a forum where students of different academic, social and national backgrounds come together and reflect on some of the most imminent issues of the day.

Additionally, UTokyo GlobE will serve as a “Global Education Concierge” for students through its various global programs, including “Go Global Gateway.” Its aim is to offer robust support for the internationalization of all students from the time of their entry to graduation of the university.

UTokyo GlobE is committed to offering a range of programs to assist UTokyo students’ global career.

Organization

Executive Vice President
(Diversity and Global Affairs)

Center for Global Education

Director

Vice Director

International Office
(Komaba/Kashiwa)

Achieve a global campus through supporting international students and researchers of each campus

International Support Division

International Exchange Division

International Education Division

Japanese Language Education Division

Global Education Concierge (p.3-4)

International Student Support Room

Counseling and career support

Go Global Gateway (p.5)

Student exchange program (USTEP p.5); short-term (summer/winter) programs

Global Liberal Arts Courses (p.7)

Sharing good practice for international education

International affairs study sessions

Japanese language courses that are accessible to international students and researchers on all campuses

Development of teaching materials

Center for Research on Counseling and Support Services

International Education Promotion Group

Relevant organizations on/off campus

Cooperation

Administration

Cooperation
Go Global Gateway (GGG)

Go Global Gateway (GGG) is an extracurricular program in which all UTokyo undergraduate students enroll. The program encourages the students to develop their Global Competence. The program awards the students a certificate that attests to their global competence once they satisfy certain requirements.

UTokyo defines Global Competence as the ability to live and work together with all kinds of people throughout the world and encourages every student to foster it through their student life. Global Competence is comprised of five elements shown below.

How to obtain the Certificate

1. Study for Global Competence
2. Take part in extra-curricular activities
3. Study outside the University
4. Study in an English /International Exchange Program
5. Take part in social activities

Five Elements for Global Competence

University-wide Student Exchange Program (USTEP)

The University of Tokyo (UTokyo) has Memorandum of Understanding agreements for student exchanges around the world. UTokyo students, upon payment of tuition fees to UTokyo, have the opportunity to enroll in courses or receive research guidance at partner institutions without incurring tuition fees at the host institution. Conversely, UTokyo accepts exchange students from partner universities.

Exchange students coming to UTokyo can choose between the Type G and Type U programs. The Type G program is designed for graduate students who will belong to one of the Graduate Schools and study or research under the guidance of faculty members there. The Type U program is designed for undergraduate students to take courses given in English and/or Japanese at the undergraduate College and Faculties.

UTokyo Global Unit Courses (GUC)

The University of Tokyo’s “Global Unit Courses” (GUC) provides a great opportunity for students around the world to experience one of the world’s leading universities in East Asia. UTokyo GUC offers a variety of in-person and online courses during the summer with cutting-edge contents, taught by full-time faculty members of the University of Tokyo.

GUC are taught by prominent scholars in their research fields. The subjects range from the humanities to social science to STEM subjects. The students will be able to directly interact with their professor, as the courses are small (about 20 students or less) and include active discussion sessions.

Dialogue at UTokyo GlobE

As part of our university’s global education effort, the Center for Global Education has launched a new initiative: a series of dialogues featuring students and renowned leaders from abroad.

This dialogue series, which primarily involves conversations between guest speakers from overseas and the University of Tokyo’s President and Executive Directors, is designed to broaden students’ international perspectives. It provides a stepping stone for students to leap onto the global stage both during their studies and after graduation. In addition to enhancing the recognition of the Go Global Gateway program among students, we also foster collaboration with global liberal arts courses.

Japanese Language Education Division (Center for Japanese Language Education)

Japanese Language Education Division (Center for Japanese Language Education) provides an opportunity to learn Japanese for international students and foreign researchers. There are a variety of Japanese language courses offered.

For current UTokyo members, we offers General Course, Intensive Japanese Course, Short-term Japanese Course, and Special Themed Seminar, catering to different levels and learning durations. For the convenience of students and researchers on various campus, all classes are conducted online.

We also offer Japanese language courses to students participating in UTokyo international short-term programs such as GUC and UTokyo Amgen Scholarship Program. In addition, we develop original learning materials and provide them on our website.
The Global Liberal Arts Courses (GLA Courses) aim to develop "global citizens" who are globally engaged in the ever-changing global context and committed to contributing to the world. These courses welcome undergraduate students from all disciplines of the Senior Division, as well as graduate and exchange students, offering them the opportunity to engage with the pressing issues facing modern society - all in English. The primary focus is on the 'Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs), which include issues such as gender, diversity, health, and poverty.

Given the interdisciplinary nature of the SDGs, the Global Liberal Arts Courses offer cross-cutting, interdisciplinary classes. These classes traverse various academic boundaries, and even international borders, transforming into creative, active learning spaces where students learn and think together. Classes are designed with small cohorts of approximately 20 students to facilitate interactive activities such as discussions. The overall goal of the Global Liberal Arts Courses is to empower each individual student with the ability to think deeply and thoughtfully about significant global issues, whilst learning to express their thoughts in English with compelling clarity and persuasiveness.