



Soka University

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@soka_welcome



Soka University

SOKA UNIVERSITY FACULTY GUIDE



Discover your potential



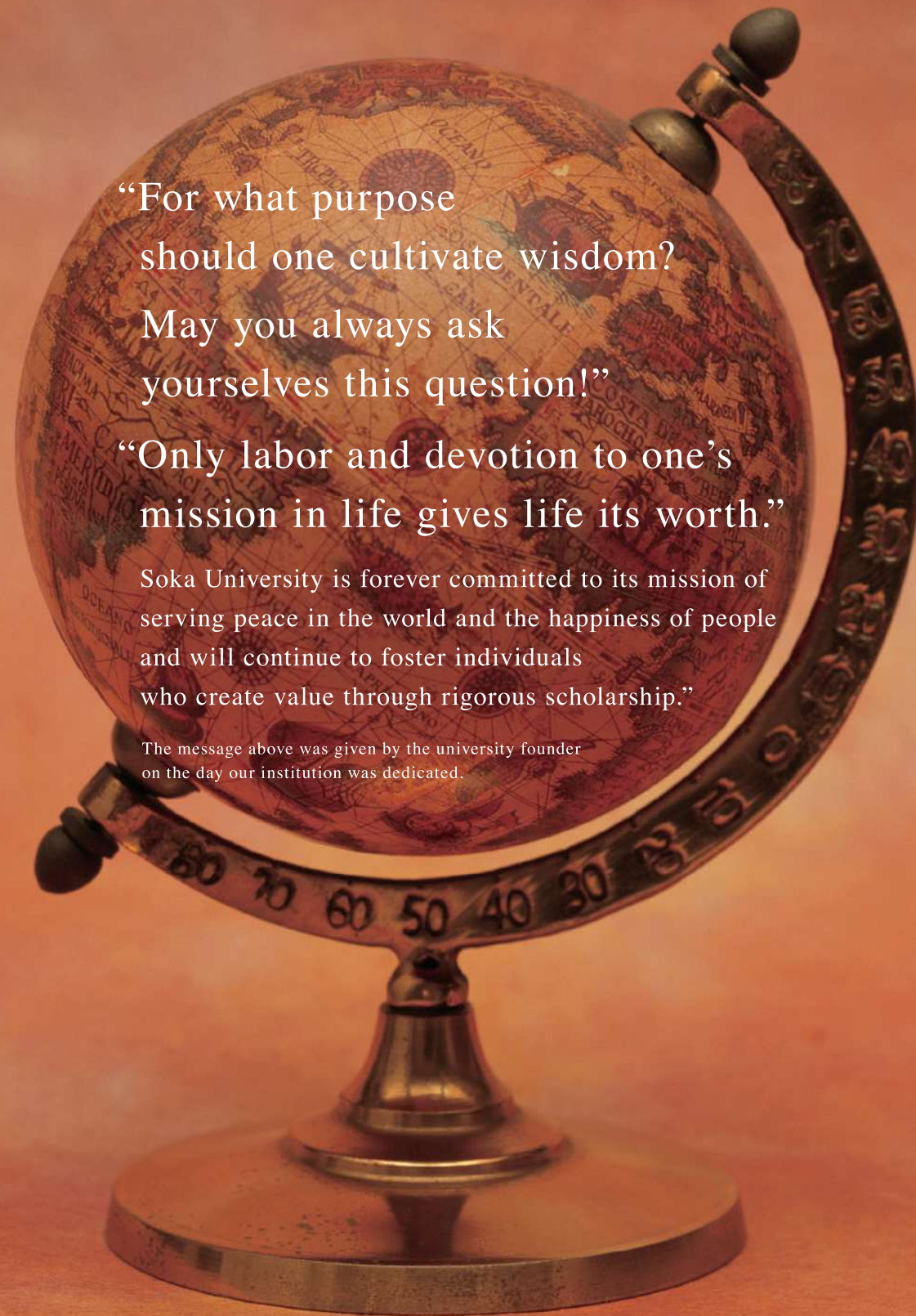
Discover your potential

“For what purpose
should one cultivate wisdom?
May you always ask
yourselves this question!”

“Only labor and devotion to one’s
mission in life gives life its worth.”

Soka University is forever committed to its mission of
serving peace in the world and the happiness of people
and will continue to foster individuals
who create value through rigorous scholarship.”

The message above was given by the university founder
on the day our institution was dedicated.



I have held a number of interviews with Dr. Kevin P. Clements,
an international peace scientist, over the years.

Praising the people in Tohoku Region for their dedication to post-disaster mental recovery,

Dr. Clements said: “Devote yourself to the well-being of others, and it will give you the strength to
conquer your anger and sorrow, and thereby draw out the benevolence and tenderness from within.

Continuing these efforts in line with this direction will lead us to a society full of benevolence and peace.”

This is where the spirit of Soka education lies.

As a Top Global University, Soka currently enjoys academic exchanges
with 155 universities from 48 countries and territories.

The best students from around the world gather at Soka University,
which serves as a forum for young global citizens.

I hope all of you hold open-minded discussions with your friends from around the world
and work to extend the solidarity characterized by coexistence and creation.

