

# **VISION of the Graduate School of Media and Governance**

## **Actively Engage in Addressing Complex Issues**

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### **VISION of the Graduate School of Media and Governance**

The Master's Program of the Graduate School of Media and Governance was established in 1994 with the purpose to train students to become professionals possessing interdisciplinary perspectives, expertise, and practical skills. The Doctoral Program was subsequently established in 1996. The Graduate School of Media and Governance has been promoting the implementation of cutting edge research in our technological society, the establishment of research fields that fuse and transcend current ones, and the development of a cooperative environment among industry, government, and academic bodies within and outside Japan. In addition to making strides in their fields of research and education, our graduates are making significant contributions to the global society through their work in business, policy making, and industrial sectors.

Following a history of over a quarter of a century since its establishment, the Graduate School of Media and Governance has come to a point that calls for further change. Over the past thirty years, digital technology has become an integral part of our daily lives, altering our interpretation of time and space, and ultimately, relationships between people. These shifts have increased our mobility, encouraging us to break various "boundaries" of scales and at speeds previously unimagined. We can now witness the collaboration and coexistence of a diversity of values that also, on occasion, compete with and conflict with one another. Next, the various mechanisms and systems themselves that we take for granted will shed light on the existence of many other "boundaries."

As political and economic conditions continually changed, and we faced large-scale natural disasters and accidents, we experienced first hand that the issues to be addressed were becoming increasingly diverse and complex. Since its foundation, the Graduate School of Media and Governance has advocated taking on interdisciplinary and complex issues, and we have carried out research and education while maintaining close contact with society. Going beyond an academic context, we aim to deliver the fruits of these efforts to society, where people live. Problem solving is not without its challenges. Some issues we face span over decades. During this span of time, the environment and even we are constantly changing. The concept of Media and Governance captures these transitions as a whole.

### **Taking on Complex Issues through the Academic Project (AP)**

Academic Projects nurture the ability to think and act across multiple academic fields. They are each led by a number of faculty members from different fields of expertise and consist of not only lectures, but also opportunities to learn through taking active roles in problem solving. The Academic Project emphasizes putting knowledge into practice, where one can come to understand the complexities of an issue, and giving back to society in the form of a proposal, a creation, or implementation. We actively promote collaborative research and education with universities and research institutes within and outside of Japan, and fieldwork and internships throughout the world, in our quest to provide unique and valuable graduate level research and education.

### **Research Fields and Research Support System**

The Graduate School of Media and Governance offers eight research fields called Programs structured to give students in-depth knowledge and expertise through education and research specific to each field. Students and faculty members are not bound to their research field, but cross over into other fields of expertise through the Academic Project to work on complex issues that require interdisciplinary knowledge.

Furthermore, committed to being open to society and to promoting international cooperation, the graduate school began offering Double Degree Programs in 2005 in collaboration with overseas affiliate graduate schools, and in the same year launched the Doctoral Program for Career Professionals that allows working adults to pursue a doctoral degree. In 2006, the International Course was implemented, offering master's programs taught in English. Currently, there are 100 international students studying at our graduate school.

We have an extensive research support system specifically for graduate students, and financial support opportunities include the Young Leaders Scholarship, the GAO Scholarship, the Keio Research Encouragement Scholarship, and the Taikichiro Mori Memorial Research Fund. The advanced information infrastructure at the university consists of distance learning facilities, a campus wireless LAN, ultra-fast backbone network, and experimental environments for drones, fabrication, robotics, smart cities, databases, and a geographical information system.

### **Professional Education Courses to Meet the Needs of Today's Society**

Professional Education Courses are offered to meet the new needs of our ever-changing society. They are the Environmental Innovators Course, Social Innovators Course, Global Environmental System Leaders Course, Innovative Future Strategist Course, and Cyber Security Course. The curriculum of each course or program is designed to develop students into global leaders and experts in their respective fields, and in addition to the Master's or Doctoral Degree, a Certificate can be acquired upon successful completion.

With a robust spirit of exploration, the Graduate School of Media and Governance is constantly aiming to pioneer new research areas. We are also making progress toward our goals of building a place for lifelong education and research geared toward working adults, and expanding opportunities for international research and education by applying new scholarship systems, international internships, and opportunities for researchers and students from outside Japan. It is our sincere hope that all of you find your studies and research at the Graduate School of Media and Governance valuable and rewarding.