

UEC International Special Program (MICH/AiQuSci)

Call for Applications: Self-financed International Students and Japanese Students

1. Outline

The UEC International Special Program (MICH/AiQuSci) aims to be an international cooperative educational program in which MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students jointly and mutually learn, compete, and understand each other.

As 16 new MEXT scholarship students will be arriving in Japan for October enrollment in 2021, we are now recruiting 16 self-financed international students and 32 Japanese students to participate in the program.

1-1 What are MICH and AiQuSci (MEXT Scholarship Special Program)?

At UEC, the following two programs have been selected by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) as part of its MEXT Scholarship Special Program. ※国費外国人留学生特別プログラム

MICH: Multifaceted International Collaboration Hubs

http://www.fedu.uec.ac.jp/en/future_students/mich/

AiQuSci: AI and Quantum Sciences for Developing Innovative Human Resources

http://www.fedu.uec.ac.jp/en/future_students/aiqusci/

MICH, in which students will experience two contrasting disciplines, BAIS (Big data, AI, Security) and M/MES (Mechanical/Material Engineering Science), aims to nurture international engineers and researchers with a wide range of backgrounds.

AiQuSci, in the same way, aims to nurture international engineers and researchers who can play an active role beyond their own specialized fields by experiencing two academic systems - quantum science and artificial intelligence.

1-2 What is the UEC International Special Program (MICH/AiQuSci)?

The MEXT Scholarship Special Program MICH and AiQuSci, which recruit MEXT scholarship students from overseas, offer cooperative educational programs for MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students.

The UEC International Special Program (MICH/AiQuSci) (hereinafter referred to as the "Special Program") is a joint educational program for MEXT scholarship students, self-

financed students and Japanese students, and we are now open for applications from self-financed international students and Japanese students.

Although the main objective of MEXT scholarship students who come to Japan from overseas is to obtain a degree in their research field, the focus of this Special Program is to provide opportunities for studying together with MEXT scholarship students by allowing self-financed international students and Japanese students to participate in events and designated courses, and eventually to provide opportunities to overcome language and cultural barriers and become active and useful on an international stage. In other words, it is a learning system in which 32 students (8 MEXT scholarship students, 8 self-financed international students, and 16 Japanese students) participate in each program every semester, and the students study together in a collaborative environment.

1-3 What you will gain from participating in the UEC International Special Program (MICH/AiQuSci)

Through collaborative study in an environment where students from various backgrounds gather, you will be able to develop mutual understanding by overcoming language and cultural barriers. This will also be the first step in building an international network.

The followings are advantages to participate:

(1) Self-financed international students

This is a good opportunity for international students who are looking to make Japanese friends. Even if you have a lot of Japanese friends and already get used to cultural and social circumstances in Japan, the more opportunities you have to interact with Japanese, the more deeply you can be adopted in Japanese society. Interacting with other international students of different nationalities is also helpful for building a network. In addition, you will be able to increase your language proficiency through the activities as a language partner.

(2) Japanese students

This is the perfect opportunity for Japanese students who want to be directly involved in this global society – for example, who hope to study abroad in order to eventually play an active role in the international field, or who are interested in international exchange and want to make friends with students from all over the world.

Many international students find it difficult to interact with shy Japanese students.

Having the empathy to relate to them and seeing yourself from their point of view is an important mindset to be able to cooperate and work with people around the world.

1-4 Expected roles

In principle, Japanese students and MEXT scholarship students or self-financed international students are paired up to participate in the following activities. The students are expected:

- To become a language partner and provide support for the acquisition of Japanese, English, or other second languages.
- To become friends with their language partner.
- To participate in classes and events designated by this Special Program with their language partner as much as possible.
- To expand the network of Japanese and international students beyond the language partnership by getting to know the language partner's acquaintances and communities.

※ International students who are fluent in Japanese can also become language partners who provide support for improving Japanese.

2. Special Program Details

2-1 Special Program Participation and Completion of Special Program

All MEXT scholarship students participating in this Special Program are required to join from the time of enrollment and must fulfill the program completion requirements which are specific to this Special Program before graduation.

On the other hand, self-financed international students and Japanese students who are recruited this time are not required to participate throughout their enrollment period, but can participate for a limited period of time, such as only one semester or one year.

Many of you may learn about this Special Program while you are at UEC and start to join in the middle of your enrollment until graduation.

2-2 Completion of Special Program

If you fulfill the requirements for completion of the Special Program as stated in 2-2-1 by the time you complete your degree program (graduation), you will receive a certificate of the program completion at the same time as your diploma.

2-2-1 Requirements for completion

In these Special Programs, students are required to complete the curriculum of the regular degree program and courses. If you meet the requirements specific to MICH/AiQuSci described below, you are completed with the Special Program at the same time as your degree completion.