This involves practice, the first step towards the dialogue of civilization.

Personally I regret not having studied any foreign language when I was young.

If I had been fluent in foreign languages at that time,

I would have been able to encourage and guide many more people, help unite humankind,
and do more for peace than I have actually done.

I hope you will improve your own linguistic skills,

something I never had a chance to do. This campus holds limitless opportunities for learning.

Excerpt from the founder’s message given at the 45th entrance ceremony of Soka University

*As of June 2022, Soka University has academic agreements with 229 universities in 63 countries and territories.



Founder

Daisaku Ikeda

Profile

Born in 1928 in Tokyo.

Honorary president of Soka Gakkai and the president of the Soka Gakkai International (SGI).
Ikeda has founded a number of institutions such as Soka University, Soka University of America,
Soka Schools System, the Min-On Concert Association, the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum, the Institute
of Oriental Philosophy, and the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research.

Ikeda has held numerous dialogues with learned individuals from around the world, helping to
further movements relating to peace, culture, and education. In addition to the United Nations
Peace Prize, Ikeda has received more than 380 academic honors from universities and academic
institutions around the world, including Moscow State University, the University of Glasgow, the
University of Denver, and Peking University, as well as numerous awards such as Poet Laureate,
World People’s Poet, World Poet Laureate Award, and World Peace Poet.

Ikeda has written novels such as The Human Revolution (12 volumes), The New Human Revolution
(currently 30 volumes), and has also published numerous dialogues in book form. These include
Choose Life: A Dialogue (with Arnold J. Toynbee), Moral Lessons of the Twentieth Century (with
Mikhail Gorbachev), The Wisdom of Tolerance: A Philosophy of Generosity and Peace (with
Abdurrahman Wahid), and Planetary Citizenship: Your Values, Beliefs and Actions Can Shape a
Sustainable World (with Hazel Henderson).

Since its founding in 1971, Soka University has provided education as an institute that aims to be a “student-first university,” upholding the founding principles put forth by founder Daisaku Ikeda.



Founding principles

Be the highest seat of learning for humanistic education

Be the cradle of a new culture

Be a fortress for the peace of humankind

Origins of Soka Education

In 1930, educator Tsunesaburo Makiguchi published the first volume of *The System of Value Creating Pedagogy*. “Soka” in Japanese means “value creation.” In essence, creating value is synonymous with enhancing life. To persevere in the pursuit of peace also means to protect human dignity and to create value no matter what difficulties may be encountered. These are the essential ideals of Soka education, and they exist to nurture creative individuals. The Makiguchi philosophy of respecting life was carried on by his disciple, Josei Toda. On November 16, 1950, Toda entrusted Daisaku Ikeda with the dreams of Makiguchi, and this became the philosophy upon which Soka University was founded. “Daisaku, let’s build a university. A Soka University. But this may not be possible for me to achieve during my lifetime. If that’s the case, I am counting on you, Daisaku. Let’s make it the best university in the world!” Remaining true to the will of his mentor, Ikeda founded Soka University on April 2, 1971, with the aim of fulfilling the philosophy of Soka education.

Message from the President

Advocating the founding principles put forth by Daisaku Ikeda, Soka University is committed to producing “creative global citizens” who will play a leading role in ensuring peace and sustainable prosperity.

In 2021, Soka University celebrated its 50th anniversary, and launched a new long-term plan, “Soka University Grand Design 2021-2030,” towards the 60th anniversary of its founding.

Under the theme of “a university that fosters ‘global citizens’ that can create value,” we will continue to support the unleashing of each student’s unlimited potential and will develop the four areas of education, research, SDGs, and diversity. A major part of this plan is the creation of a global campus. We have

received the highest “S” rating in two consecutive interim evaluations for the “Top Global University Project” adopted in 2014. We will further strengthen our efforts for the final year, 2023.

Soka University actively welcomes international students to create an educational environment in which students from many different cultural backgrounds can learn together. More than 10% of the student population comes from other countries. We also encourage Japanese students to study abroad at least once during their time at the university and invite many teachers from all over the world. Our aim is to create a truly global campus.

We will develop an international hub for humanistic education so that people from across Japan and around the world can gather and grow through friendly competition on the campus and pursue successful careers in Japan or abroad.

Our quest to become a university where each student can fulfill his or her dream continues.



Masashi Suzuki, Soka University President

Selected as a recipient of MEXT’s Top Global University Project



Our program for producing “global citizens” who will play a leading role in ensuring peace and sustainable prosperity was selected as a recipient of the 2014 Top Global University Project of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. In this project, support from the national government focuses on universities and other institutions that are committed to partnerships with overseas universities and global researchers.

Interim evaluations of the project were released in 2018 and 2021, and the University’s initiatives received an “S” rating, the highest of five ratings (S-D), for two consecutive years.

URL <https://www.soka.ac.jp/en/about/global/>

Faculty of Economics

Department of Economics



We are training true cosmopolitan citizens who can adapt to the era of globalization

The Faculty of Economics leads the internationalization of our educational environment. Students are given a solid base in foreign languages, learn economics, and acquire true communication skills that they can use in the global society of today. Employing cutting-edge learning methods, the faculty trains cosmopolitan citizens who are capable of pursuing a successful career on a global level.



