

## The International Joint Graduate Program in Resilience and Safety Studies Program Guideline and COVID-19 Special Measures

災害科学・安全学国際共同大学院

プログラムガイドライン、および、コロナウィルス感染症の影響拡大に伴う特別対応について

### 1. Purpose of This Document 本資料の目的

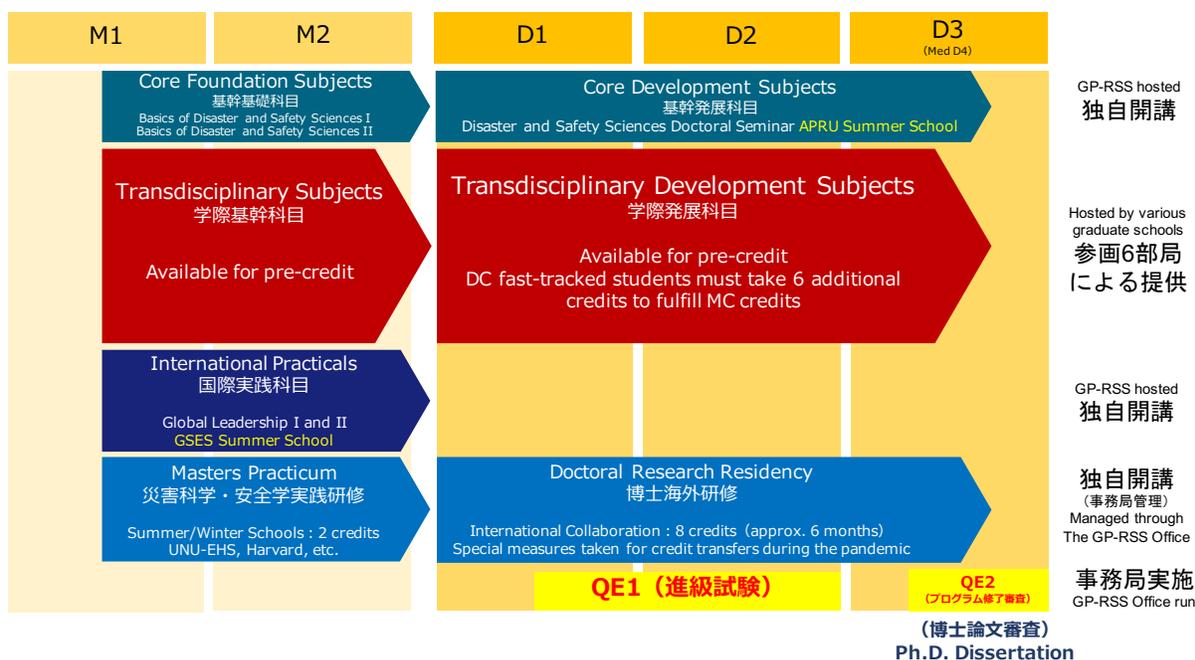
This document will reiterate the components of the GP-RSS curriculum that students and supervising faculty need to be cognizant of as they plan their requirements for the completion of the Program. Note that this document is complementary to existing public documents regarding the design of the Program (see <https://gp-rss.tohoku.ac.jp>), and should be used as a navigation reference. In the Fiscal Year 2020 (R2), we introduced special measures in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic, which impedes students from traveling, thus affecting their summer/winter school attendances and research residencies. This document will be subject to review and changes by the GP-RSS Board as needed.

### 2. Educational Goals 教育理念



### 3. Program Design プログラム設計

For the full curriculum, see <http://gp-rss.tohoku.ac.jp/en/curriculum.html>



#### a) Subjects hosted by the GP-RSS

Core Foundation (MC) / Development (DC) Subjects and International Practicals (MC) are hosted by the Program, and can not be taken in advance as pre-credit (special circumstances applied in 2019).

#### b) Transdisciplinary Subjects

Transdisciplinary Subjects are regular lectures hosted by each of our constituent graduate schools, and can be taken in advance as pre-credit (see 6.). DC-fast-tracked students must take an additional 6 credits to fulfill their MC prerequisites.

#### c) Overseas Educational Experience

MC students are required to fulfill 2 credits, equivalent of approximately 2 weeks of summer or winter school at an affiliate school of their choosing. DC students must fulfill a minimum of six months of research residency (or equivalent activities) at a research institution with supervisory capacity in international collaboration (see more on 7.).

### 4. Qualification Examinations 1 and 2 (QE1 and QE2)

Students undergo QE1 upon matriculating to their DC, or, if they are advanced DC students (特例生), after one semester with The GP-RSS. Students who enrolled in their second semester of M2 (enrolled as advanced DC equivalent) will also undergo QE1 in or after their first semester of D1.

