

Admission for the Transnational Doctoral Programs for  
Leading Professionals in Asian Countries

Asian Satellite Campuses Institute (ASCI)

Nagoya University, Graduate School of Law, Department of Law and Political Science  
Degree of Doctor of Laws (Comparative Law)

(April 2016 Special Admission for Laos, Myanmar and Uzbekistan)

## **I OUTLINE**

### **1. Objectives**

Through the "Transnational Doctoral Programs for Leading Professionals in Asian Countries", Nagoya University Graduate School of Law is offering a special research-based doctoral program which primarily targets government officials from selected Asian countries who have already completed a master's degree and wish to earn a doctoral degree in the fields of law or political science. This is a hybrid education program which links Nagoya University's main campus to satellite campuses throughout Asia that have been established specifically for this program. The program is unique in that it provides enrolled students an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and experience and work towards a doctoral degree without having to take time out from their career.

### **2. Eligible Applicants and Countries**

Early and mid-career government officials and professionals who are both nationals of, and reside in the countries below and who are expected to play active roles as future national leaders:

Laos, Myanmar, Uzbekistan (3 countries in total)

### **3. Host Institution**

Nagoya University, Graduate School of Law (GSL)

### **4. Maximum Number of Students Admitted**

There will be several openings for students in the program each year. This will be determined each year by GSL based on the number and quality of applications and the availability of appropriate supervisors.

### **5. Fields of Study**

Law and Political Science (For further information please refer to: <http://www.law.nagoya-u.ac.jp/en/faculty/>)

## **6. Details of Curriculum**

### **(1) Basic Concepts**

The program aims to assist young professionals to develop specialized knowledge and skills, and the ability to conduct original and innovative research in the fields of comparative law and political science. Through this program, it is hoped that students will further their careers and play important leadership roles in their respective countries.

Support is provided to students through day-to-day research guidance both at the satellite offices and from Japan via video conference and other distance learning tools. Intensive lectures, seminars and research guidance sessions will also be conducted both in the student's country and in Japan.

### **(2) Criteria for Obtaining the LL.D. (Comparative Law)**

The doctoral thesis must meet the following criteria:

- Constitutes a contribution to the discovery and resolution of theoretical and practical problems in the field of comparative law or political science.
- Uses mainly comparative law and comparative political science methods. However, in the case of international relations specialists, even concerning analysis of the functioning of international documents and international institutions, it is permissible to consider the possible applications for domestic law and politics.
- Presents analysis of relevant research trends and frames and argument on the basis of Japanese or English sources. This applies even where the thesis draws primarily on materials in the language of the home country of the student.
- States a research question, addressed in the thesis in a well-argued and well-structured manner.
- Shows originality in the progress of the research and comparisons.
- Answers anticipated criticisms in methodologically sound manner.

### **(3) Program Duration**

In order to graduate, the student is expected to have spent three years in the LL.D. program. The student must also submit a doctoral thesis in English after receiving the necessary supervision in doctoral research, as well as pass an examination of the submitted dissertation by their supervisory panel.

#### **(4) Language**

Lectures and other guidance will generally be conducted in English.

#### **(5) Main Features**

- The program is designed for students who are capable of carrying out research on an independent basis.
- The student is expected to visit their respective local satellite office on a regular basis, where they will be able to consult with local academic staff and access research resources and facilities. Access to video conferencing facilities is available at the local satellite offices for communicating with the GSL academic staff.
- The student will be assigned one academic advisor and two sub-advisors from among the GSL faculty members to provide supervision and advice on research methodology, research progress, argument development and dissertation completion.
- The advisor will travel to the student's country once a year to provide intensive lectures on the relevant subject(s) to the student.
- A highly qualified academic support team based in Japan will regularly engage with students via video conference and/or e-mail to assist in the development of academic skills and research design to help enable the student to complete his or her degree in close consultation with the advisors.
- Once a year, the student will be required to go to Japan to attend intensive seminars with his or her advisor and sub-advisors and to present an annual research progress report. These presentations will be open to the broader GSL faculty and will provide the student with an opportunity to receive comments and additional advisory input from other researchers and scholars.

#### **7. Tuition Fees**

Students will be fully exempted from admission fees and tuition fees for the standard duration of the Program.

#### **8. Financial Support**

This program offers financial support to students during their visits to Nagoya University for the intensive supervision seminars provided by their supervisors and the academic support team.

### **(1) Stipend (living expenses while in Japan)**

A stipend of 75,000 yen will be paid to the student for every 14-day period (or part thereof) in Japan, commencing from the date of the student's arrival in Japan for the purpose of intensive supervision seminars. This stipend will be paid in cash upon arrival at the Nagoya University campus.