International Program (IP)

This program is designed to train and equip individuals with knowledge of economics and the capacity to communicate on the global stage. In addition to specialized knowledge in economics, IP also places importance on English education, helping students acquire the skills they need to study at a university or graduate school in another country. IP offers two training abroad programs. Prior to departure, students can attend a preparatory English course with 20 hours or more of class and, after arrival, they can visit Japanese companies and learn directly about the local economic and business-related reality, earning a global comprehension about economic matters.

Industry-Academia Collaboration and Improved Internship

We enable students to learn how the economics knowledge gained at university can be applied in society by inviting instructors from industrial circles to give lectures. In addition, students can also take part in internships in which they can apply what they have learned at Soka University. Students can also attend internship or volunteer programs in regions affected by natural disasters, contributing to local society and learning through different approaches. This is an environment for students to enrich their education through practical experience as well as theory.

Student's Voice



CHENG I FAN

Country: Taiwan
Department of Economics

Dialogue with diverse people changed my perspective and helped me to grow.

When I came here, I had some one-sided belief about some countries. Soka University is very global so I encountered those people just after I got here. If it was before, I didn't try to get to know them but I wanted to change myself and that's why I left my country, so using translator device I talked with them hours and hours and knew I had a wrong belief! That was an eye-opening experience and since then I treasure different perspective and values.

My seminar is focusing on poverty and immigration issues and so. Taiwan has been in a difficult situation as a nation so it's a familiar topic for me. Not sure about my career but I'll use the experiences here in the society!

Faculty of Business Administration

Department of Business Administration



We train professionals in "humanistic management" capable of pursuing successful careers in society

From the perspective of the dignity of life, Humanistic Business Administration consists in the ideal of confronting various social issues through organizational activities, and it aims to contribute to the peace of the world and the humankind. Business Administration trains business leaders who are always in tune with the changes of the times and capable of pursuing their careers on a global level. Running an organization requires dialogue. We offer small classes that allow students to learn more actively. In this environment, students can fully realize their potential by studying in an area of business administration in which they can obtain the maximum benefit from Soka University's "culture of dialogue."



Strengthening industry-ready and practical skills

The faculty aims to equip its students with the skills needed to work as professionals. We also train individuals who contribute to their home countries, in roles from global individuals equipped with amazing linguistic skills to local government workers. One characteristic of the faculty is that many of its students have passed difficult examinations to become public accountants, tax accountants, and gain other certifications while in the university.

Active learning cultivates the skills needed in society

Through debates and fieldwork, the faculty equips students with basic abilities that are needed in society, such as communication and the skills to identify and solve problems. This helps students grow capable of independently seeking and arriving at their own unique answers to questions without a single correct answer.

Training businesspeople who also contribute to society

Based on the founder's humanistic principles, our curriculum is designed to create leaders with a high level of morality. The faculty offers case studies and other types of courses. Students also have opportunities to visit overseas universities and UN institutions to learn about good forms of business enterprise. In this way, we train world citizens who are capable of contributing to society.

Grow more globally minded by learning at business schools overseas

Our faculties partner with top business schools around the world. We offer excellent opportunities for students to improve their knowledge and communication skills and pursue a global career by experiencing different cultures. This helps students grow more globally minded.

Student's Voice



SONG MINGYEONG

Country: Korea
Department of Business Administration

I learned what humanism is here and am sure the philosophy can be applied in all situations!

In this Faculty of Business, students learn business administration based on the philosophy of humanism. I had thought humanism meant individual happiness but through the course I knew it aims for the happiness of oneself and others. Personal benefit becomes others' benefit and also society's benefit. I believe it can be applied in all situations. I have a lot of occasions to take a leadership role here and always keep in mind the quote "Don't build your happiness on someone else's unhappiness" and use the philosophy that I learned in the course and being in the university as a leader.

Soka University is such a global university and you can definitely expand your horizon!