For QE1, students are asked to submit their research portfolio and deliver an oral presentation summarizing their progress, research communication skills, and research plans to study abroad. Pre-credit accreditations should be completed in advance.

Students are examined on their research progress and heavily evaluated on their intentions to collaborate internationally. Students are provided opportunities in guidance regarding their preparation process, the details which are communicated at the beginning of the semester.

All students undergo QE2 in their final semester, coinciding with their Ph.D. defense. Students will be expected to showcase their international collaboration, and will also be required to undergo a separate examination by The International Joint Graduate Program. Guidance will be provided by the GP-RSS Office.

Students are reminded that examining faculty will be represented from various graduate schools involved in the International Joint Graduate Program, and so their international collaboration should be presented with a wide audience in mind.

#### 5. **Pre-credit Accreditation** プレ履修の単位認定について

Students who have taken transdisciplinary subjects prior to enrolling with the GP-RSS may apply for pre-credit accreditation. Approval will be granted by the GP-RSS Board.

Applications for pre-credit accreditation will be announced by the GP-RSS Office once a semester. Your application is only valid with a current academic transcript. Students undergoing QE1 and QE2 should be aware of these deadlines.

#### 6. **Guidance Support** 履修ガイダンス

New students must attend an orientation session upon enrollment, and are provided with additional guidance support from the GP-RSS Office through individual guidance appointments. Current students are also invited to receive individual guidance support at the beginning of every semester, and at any point via appointment. Starting April 2021, students are required to report their class registrations via the **Program Class Registration Form (プログラム授業履修届)**. The Program emphasizes that students are ultimately responsible for planning and following through on their course requirements. The Program does not provide extended financial support for students who experience delays in their Ph.D. defense.

Note that a letter grade D (score 59 and below) is a failing grade, and cannot be counted toward credit fulfillment.

MC students are reminded that they cannot take any DC classes in advance, including fulfilling credits for the Doctoral Research Residency.

GP-RSS transdisciplinary subjects should be registered with your graduate school via your online Tohoku University account at the beginning of each semester. For transdisciplinary subjects offered by graduate schools outside your own, submit an **Interdepartmental Registration Form (関連科目履修届)** to your graduate school's Student Affairs Office (do not send to the GP-RSS Office).

Transdisciplinary subject lecture codes and Google Classroom codes will be made available to students at the beginning of each semester, however, codes for subjects hosted by the GP-RSS (including core subjects and practica) will not be made available.

Please register for these classes using the Program Class Registration Form.

## 7. **Overseas Educational Experience for DC students** 博士海外研修に関する履修

DC students are required to fulfill six months of research residency at a research institution of their choosing with supervisory capacity in international collaboration. Fieldwork alone is insufficient in fulfilling this research residency.

The purpose of the research residency is to build a collaborative relationships with our expanding network of overseas affiliates. The goal for your research residency should be to produce at least one collaborative publication with your international collaborators. A fixed sum of financial aid (subject to budgetary change) regarding travel is provided by the GP-RSS, however, the Program is not solely responsible for student travel, and supervising faculty must be willing to cover collaborative costs, particularly for subsequent instances of travel. The GP-RSS Board may decide to grant additional travel aid to students who apply internally.

Currently, the GP-RSS has working relationships with the following Universities:

The United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS), Germany; United Nations University - Institute of Advanced Studies (UNU-IAS), Japan; United Nations University - International Institute for Global Health (UNU-IIGH), Malaysia; Harvard University Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, USA; National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore; Tsinghua University, China; Nankai University College of Economic and Social Development, China; Seoul National University, Korea; Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST), Korea; Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB), Indonesia; Brawijaya University, Indonesia; Wageningen University & Research (WUR), Netherlands; Utrecht University, Netherlands; Novosibirsk State University, Russia; Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM), Malaysia; The University of Queensland, Australia.

Note that students are not limited to working with the above affiliates, but can collaborate with any school of their choosing. Taking advantage of existing collaborations, especially involving your supervisor is strongly encouraged.

While students should plan for six months of research residency, the Program recognizes that special circumstances may emerge where it is ideal for the student to stay in Japan to fulfill components of their doctoral research, or are unable to travel abroad. In these cases, the student is responsible for notifying the GP-RSS Office and Board of their research plans and present an alternative activity in lieu of the remaining time they would have spent abroad. Students with no intention of collaborating or traveling abroad are dismissed from the Program. See **9.** for details on transferable activities.

## 8. **COVID-19 Special Measures** コロナ禍特別対応

In light of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Program recognizes that students are experiencing difficulties planning for overseas travel, which greatly constrains students who wish to attend summer/winter school abroad for their masters practicum, or fulfill their doctoral research residencies.

As of May 21st, 2020 (GP-RSS23), The GP-RSS Board has approved the equivalency of one or more first-authored peer-reviewed collaborative international publications in lieu of students' DC research residencies. The Board also recognizes any online activities related

to international collaboration. Only publications and activities during the affected time period for COVID-19 can be considered, and students must be able to present evidence to the GP-RSS Board.