### **(2) Stipend (travel expenses)**

Nagoya University will cover the cost of an economy-class airfare (return) from the international airport nearest the student's home address to Chubu Centrair International Airport for students attending intensive supervision seminars in Japan. Students must personally bear the costs of travel from their home address to the nearest international airport, airport tax, airport usage fees, any special tax charged on the flight, and domestic travel costs within Japan. (The "student's home address" shall in principle be the address given on the application form) .

### **(3) Accommodation while in Japan**

Accommodation for the duration of each intensive supervision seminar will be provided for the student.

## **9. Commencement of Program**

**1 April 2016**

## **II APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

### **1. Prerequisites for Application**

1) Applicants must be currently employed in government, not-for-profit groups, professional societies, or academic institutions in their respective countries, have at least three years of work experience in the relevant field or position as of **18 December 2015**, and wish to pursue an LL.D. in one of the fields offered by GSL.

2) Applicants must meet **one** of the following criteria:

- i) Applicants who have been awarded or are expecting to be awarded a master's degree or equivalent professional degree by 31 March 2016
  - a. from a university in home country or foreign country;
  - b. from a university of Japan (including Nagoya University);
  - c. through correspondence courses managed by a recognized foreign institution while residing in Japan; or,
  - d. by completing a graduate course managed by a foreign institution situated in Japan that is recognized as formal educational system of the foreign country and for which

the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has formally approved.

- ii) Applicants who have completed their master's at the United Nations University, established on 11 December 1972, by a resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as prescribed under Article 1-2 of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the “Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University” (Act No. 72 of 1977) and who have been conferred with a degree that corresponds to a master’s degree, or who expect to be conferred with such a degree by 31 March 2016.
- iii) Applicants designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan

(Notification No. 118 of the Ministry of Education of 1989);

- iv) Applicants who are recognized by the Graduate School of Law (GSL) as possessing the academic ability equivalent to or above that of a master's or a person who has obtained a master’s degree or a professional degree on the basis of the individual preliminary screening of qualifications\* by 31 March 2016.

*\*Note: Those who wishing to qualify under above category iii) or iv) should refer to the Note in ‘Documents required for Application’ below.*

## **2. Documents Required for Application**

Documents for application should be typewritten or neatly written in block letters in English or Japanese. In the event that certificates, transcripts and other documents are in a language other than English or Japanese, a translation into one of these languages must be attached.

The following documents are required.

- 1) Application Form No.1;
- 2) Proposed research plan (dissertation proposal) on prescribed Form No.2;
- 3) Degree or certificate of (prospective) completion of master’s program issued by the university attended and the degree or certificate of graduation from the undergraduate school. Those who have completed or are expected to complete the master’s program at GSL do not have to submit these certificates;
- 4) Transcript of academic records of a master’s program and transcript of undergraduate studies issued from each university attended. If original documents are not available, please supply certified copies of the original documents. Those who have completed or are expected to complete the Master’s program at GSL do not have to submit these documents;
- 5) A digital copy of the applicant’s master’s thesis and an abstract. Please note:
  - a) Those who are expected to complete the master’s program at the GSL do not have to submit a digital copy of their thesis and abstract.

- b) Those who have already graduated from GSL must submit a digital copy and abstract.
  - c) Those who have received a master's degree from a college that did not have a requirement to submit a written master's thesis, or have completed a non-English master's thesis, are expected to submit digital copies of equivalent research articles that they have authored and published in English. Those who have completed a non-English master's thesis, in addition to submitting published English research articles, may also submit a personally translated English manuscript which includes the main features of their master's thesis.
  - d) A digital copy of a supplementary essay or paper may also be included.
- 6) Certificates of Language Proficiency and supporting documents: TOEFL or IELTS
- In principle, institutional TOEFL Program (TOEFL-ITP) results will not be accepted. However, should this be the only available proof of language proficiency, it may be sent with a statement explaining why an official TOEFL score report cannot be provided.
- GSL will take into consideration applicants without TOEFL, IELTS scores if they have previously studied in universities where English was the main language of instruction. As evidence, applicants will be required to submit any official document which certifies that the program was taught in English.
- 7) Publications:
- A list of books, articles, or theses the applicant has published, if any, giving the title, date of publication, name of publisher and a summary.
- 8) A letter of recommendation on prescribed Form No.3:
- A letter of recommendation must be written by the person for whom the applicant has worked or is currently working in a professional capacity, or by a faculty member of a university they have attended, who knows them well.
- The letter of recommendation must demonstrate the applicant's ability to play an important future leadership role in their respective country.
- If the letter is not from the applicant's current place of employment or does not include formal support from the applicant's place of employment to engage in graduate studies, the applicant is required to obtain a separate letter from their employer to this effect.
- The letter of recommendation must be provided in an envelope that has been properly sealed by the referee.
- 9) One photograph (6cm × 4cm) affixed to the application form. The photograph should be no more than six months old at the time of application. The applicant is also required to write his or her name and nationality on the back.
- 10) An official document certifying the nationality or citizenship for those applying from abroad (e.g. a copy of passport).