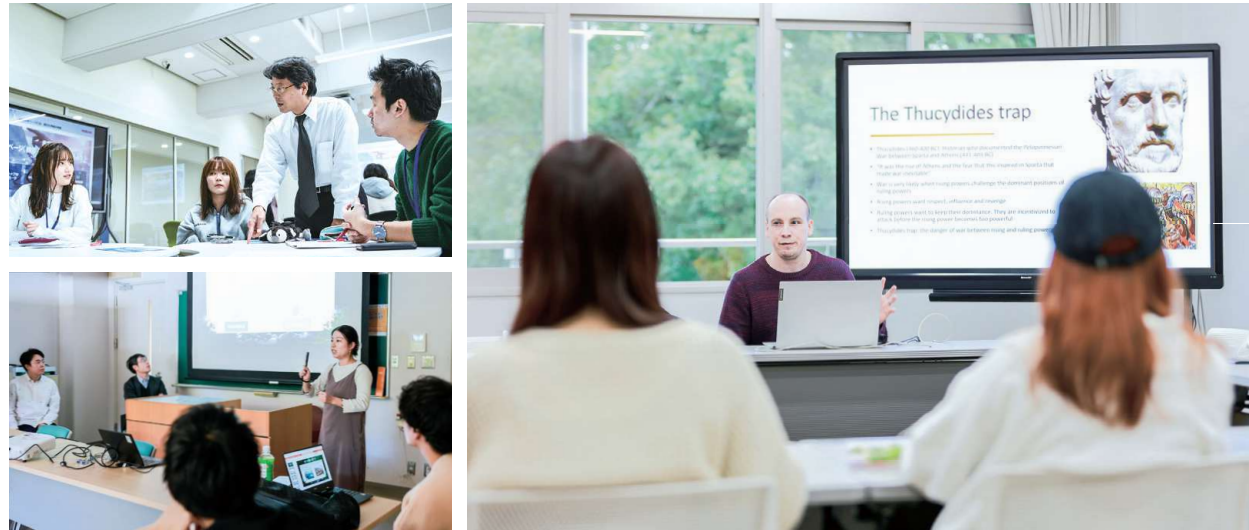
Faculty of Law

Department of Law



We develop and educate motivated students who view law from a global perspective

The faculty has three indexes for developing individuals: (1) individuals who stand by the people, take action for the realization of justice, and are equipped with healthy legal minds; (2) individuals who respect human rights and work with a commitment to achieving peace; and (3) agents for creating a new and humanism-based legal culture. Based on these indexes, the faculty welcomes motivated students who are strongly aware of their own career development and who will pursue a successful career on the world stage.



Diverse careers and courses

The faculty offers four different career courses to help students fulfill their dreams. The faculty actively supports students in developing their careers and acquiring many different legal certifications, primarily through the holding of workshops. This allows students to design their careers in a way that fits their goals.

Exploring a Theme - Module System

The module system was established as a way to deepen learning in each theme and field across courses. Students can freely choose from seven themes and fields (modules), including human rights, international affairs, environment, and Asia, to deepen their specialized studies in that module.

Variety of international programs

The Faculty of Law also offers programs to students who aim to acquire a global career overseas, such as a unique exchange program with the University of Oslo.

Industry-academia collaboration programs

This problem-solving project, organized in collaboration with companies such as Nomura Securities Co., Ltd., offers a case method-type workshop. In the program, students acquire the abilities to identify and solve problems in society, the ability to learn on their own, and interpersonal skills. Students can also improve their skills for pursuing a career.

Student's Voice



HADIL SAAD HASSAN MOHAMEDELKHOULY
Country: Egypt
Department of Law

I'm studying international relations to learn the ways to contribute to the society here!

The reason why I came to the university was because I heard the experiences at Soka from a friend of mine who had studied here before. I was always hoping to study something using Japanese and also interested in international relations to learn the ways to contribute to the society.

When I checked the university website, I knew that I could realize the 2 desires at the Faculty of Law here. The 1st year was quite hard since I had to take the classes all online due to Covid-19 and the classes started at 2 am for me. The stress piled up but the great point was that I could consult my professors about anything. I was encouraged by them and now I'm here, enjoying everything!



Faculty of Letters

Department of Humanities

We improve the abilities of people to think independently and express their thoughts in their own words

The objective of education in the Faculty of Letters is to develop and educate creative individuals who are truly well-rounded scholars. The faculty helps students obtain linguistic skills to spread their wings worldwide by learning Japanese, English, Chinese, Russian and other languages; gain the cultural ability to meticulously learn philosophy, history, literature, and other disciplines; discover ways to view things from their own perspective and express them in their own unique way; and acquire the specialized ability to accurately understand and evaluate what is happening in the ever-changing world.



Twelve doors to open your future

The faculty offers 12 optional majors for students to improve their abilities to express themselves, which enables them to independently design and pave the way for their futures. Students take common core courses in their first year and decide their major in the second year, after which they begin studying in their area of specialization.

● 12 majors

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Language and Culture | 9. AKADEMIA |
| 2. Culture and Representation | 10. Multicultural Coexistence and Peace Creation |
| 3. Culture and Philosophy | 11. Sociology and Anthropology |
| 4. Cultural History and Society | 12. Social Welfare |
| 5. Russian and European Cultures | |
| 6. English Cultures | |
| 7. China and Asian Cultures | |
| 8. International Japan Studies | |

AKADEMIA Major

The AKADEMIA major, which is taught in English, will begin in the Academic Year of 2023. Based on the philosophy of Soka Education, students will study philosophy, anthropology, and peace studies to develop human resources that will contribute to world peace and human happiness.

Chance to earn degrees from two different universities within a four-year period

The double degree (DD) course allows students to spend two years attending courses at the University of Buckingham, in England. Students earn two different degrees, one from the University of Buckingham and the other from the Soka University Faculty of Law.

Student's Voice



YOSHIE MORI
Country: France
Department of Humanities

Humanistic education allows me to appreciate shared joy.

How many universities can offer the opportunities to learn from a "human" point of view? Discussing with diverse people over life and human dignity is such an experience. I'm expanding my horizon here!



EVAN KOUICHI SHORT
Country: Australia
Department of Humanities

I hope to contribute to peace and equality with sports.