Students travelling abroad for personal or official reasons **MUST** report their travels to the GP-RSS Office in the following ways (starting 2021 fall semester):

- 》 Your official notice of approval for travel from the University AND graduate school
- 》 A written consent from your supervisor understanding that they are responsible for any remote supervision done off-campus (please note any changes in university-wide policies regarding remote work).
- 》 For any activities requiring accreditation to your practica (MC Practicum, DC Doctoral Research Residency), you will be asked to submit evidence of your collaboration upon your return, which may then be reviewed by the GP-RSS Board for approval. It is highly suggested for students to communicate with the GP-RSS prior to travel if you seek accreditation for your activities abroad. Students requesting to travel abroad with financial support from the GP-RSS MUST communicate with the Office a minimum of one month (20 working days) before departure. The Program may not be able to finance your trip if you do fail to meet this deadline.

In addition, **the GP-RSS strongly advises its students to be vaccinated**, especially prior to travel. We ask that your personal safety be prioritized for any activity for which you will be representing the GP-RSS, and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

## 9. Transferable Academic Activities for Doctoral Research Residency

博士海外研修へ読替可能な研究活動

The GP-RSS calculates the accreditation of overseas educational experiences in the following:

- 》 6 months / 8 credits = 24 weeks (5 week days) / 8 credits
- 》 1 credit = approximately 3 weeks of doctoral research work related to international collaboration

Students are responsible for notifying and negotiating their participation in advance to the GP-RSS Office regarding all transferable academic activities.

The GP-RSS authorizes the following program activities to count towards DC research residencies:

- [Harvard University Reischauer Institute JDA Workshop](#) (December 5th - 7th, 2019)  
1 credit (approved November 18th, 2020 at GP-RSS19)
- [UNU-EHS/UBonn Module 8 on Global Health Masters](#) (July 6th - 15th, 2020) 2 credits
- [APRU Summer School](#) (July 15th, 22nd, 29th, 2020 + webinars) 1- 2 credits
- [GSES Summer School](#) (August 31st - September 4th, 2020; concurrent with MC Practical on Global Leader Development I and II) 2 credits
- ~~[UNU-EHS Teaching Module on Disaster Risk Management and Humanitarian Response](#)~~  
~~(TBA, planned for October – November, 2020) 2 credits~~
- [Harvard University Reischauer Institute JDA Workshop](#) (weekly meetings from

- November 2020, online workshop on December 8, 2020) 1 credit
- [RENKEI Japan - UK Research Collaboration Workshop](#) (postponed until further notice)
- [GSES Summer School](#) (September 6th - 8th, 2021) 2 credits
- [Harvard University Reischauer Institute JDA Workshop](#) (weekly seminar obligations October - November, online workshop event on December 3, 2021) 1 credit

**10. JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC1/DC2)**

日本学術振興会特別研究員（学振）DC1/DC2

GP-RSS students are strongly advised to apply to the JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists DC1 or DC2. The program awards additional financial support for recipients. Please remember that your application to the GP-RSS is based on the DC1 / DC2 application, and Form D Research Proposal can be used to apply to the JSPS.

**11. Tohoku University Advanced Graduate School (TUAGS) Fellowship and Pioneering Research Program (PRP)**

東北大学高等大学院博士課程フェロースhip、次世代プログラム奨励

GP-RSS students who have shown excellency in their research progress may be offered positions in the TUAGS fellowship or the PRP. Please follow instructions from the Office and your graduate school should you be contacted with an offer.

Version 1.0: Approved by the 25th GP-RSS Board Meeting (July 8th, 2020)

Version 1.1: minor edits in Section 9. (section title and past events)

Version 1.2: Harvard JDA Workshop information updated

Version 1.3: Fall semester information updated, “10. Reminders for Class Registration” added

Version 2.0: Edited for R3 April 2021 new academic year (3. Program Design, 4. Qualification

Examination 1 and 2 (QE1 and QE2), 6. Guidance Support, 7. Overseas Educational

Experiences for DC Students, 8. COVID-19 Special Measures for Overseas Educational

Experiences, 9. Transferable Academic Activities for Doctoral Research Residency, 10. Class

Registration, 11. JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (DC1/DC2))

Version 20211007: Edits made to details on 4. Qualification Examinations 1 and 2, 5. Pre-credit

Accreditation, 10. Class Registration details merged with 6. Guidance Support; changes made

to 6. Guidance Support, 8. COVID-19 Special Measures; updated 9. Transferable Academic

Activities for Doctoral Research Residency; added 11. Tohoku University Advanced Graduate

School (TUAGS) Fellowship and Pioneering Research Program (PRP)