- (1) Students are required to take at least one major subject in their department, and take or audit at least one major subject in another department or from the list of subjects shown in Appendix 1.
- (2) Students are required to attend the UEC International mini-Conference for Students on Informatics, Sciences and Engineering (UEC mini-Conference) held at the end of each semester. (See Appendix 2).
- (3) Those who wish to participate in the events listed in Appendix 2 (conferences, lectures, camps, internships, short-term exchange programs, academic events, etc.) are able to do so if they wish.

2-2-2 Certificate of Completion

If the requirements for completion of this Special Program are met by the end of the degree program (graduation), a certificate of completion of the Special Program will be awarded at the same time as the diploma.

2-3 Participation

Except for MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students and Japanese students may newly participate in the Special Program each semester during their enrollment. Although it is recommended that you remain in the program until degree completion, you may withdraw from the program even before completing the degree depending on individual circumstances.

2-3-1 Special Program Participation Requirements

In this Special Program, students are required to complete the curriculum of a regular degree program/course and are required to fulfill the following specific requirements of MICH/AiQuSci for each semester:

- (1) Attend and participate in every JUSST mini conference (mandatory). Poster presentations and oral presentations are optional.
- (2) As a language partner, both international and Japanese students support each other in learning the language (mandatory)
- (3) Participate in classes and events designated by this Special Program as a pair (optional)

2-3-2 Participation Certificate

A certificate of participation in the Special Program will be issued at the end of each semester if the requirements for participation are met.

3. About the Language Partner System (details to follow)

The Special Program pairs MEXT scholarship students and self-financed international students with Japanese students to act as language partners and support each other's language learning.

3-1 Obligations as a Language Partner

- To cooperate in language learning according to each other's willingness
- To submit a report on their language study at the end of semester
- To work on group interaction and networking development, not only with pairs, but also with their own friends as much as possible
- To understand that language learning and networking is one of the purposes of the program (although there is no minimum number of learning hours)
- To find a convenient way for each other (by ZOOM, in-person, etc.)

3-2 Pairing of Language Partners

Language partners will be paired up by the committee according to the preference questionnaire provided at the time of application. Please understand that we might not be able to meet your requests depending on requirements such as gender, desired level of Japanese, second foreign language preference, and the desired number of learning hours.

5. Special Program Participation Benefits

Special Program participants will be provided with the following support if they meet the program participation requirements:

5-1 Special Award (details to follow)

Students participating in this Special Program (excluding MEXT scholarship students) will receive a special award of 20,000 yen each semester to reward their contributions, especially as language partners.

5-1-1 Requirements for the special award

- Attend the UEC mini conference for the semester with your language partner

(mandatory)

-Work as a language partner and submit a report at the end of the semester

(mandatory)

-You must have a domestic bank account in their own name (mandatory).

-Participate in classes and events with your language partner (optional)

5-1-2 Special Award Payment Method

It will be transferred to your domestic bank account around the end of each semester.

5-2 Support for travel and participation expenses of program-designated events (details to follow)

You can receive support for travel and other expenses (registration fees, etc.) when participating in events designated by this Special Program. Please note, however, that in the case of major expenses such as overseas internships or study abroad programs, the expenses will be partially (not fully) covered.

5-2-1 Requirements for payment of travel expenses, participation fees, etc.

You are expected:

-To participate in the designated events of the semester (Appendix 1 and 2) with your language partner (mandatory)

-To submit a participation report (in the case of travel expenses, this can be substituted for a travel expense report) (mandatory)

-To have a domestic bank account in your own name (mandatory).

-To obtain evidence (receipts, etc.) necessary for accounting procedures (mandatory)

5-2-2 Method of payment of travel and participation expenses, etc.

It will be transferred to your bank account when accounting procedures are completed. In principle, you need to request travel expenses or advance payments by yourself, and each expense will be paid to your bank account accordingly.

6. Applying for the Program

6-1 Eligibility

(1) You must be a graduate student or an undergraduate student who belongs to a laboratory.

(Including international research students and short-term exchange students (JUSST students))

(2) Understand and agree with the purpose of this Special Program.

6-2 Capacity

The maximum number of applicants per program is 8 self-financed students and 16 Japanese students each year, so the total number of applicants for both MICH and AiQuSci in October 2021 is as follows:

- ① Self-financed students: 16 or less
 - ② Japanese students: 32 students or less
- ※ Subject to change due to immigration restrictions by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Special awards will begin to be granted after October 2021.

6-3 Application period

From August 18 (Wednesday) to August 31 (Tuesday)

6-4 Selection and results

The committee will make a selection and contact you in mid-September.