I could learn what Soka education is through various course and decided to study further to contribute to the society creating peace and equality in the graduate school of International Peace Studies here.

Faculty of Education

Department of Education / Department of Primary Education



We produce educators who stand at the forefront of humanistic education and possess an abundance of humanistic abilities

Based on the founding principles, the Faculty of Education conducts education and academic research throughout all areas from primary, secondary, and tertiary education to social education and lifelong education. The Faculty of Education has two departments: Department of Education and Department of Primary Education. At the Department of Education, the disciplines and researches are centered on not only education but also clinical educational psychology. At the Department of Primary Education involves mainly training early childhood and juvenile education teachers and also researches on special education.



Education from the perspective of Pedagogy and Psychology

In both departments, we reexamine education from the perspective of Pedagogy and Psychology, and learn in practice the concept of humanistic education. In the Department of Education, we provide teacher-training courses for junior high school as well as courses aimed for the acquisition of a licensed psychologist qualification. In the Department of Primary Education, students can select teacher-training courses for kindergarten, elementary school and special needs school.

Improving the skills with active learning method classes

In the "Schooling Case Studies" classes that are available from the 2nd year, students are divided into groups and research about the issues that can be encountered at the environment of the schools and work together to find the solutions for them. In "School Internship" classes, students learn in practice more about the occupation of a teacher by going once in a week to elementary and junior high schools during the semester.

Announcement about the qualifications and school teaching certificate

At the Faculty of Education, it is not possible to acquire the certificate of Japanese language teacher. In case you plan to acquire this certificate please select the Faculty of Letters. Also, for the course for the acquisition of a licensed psychologist qualification has a limited number of students and in order to proceed to the 2nd year, there will be a selection based on an analysis of the student's transcript of records and an interview test. Transferred students (from 3rd year) cannot participate in the program.

Develop expertise in small-group seminars

From the 3rd year, small-groups seminars are organized and students acquire expertise by doing researches with the same professor for 2 years.

Student's Voice



Sim Jiayi

Country: Malaysia
Department of Primary Education

Soka University offers an amazing environment to form your foundation as a person.

As my dream was to study and experience humanistic education, I found out that Soka education was the one that I was seeking for. Since I came here, I have had many opportunities to feel about it. Our professors value each student as they always have discussions with us and respect each of us as who we are. I'm also being inspired by a lot of amazing thoughts here, such as every perspective has its own background and it's not necessary to distinguish between right or wrong sometimes.

I believe Soka University is a great platform to strengthen our foundation as a person. I hope that many people can come and experience this amazing education together.

Faculty of Science and Engineering

Department of Information Systems Engineering / Department of Science and Engineering for Sustainable Innovation



Training individuals who are capable of contributing to the development of humankind in the fields of science and technology

The faculty requires its students to obtain linguistic skills as basic academic skills, knowledge in other areas such as humanities and social sciences, and multifaceted awareness about social issues by taking liberal arts courses that are based on humanistic education. Divided into two departments, the Department of Information Systems Engineering and the Department of Science and Engineering for Sustainable Innovation, the faculty allows students to study specialized areas and develops and educates individuals who have high aspirations and contribute to the public welfare of humankind.



Department of Information Systems Engineering

With many different courses such as AI and data science, mathematical sciences, computer system security, VR and robotics, the Department offers a robust environment for research and helps students extend their technical skills and abilities to come up with good ideas. We develop and educate individuals who represent the next generation of leaders in the information society.

Introducing active and problem-solving forms of learning

The faculty introduces project studies, case studies, and other programs for proactively solving problems. Learning here is more than just attending lectures or experiments. We research, analyze, and verify the same subjects together, hold in-depth discussions, and work together to find solutions.

Department of Science and Engineering for Sustainable Innovation

Through education and research in applied physics, material science and engineering, life science and engineering, and environmental science and engineering, the Department nurtures a variety of rich ideas that may bring about solutions to today's scientific and social problems. It develops and educates individuals who create new technologies for achieving goals, such as coexistence between human beings and the global environment.

The faculty's unique support for scholars

With the comprehensive STEM education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, and through the study of three specialized fields based on data science: Applied Chemistry, Life Science, and Environmental Systems, the program aims to develop individuals who can contribute to the achievement of the SDGs as global citizens.

Student's Voice



KEITH CARDENAS VALENTIN

Country: Spain
Department of Information Systems Engineering

I'm realizing the childhood dream here!

I've been interested in robotics and wanted to study it with the unique combination of science and humanistic education here. Our professors really focus on each student's success. It's an unrivaled feature of Soka University!



MELISSA DE OLIVEIRA TOYOSHIMA

Country: Brazil
Department of Science and Engineering for Sustainable Innovation

I'll pay it forward with sharing my experiences here!

The ample opportunities here to meet and create events together with diverse people allowed me to learn human relationship and global citizenship. I can grow and thrive with my friends and experiences here!