*Note on the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications:*

- 1) Those wishing to qualify under criteria iii) or iv) above should submit the following documents **by 27 November 2015** to the Local ASCI office, in order to receive the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications as possessing equal academic ability at master's level:
  - (1) Application for the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications on prescribed form;
  - (2) Curriculum vitae on prescribed form;
  - (3) Certificate of academic research experience issued by the head of the institution the applicant is affiliated with, or by a person who is in a position to supervise the applicant, on prescribed form;
  - (4) Proof of educational history since graduation from high school (e.g. Certificate of graduation, withdrawal, or period of enrollment from high school and/or university attended);
  - (5) Academic transcripts of the concerned schools;
  - (6) Reports on academic achievements or practical experiences on A4 paper in approx. 1,000 English words;
  - (7) Research proposal on A4 paper in approx. 1,500 English words; and
  - (8) Three copies of any academic papers or books written by the applicant.
- 2) Applicants will be notified of the result of the Individual Preliminary Screening of Qualifications around **11 December 2015**. Those who are recognized as possessing academic ability equivalent to a university graduate should submit the documents required for application, listed above, during the application period given above.

### **3. Selection Method**

The selection process involves the following steps: document screening, examination of master's thesis and/ or equivalent research articles and interview.

#### **1) Document screening and examination of a master's thesis**

Those who pass document screening and examination of their master's thesis and/or equivalent research articles will proceed to the interview stage.

#### **2) Interview**

An interview will take place via videoconference at the Asian Satellite Campus office in the applicant's home country. Detailed information about the interview date and place will be provided via e-mail to the applicants who successfully pass the document screening stage.

#### **4. Applications from persons with disabilities**

Those persons who require special consideration in terms of taking exams or attending college on account of disability should consult with the Graduate School prior to applying.

**Consultation period:** By 27 November 2015

**Consultation method:** Applicants must submit the following documents to the Local ASCI office.

**Request for special consideration:** Candidates should write on A4 paper (no special format required) regarding matters such as the nature of their disability, the special consideration they desire in taking exams and attending college, and any other relevant matters); and a health certificate from a qualified health practitioner in support of the above request for special consideration.

#### **5. Final Announcement of Selection Result**

All applicants will be notified of the outcome via e-mail by early March.

#### **6. Enrollment Procedures**

Successful applicants will be notified of the registration procedures for admission to the graduate program via e-mail.

#### **7. Related Notes**

- 1) Incomplete and late applications will not be considered. After applications have been submitted, changes to documents will not be permitted.
- 2) Any false statement, misrepresentation or omission by the applicant in the application may form the basis for denial of admission or dismissal from GSL.

#### **8. Handling of Individual Information**

Any information regarding individuals which has been obtained in the course of invitations for applications or from details contained in application documents shall be used for the purposes of notifications concerning the application in question, entrance examinations, announcements of results of entrance examinations, enrollment procedures and any other items subsidiary to these situations. It will also be used for the administration of the school register and for academic records connected with student academic affairs after enrollment. Any information obtained concerning individuals will be handled appropriately, and shall never be used for any other reason other than its administrative purpose.



## **9. Application Fee**

There is no application fee for this program.

## **10. Application Deadline**

Deadline for submission of application documents: **18 December 2015**

## **11. Contact Addresses**

Mailing address for applications:

Please submit your application to your local ASCI office:

- Republic of the Union of Myanmar

Ah-Di-Pa-Ti Road (Chancellor Road),

Yangon University Postal Compound, Kamaryut Township, Yangon, Myanmar

Tel: +95-(0)1-536628

- Lao P.D.R

National University of Laos, Faculty of Law and Political Science

Ban Donnokhoum, Sisattanak District, Vientiane Capital, Lao PDR

Tel: +856-(0)21-486024

- Republic of Uzbekistan

107 B, Amir Temur street, Tashkent city, 100084, Uzbekistan

Tel: +998-(0)71-238-94-06

Please direct or e-mail inquiries to:

[asci@law.nagoya-u.ac.jp](mailto:asci@law.nagoya-u.ac.jp)

*Application materials are available from the below address:*

*URL; <http://www.law.nagoya-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/asian-professional/>*

*September 2015*

*Graduate School of Law Nagoya University*