6-5 Application procedures and selection (details to follow)

Enter your student ID number, name, department/major, laboratory, and expected graduation year in the Google application form, and upload an application file (in any style and format) with the following information:

Application google form

<https://forms.gle/1AF3Y9AmbV6jBDmx5>

The Application google form is only accessible from your UEC google account

※Items to be filled out in the application file

Through participation in this Special Program,

- ① What do you want to accomplish?
- ② How can you contribute to UEC and this Special Program?
- ③ Why are you interested in this Special Program?
- ④ Examples of cross-cultural exchanges you have experienced
- ⑤ How much you are motivated and interested in learning a foreign language

Please summarize your thoughts and experiences in about 100-200 words for each ① to

⑤. You may insert illustrations, photos, etc. into the application file, but please include all the materials in one file (only one file may be uploaded).

※Language Partner Preference Questionnaire

If you have a specific preference, please fill in the respective fields in the Google Form so that we can use it as a reference for pairing.

- ① Gender
- ② Japanese Language Proficiency Level
- ③ Foreign languages other than English
- ④ Number of hours per week
- ⑤ Other (free description)

For inquiries, please contact

ryugakusei-k@office.uec.ac.jp

[Appendix 1]

Since it is expected that most MEXT scholarship students will take classes in English, the following is a list of courses that are offered primarily in English. It is recommended that paired students take or audit the same class, if possible.

In addition, for the Japanese students participating in this Special Program, we will offer a unique group of courses (Joint Innovative PhD Programs スーパー連携大学院 and Data Entrepreneur Fellows Program データアントレプレナーフェロープログラム). This Special Program will support the expenses necessary for paired students to take and audit these courses together.

1. International Subjects (国際科目)

(Credit acquisition: available in some class subjects, Primary language: English)

This is a course offered in English (24 class subjects in total) for short-term exchange program students, which is also open to Japanese students and offers opportunities for both Japanese and international students to study together (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

For more details, please refer to the following web site:

First semester: <http://kyoumu.office.uec.ac.jp/timet/kokusai1.pdf>

Second semester: <http://kyoumu.office.uec.ac.jp/timet/kokusai2.pdf>

2. BHN Kuwabara Foundation Donation Course (BHN 桑原基金寄附講座)

(Credit acquisition: available, Primary language: English)

This course is offered in English with the aim of fostering human resources with high aspirations related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a gift from the BHN Association, an authorized non-profit organization (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

① International Communication for Science and Technology 国際科学技術コミュニケーション論

This class subject is given in the form of intensive lectures, with seminars in the second semester. All students will give presentations and discussions together.

② Information and Communications Technologies for SDGs SDGsを支える情報通信論

There will be 15 classes during the semester (not intensive lectures) and a special camp-style class at the end of the semester. There will be no financial cost for students, but if there is, the Special Program can support the expenses.

3. The Joint Doctoral Program for Sustainability Research 共同サステナビリティ研究専攻 (Credit acquisition: available, Primary language: English)

The Joint Doctoral Program for Sustainability Research is a multi-disciplinary research program jointly established by the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, and the University of Electro-Communications, with all courses offered in English (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

(1) Interdisciplinary Seminar I, II, III, IV, V, VI (協働分野セミナーI, II, III, IV, V, VI)

(2) Foundations of Sustainability Research A, B (サステナビリティ研究基礎 A, B)

(3) In addition to the above courses, you can also participate in seminars and other events. Please refer to the following website for details.

<http://www.tufs-tuat-uec.jp/page/coproduction/curriculum.html>

4. Joint Innovative PhD Programs スーパー連携大学院 (Credit acquisition: available, Primary Language: Japanese)

The Consortium of Joint Innovative PhD Programs conducts various projects such as fostering innovative human resources who are active in our society, planning and conducting joint research, etc., in cooperation among universities and in collaboration with local governments and industries. Five national and public universities jointly offer 33 courses. For more details, please refer to the following website (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

<http://www.super-daigakuin.jp/study.html>

5. Data Entrepreneur Fellows Program データアントレプレナーフェロープログラム (Credit acquisition: available, Primary Language: Japanese)

The purpose of this course is to develop "data entrepreneurs" as human resources who have a background as data scientists and can create businesses that generate new value. There is a consortium of companies that participate in this course, and employment matching is available (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

(1) Data Entrepreneur Practical Theory データアントレプレナー実践論

(2) Advanced Data Scientist データサイエンティスト特論

For more information, please refer to the web at right. <https://de.uec.ac.jp/curriculum/>

[Appendix 2]

Students may participate in the following events (conferences, lectures, camps, internships, short-term exchange programs, academic events, etc.) if they wish. The expenses to participate in these events with a paired student will be supported by this Special Program (subject to certain conditions and maximum limits).