Faculty of International Liberal Arts

Department of International Liberal Arts



We develop and educate global leaders who will contribute to the prosperity of humankind and international society

The faculty develops and educates global citizens who take personal responsibility for the challenges facing humankind and strive to make a positive contribution to resolving them. In order to achieve these goals, students acquire five primary abilities: 1) academic knowledge across multiple disciplines 2) academic English skills to be used in a global capacity 3) cross-cultural perspectives and communication skills 4) a desire to strive for peace and prosperity, 5) critical-thinking and creative problem-solving skills from an interdisciplinary perspective



All students are required to spend one semester abroad

The faculty requires all students to spend one semester abroad in the first semester of 2nd year to gain awareness of global citizenship and international mindedness early on in their academic careers. Study abroad will help students acquire academic English and cross-cultural understanding.

All classes are conducted in English

All courses in this faculty are conducted in English, enabling students to acquire a high level of proficiency so that they can "negotiate with the world." By cultivating students' global perspective, interdisciplinary academic knowledge, and practical application skills, the faculty seeks to develop and educate global individuals who can extend their influence across the globe.

Student's Voice



SANJA CHIKA DENTON
Country: America
Department of International Liberal Arts

FILA's various courses gave me different perspectives to life.

FILA's diverse courses fulfill my hunger to learn what to me are still mysteries of the world. The friends that I have made here give me courage and remind me the appreciation I have of being a member of Soka University!



NAZAR BUNISEVYCH
Country: Ukraine
Department of International Liberal Arts

FILA was my choice to study for the future and grow as a person.

Ukraine's situation and the war ask me how to live and urge me to grow. Soka University helps me in many ways and gives me joy to learn from those professors who I can respect. I grow here as working for my country and peace!

Experiencing an interdisciplinary approach to social issues

While placing importance on improving linguistic and expressive abilities, the faculty exposes students to a broad range of disciplines such as history/culture, international relations/politics, and economics/business administration. This interdisciplinary approach to the curriculum enables students to solve problems and explore questions from a variety of academic perspectives.

Extensive guidance

With small classes of around 20 students, the faculty offers discussions, exploration-type learning, groupwork, and other educational activities that encourage a high level of student participation. The faculty strives to develop and educate competent and responsible individuals who are capable of making balanced decisions and take into account the risks and benefits to others and the burden to future generations.

English Medium Programs



Fostering global human resources who are capable of pursuing their career internationally

Soka University develops global human resources who are capable of pursuing their careers internationally. The unique English Medium Programs allow students who are accepted based on their English proficiency and achievement on the standardized examination to be immersed in a conducive, English-only environment and focus on practical learning with a view to achieving success on an international level.



Undergraduate Level
Admission in September

- **Faculty of Economics, Department of Economics**
Soka University Courses for Comprehensive Economic Education (SUCCEED)
- **Faculty of Business Administration, Department of Business Administration**
Global Program English Track (GPET)
- **Faculty of Law, Department of Law**
Peace and Human Rights program (PHR)
- **Faculty of Letters, Department of Humanities**
Arts, Knowledge AnD English Major for International Arena (AKADEMIA)

Student's Voice



SHINICHIRO YANTODA
Country: Indonesia

I aim to contribute to the poverty-ridden community with all-encompassing perspective I have cultivated here.

Growing up in an environment where poverty is widespread, it shaped my determination in alleviating poverty from its root causes. During my studies, I have received many encouragements from my professors to explore deeper and develop different perspectives to achieve my goals. Initially, I pondered how humanism can be integrated into the field of economics but now I'm firmly believe that humanistic economics could bring significant improvements to the current world affairs. Soka University is a university that truly fosters students academic and humanistic thinking at the same time. We will be waiting for you to be here!



ANDREW VALENTI
Country: Italy

Soka education can make it possible to bring out our potential.

I came to Soka University because I wanted to study Soka (Value Creation) education here. I graduated Bologna University and then came here though I found big differences here and there. I was seeking for humanistic education and through the courses and the dialogue with professors and students here I truly feel that this is what I wanted and the education here can make a big difference in the society. Education in Latin means bring out the potential of one person and it is the Soka education. I suffered over the education I had. I wanted to even give up but Soka University changed my perspective. I'll definitely contribute to the society with this educational philosophy in the future.



Graduate Schools



Our graduate schools produce creative researchers by deepening the specialized knowledge they obtained in their faculties

Soka University has graduate schools for students who are motivated to take their studies to the next level. We have five humanities and social sciences graduate schools including Economics, Law, Letters, Education and International Peace Studies, in addition to the Graduate School of Science and Engineering, offering graduate students an environment in which they can focus on their area of specialization. The graduate schools open the way for graduate students to pursue careers as skilled researchers or educators.

Graduate schools	
Humanities and Social Sciences	Science and Engineering
Graduate School of Economics	Graduate School of Science and Engineering ● Information Systems Science Major ● Biosciences Major ● Environmental Engineering for Symbiosis Major
Graduate School of Law	
Graduate School of Letters	
Graduate School of Education	
Graduate School of International Peace Studies	

Graduate School of Economics

The graduate school covers almost all subjects of economics and business administration. Students decide their area of specialization in economics and business administration and develop a study regime on their own by receiving advice from instructors. The graduate school has made numerous achievements from theoretical and empirical perspectives.