【UEC International mini-Conference for Students on Informatics, Sciences and Engineering (UEC mini-conference)】 (Primary language: English)

All students participating in the program are required to attend.

JUSST (Japanese University Studies in Science and Technology), a short-term exchange program offered by UEC, holds a UEC mini-conference at the end of the program to present their achievements of the year-long study. It is also an opportunity for students participating in this Special Program to report the results and progress of their study, as well as to train themselves to give oral presentations in high-level academic English at the standard of international conferences (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

http://www.fedu.uec.ac.jp/en/future_students/jusst/

MEXT scholarship students are required to participate as follows:

- ① At the first participation of the enrolling semester, students will make a poster presentation of their own research theme and plans.
- ② At the second time, you will give an oral presentation on the progress of your research.
- ③ From the third time onwards, you are expected to attend the Mini-conference, asking questions to the presenters, giving advice to the junior students on how to prepare for their poster and oral presentations etc., especially to newly enrolled MEXT scholarship students.

Self-financed international students and Japanese students are required to attend and participate in the Mini-conference every semester to ask questions to the presenters and give advice to junior students.

【Tama Colloquium (Colloquium on Cooperation between Arts and Sciences) 多摩コロキウム (文理協働コロキウム)】 (Primary language: Japanese or English)

This is a student-led exchange program for undergraduate and graduate students from Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, and the University of Electro-Communications. The purpose of this program is to promote interdisciplinary exchange among students beyond the boundaries of universities and fields. Participants from this Special Program will give presentations as a multinational team of mixed Japanese and international students. The entire event will be held mainly in Japanese, so you must participate as a team of Japanese and international students. From the 2020 academic year onward, the event has been held online (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

<https://www.uec.ac.jp/news/event/2013/20140314-1.html>

【GLTP UEC Seminar GLTP UEC セミナー】 (Primary language: Japanese or English)

This is a seminar organized by GLTP students of UEC. Fifteen seminars are scheduled to be held in a year, three of which will be planned and held by MEXT scholarship students and self-financed international students. In academic year 2020, the seminar was held online (open mainly to MEXT scholarship students and self-financed international students).

https://www.uec.ac.jp/news/event/2019/20191209_2221.html

【UEC ASEAN Seminar UEC ASEAN セミナー】 (Primary language: English)

This is an international conference co-hosted by UEC and our partner universities in the ASEAN region. In 2019, it was co-hosted with ECTI (Electrical Engineering/Electronics, Computer, Telecommunications and Information Technology Association) in Thailand. In 2020, the conference was held online (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

<http://www.ecti-uec-ai2019.com/index.php>

【Visit to facilities (related to the Open Innovation Program) 施設訪問 (オープンイノベーションプログラム関連)】 (Primary language: Japanese or English)

Department of Engineering Science 先進理工学専攻 offers a program to visit off-campus research institutions in Tama area. Students participating in this Special Program will accompany the visit to the facilities (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students).

<http://www.oi.es.uec.ac.jp/2018/index.html>

【International PBL 国際 PBL】 (Credit acquisition: available, All departments, Primary language: English)

This course is a project-based learning (PBL) program in collaboration with Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunication. The purpose of this course is to acquire internationalism and practical skills in the process of cooperatively solving assigned problems. The course is intended for master's students, but doctoral students are also expected to be able to participate (open to MEXT scholarship students, self-financed international students, and Japanese students). *This program was cancelled in 2020, and is not yet determined for 2021.

http://www.emclab.cei.uec.ac.jp/xiao/PBL/2019_guidane.pdf

【Domestic Internship and International Internship 国内インターンシップ・国際インターンシップ】 (Credit acquisition: available)

Domestic internships are available for students who aim to work for domestic companies or in Japanese industry, while international internship opportunities are available for students who aim to work overseas. The maximum duration of the internship is expected to be 1.5 months so as not to affect the educational and research activities at the university (Domestic Internship: open mainly to MEXT scholarship students and self-financed international students; International Internship: open mainly to Japanese students).

https://www.uec.ac.jp/news/event/2020/20200116_2320.html

【Short-term overseas study abroad, etc. 短期海外研究留学等】 (Primary language: English)

We provide opportunities for short-term overseas research study and overseas training for students who wish to enter academia in future. This includes short-term overseas training programs where students are dispatched to Thailand or China, as well as research study at overseas laboratories with which your lab actively exchange. The maximum duration of the program is expected to be about 1.5 months so as not to affect the education and research activities at the university. The committee of this Special Program does not make arrangements, and students must search for a place to study abroad on their own through their academic supervisors. International Student Section (留学生交流係) is responsible for procedures related to JASSO scholarship (open mainly to Japanese students).