Graduate School of Letters

Through research and education in many disciplines such as literature, language, sociology, philosophy, thought, and history, the graduate school trains researchers and educators who proactively involve themselves in research activities for developing and creating new forms of wisdom and knowledge.

Graduate School of International Peace Studies

The main purpose of establishing the new master's program, the Graduate School of International Peace Studies, at Soka University is to cultivate creative global citizens who will lead the international society as it experiences unprecedented changes through the acceleration of globalization.

Graduate School of Law

The Graduate School of Law engages in education and research in law and politics with the aim of pursuing practical and value-creating learning. While retaining the perspectives of the general public, studies in the graduate school cover advanced and international areas, as well as other areas of conventional legal study.

Graduate School of Education

The Graduate School of Education fosters professionals in the fields of education and psychology who are capable of applying and deploying advanced academic knowledge in society, and researchers who promote innovative and original research from new perspectives.

Graduate School of Science and Engineering

The Graduate School of Science and Engineering trains individuals who are well versed in the new technological frontiers of the 21st century, such as information, life, and environment. They have a high level of specialized skills and flexible applied skills and place importance on humanism. The graduate school allows students to deepen their specialized learning in the three majors in an effort to develop creative researchers.

Student's Voice



Soka University is the place that fosters individuals to become creative global business leaders.

My desire to study here stemmed from my observation of my sister's personal growth at Soka University. I was able to experience humanistic education through the philosophy of value creation and study humanistic business practices to become a creative global company leader in the future. It also has a variety of amenities, such as Jishukan (a facility for graduate students to study), and cafeteria menus are changing to accommodate people from many eating cultures. Every member of the university staff pays us a lot of attention and affection. It means a lot to me, and I'm excited to be able to study here!

GAUTAM WADHWA
Country: India
Graduate School of Economics

Japan Studies Center



International students receive solid educational support

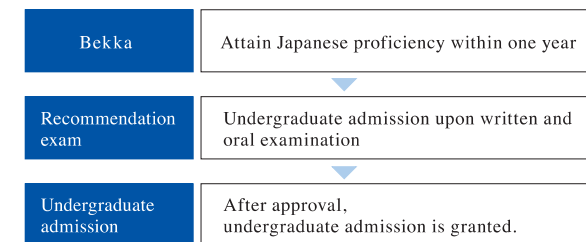
To address diverse needs—including the advancement of international students to higher academic careers in Japan and helping them improve their Japanese language skills—we offer Japanese language programs such as the Bekka Preparatory Japanese Language Program and the Undergraduate Non-degree Program for international students to learn the language and culture. There are also specialized undergraduate courses, given in Japanese and English, and programs for taking common core courses.



Bekka Preparatory Japanese Language Program

The Bekka Preparatory Japanese Language Program is focused on students willing to enter the Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Business Administration, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Letters, Faculty of Education or Faculty of Science and Engineering and need to attain Japanese proficiency beforehand. Based on their Japanese level, students learn the language for one year and are able to reach the necessary to enroll in a undergraduate program.

- Start : April
- Enrollment period: One year



Undergraduate Non-degree Program

International students willing to take undergraduate courses at Soka University can apply to this program, which also offers classes on Japanese language and the opportunity to take undergraduate courses in Japanese or English based on the students' language comprehension. Candidates can apply for one or two semesters.

- Start : April or September
- Enrolment period : One or two semesters



If you are interested in the program, please check our Application Guidelines!



Bekka Program gave me amazing friends who thrive together!

Under the circumstance of Covid-19, I took the Bekka course all online but the international students then were all in the same difficult situation and we could share a lot and encourage each other in many occasions, so after each of us got in the undergraduate course we finally could meet in person though we were so close already! Honestly, the required Japanese level in the undergraduate course is way higher than the level we learned in the Bekka but I'm not alone here and I can share my feelings with the friends from Bekka days and I can not only survive, but thrive because of them! Also, professors and classmates are helpful. I study hard and contribute to the society for the new energy age.

ORTIZ SUAREZ SANTIAGO
Country: Colombia
Faculty of Science and Engineering

Scholarships

We have a solid scholarship system that provides international students with financial support

Soka University created a scholarship system for international students thanks to the assistance of people from many different fields. To support international students who wish to pursue their career as creative world citizens, we reduce their financial burden, which poses a significant obstacle to many. In this way we provide an environment where international students can concentrate on their studies.



As of 2025, the scholarship program has been restructured, ensuring it remains a valuable resource for students.

Detailed information is available on our homepage, accessible via the QR code.



Career Support

We have a solid system for supporting international students in their pursuit of a career

After graduation, some of our international students return to their countries and find jobs there, some stay and find jobs in Japan, and some go on to graduate schools or make other career choices. Soka University offers a weekly career course and actively supports international students with their internships or job searches in Japan.

Diverse career support for international students

Career subjects/Internship	Contents
Basic career design	Recommended to 1st and 2nd year students. Students reflect about their plans for the future and have an overview about the job-hunting activities in Japan.
Career communication for international students I & II	Students will learn the business Japanese required for finding a job and as a businessperson, along with improving communication ability as a businessperson.
Career vision I& II	Students will prepare the entry sheets and self-promotion sheets required for actual job-hunting activities and will prepare for interviews and group discussions.
Career development(conducted in English)	Students will consider how to view and develop their college life and career after graduation.
Freshman Seminar	Students acquire the basic academic skills for succeeding in their university life.
Internship for international students	It is a 5-days-long program held during summer vacation, where students participate in activities in English and Japanese.

A complete support system

We provide individual career counseling sessions. We provide a complete support system to students where our alumni also collaborate to the current students' job-hunting activities.



The following are examples of the companies our graduates have entered or other career choices they have made in recent years:

- [Japan]
 - IBM • Goldman Sachs • Fujitsu • PwC Tax Japan
 - NEC • KDDI • H.I.S • Elementary school teacher
- [Brazil]
 - Ajinomoto in Brazil • Uber
- [Thailand]
 - Mizuho Bank Bangkok branch
- [China]
 - GU in China • China Construction Bank
- [Graduate Schools]
 - Tokyo University Graduate School
 - University of Cambridge Graduate School
 - Chicago University Law School

Student's Voice



YOON EUNGI

Graduated in 2022
Country: Korea
Faculty of International Liberal Arts

Soka University helped me to open up my own limitless possibilities!

Employment

Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Niigata (Japan)

One of the things I gained through studying, cross-cultural exchange, and various activities and experiences that can only be done at Soka University is that I was able to open up my own infinite possibilities. As a result, I was able to break my shell and experience activities and experiences that I could not have done before, and now I am working at the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Niigata. The second is to learn humanism that values the people in front of us and respects each other. The humanism learned at the university is the most important thing to deepen trust and friendship in the workplace and in society regardless of age, gender, race, religion, etc. I will continue to grow as a person who has learned the philosophy of humanism and realize the founding spirit of Soka University.



ESTELA HITOMI SATO SHIRATORI

Graduated in 2019
Country: Brazil
Faculty of International Liberal Arts

I am grateful that I could discover my potential through my studies at Soka University!

Graduate School

Graduate School, Harvard University,

At Soka University, I made many friends from all over the world, met amazing professors, some of whom became close friends and mentors. And I kept reminding myself of the purpose to pursue education that is one of the founding principles of the university and always asked myself: how could this contribute to other people? After acquiring professional experience administering a language center, I have developed a curiosity on how language can play a significant role in cognitive development. I am looking forward to continuing my studies at Harvard University, pursuing master's on Human Development and Education with concentration in Identity, Power, and Justice in Education.

Dormitories and Events

We have excellent dormitories capable of accommodating many international students

Soka University allows nearly all international students spending their first year in Japan to live in a dormitory so that they can enjoy a sense of reassurance and get used to living in a foreign country. International students from many different countries live together and are exposed to different cultures every day. Student volunteers, including resident dormitory keepers and Japanese students, support international students and help them safely lead their lives in Japan.

There are seven dormitories available to international students

Male dormitories			
Dormitory	One year	Two installments	
		First	Second
Hoyu	418,000 yen	234,000 yen	184,000 yen
Takiyama International	498,000 yen	274,000 yen	224,000 yen



Female dormitories			
Dormitory	One year	Two installments	
		First	Second
Cosmos	446,000 yen	248,000 yen	198,000 yen
Sunflower Hall	466,000 yen	258,000 yen	208,000 yen
Manyo International	498,000 yen	274,000 yen	224,000 yen
Soshun	428,000 yen	239,000 yen	189,000 yen
Yuko	438,000 yen	244,000 yen	194,000 yen



- The fees include expenses on water and electricity bills, and dormitory admission fee of 50,000 yen.
 - Food expenses are not included.
 - Payment can be done up to two installments.
- * Dormitory fees are subject to change, so please be sure to check the admission information.

International students can make friendships that transcend differences in nationality

A volunteer society of our international students organizes athletic meets, cultural exchange events, and numerous other events each month that allow our international students to have a meaningful and fulfilling life on campus. The biggest of these events is held during the Soka University Festival when international students open food stalls and join Japanese students in showcasing the cuisine and dances of their home countries.



Admission for International Students

Undergraduate

Undergraduate admissions for international students

Please check the variety of programs that our university has through this QR code.
Undergraduate programs conducted in Japanese, undergraduate programs conducted entirely in English, Transfer Admission in Japanese or English, and more.



Bekka Preparatory Japanese Language Program

Bekka Preparatory Japanese Language Program

Screening of application form, high school transcript, standardized examination, etc.



Undergraduate Non-degree Program

Application guideline

Applicants are screened based on documents such as an academic transcript from their last school, a graduation or enrollment certificate, and a certificate of proficiency in Japanese or English.
Screening is all document based, which means that applicants do not have to come to Japan for the screening process.



Graduate school

International students' examination for admission to Soka University's graduate school

Applicants are screened based on documents and the results of an oral examination.
The oral examination can be taken via Skype or another similar web chat application, which means that applying students do not have to come to Japan to take the examination.
Some of our graduate schools accept new students in September as well as April.



See our website for details about entrance examinations for international students

URL

<https://www.soka.ac.jp/en/admissions/application/>

