

SPSF

SOPHIA PROGRAM FOR
SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

PROSPECTUS 2027



TO CREATE OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES TOGETHER

Across the World and Here

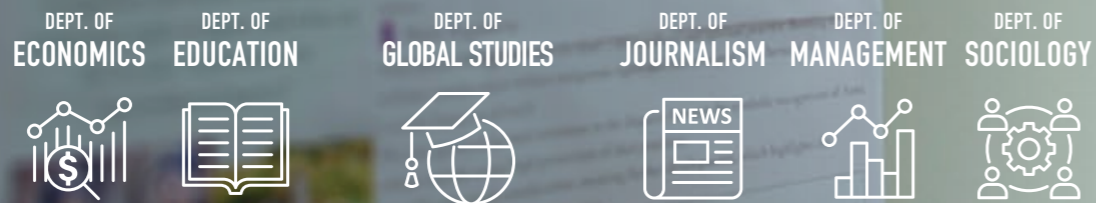
in Tokyo

DESIGN YOUR FUTURE THAT WORKS

The Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures provides students with a broad understanding of the world's diversities and teaches them the practical skills needed to contribute to building sustainable futures for others, with others. The students will learn about sustainability issues on a global and local scale and will collaborate with their peers and professors both on and off campus in order to determine how to achieve a sustainable future.

Obtaining a degree is part of the process of becoming a change agent, but it is not the ultimate objective in life nor in SPSF. As the circumstances and environment surrounding problems around the world continue to change, it becomes increasingly necessary to learn and adapt in order to build sustainable futures. To this end, the knowledge and expertise, the understanding of multiple perspectives, and the problem-solving competency cultivated at SPSF will form the foundation of the students' lifelong journey.

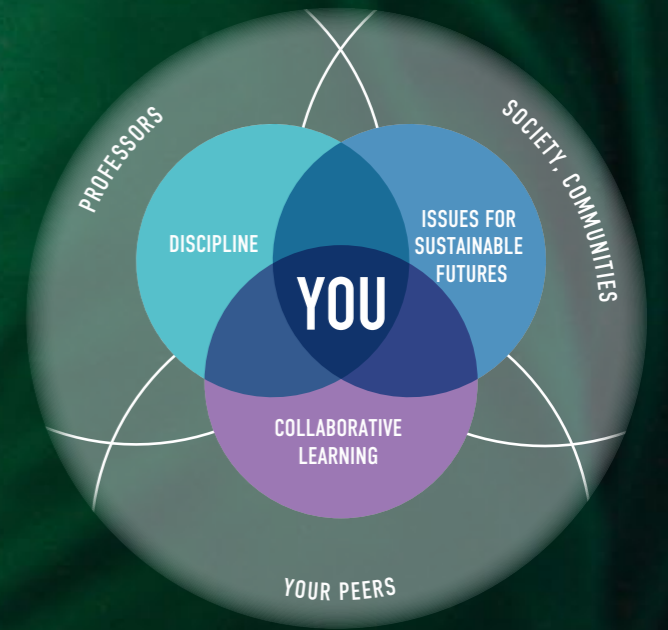
STEP 01 When applying, please indicate ONE preferred department



STEP 02 Interdisciplinary Learning in English



STEP 03 Graduate with your degree from the department you chose



Learning Environment at SPSF

WHY SPSF



SPSF SOPHIA PROGRAM FOR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES



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THE PERFECT PLACE TO STUDY

Interdisciplinary Approach

SPSF is designed to develop students' critical and creative thinking skills to help them to work in the global and local environment and find solutions to issues faced by the international community using an interdisciplinary approach. By interacting and collaborating with students from other majors, students will understand issues from multiple perspectives. That's what makes SPSF so unique!

All Courses Conducted in English

SPSF aims to create a learning environment free from conflicts of interest, where students from diverse backgrounds around the world can discuss their futures and deepen their understanding of each other's perspectives. In order to do this, English is used as the common language in which all participants communicate. With slightly more limited credits, courses conducted in Japanese are also available for SPSF students who wish to improve their Japanese-language proficiency or for those who are interested in courses relating to their respective specialized fields of study that are offered outside SPSF.

Learning on & off Campus

Students will have opportunities for internships, field research, and other initiatives that foster practical learning in Japan and abroad. A variety of other opportunities such as study-abroad programs at affiliated universities, internships abroad, and international field studies are also offered.

Offering Bachelor's Degrees in Specialized Fields of Study

SPSF students can study under the common core theme "sustainable futures" together with students from other disciplines to further their understanding of the theme and to obtain a bachelor's degree in one of seven disciplines when they graduate.

All Nine Faculties on One Campus

Sophia University has a compact footprint that brings together all faculties on a single campus. It allows SPSF to coordinate discipline-based courses seamlessly across six departments and offer an interdisciplinary learning environment at the same time.

A Pioneer in Global Education in Japan

Sophia University now has 70 years of experience in providing courses in English and developing programs in which students can obtain credits solely in English. The knowledge obtained through the many years of experience is utilized in the development of SPSF.



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Please see the Syllabus inquiry at the Sophia University website for details.



	First-year		Second-year		Third-year		Fourth-year	
	Autumn	Spring	Autumn	Spring	Autumn	Spring	Autumn	Spring
SPSF Common Core The Required Courses for All SPSF Students.	Theme-based First-Year Lecture in/about SF				Theme-based Third-Year Seminar for SF			
	Academic Skills Academic Writing 1	Academic Skills Academic Writing 2						
	Academic Skills Academic Presentations	Academic Skills Critical Thinking & Discussion						
Specialized Education of the selected fields of study ▶ Dept. Info P. 5–10	Courses offered by Dept. of Economics		Interdisciplinary Learning				Bachelor's thesis	
	Courses offered by Dept. of Education				Bachelor's thesis			
	Courses offered by Dept. of Global Studies				Bachelor's thesis			
	Courses offered by Dept. of Journalism				Bachelor's thesis			
	Courses offered by Dept. of Management				Bachelor's thesis			
	Courses offered by Dept. of Sociology				Bachelor's thesis			
	Foreign language courses taught in English							
General Studies	Compulsory & elective courses including foreign language courses taught in Japanese							
Others Other activities may need the extra semester(s) to graduation.			Internships					
			Study Abroad					
			Social Engagement Programs					
			Off-Campus Programs / Life Events					

As of AY2026



“We face constant challenges in addressing emerging—and even yet-unseen—issues in society. Sometimes academia has the answers, but society is not ready to apply them. Why is that? How can we bring these solutions into the real world? Other times, we must invent solutions from scratch. How should we frame these problems? What might the best solutions look like? And how can we change individual or organizational behavior to achieve them? Our program invites you to explore these questions. Are you ready for the challenge?”



—Professor Dr. Tetsuya HORIE, SPSF PROGRAM COORDINATOR

COURSE LIST

Specialized Education

ECONOMICS

- Active Learning Seminar 1, 2
- Applied Econometrics 1, 2
- Applied Macroeconomics
- Applied Microeconomics
- Asian Economy
- Bachelor's Thesis
- Circular Economy and Sustainable Business
- Contemporary Issues in International Development
- Economics of Financial Markets
- Economics of Market Failures
- Economics of Social Security
- Environmental and Natural Resource Economics
- Game Theory
- Global Development Goals
- Industrial Organization
- Intermediate Econometrics
- Intermediate Macroeconomics
- Intermediate Microeconomics
- International Economics and Business
- International Finance
- Introduction to Econometrics
- Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Introduction to Microeconomics
- Introduction to Statistics
- Japanese Economy 1
- Labor Economics
- Long-Run Economic Growth

- Mathematics for Economics
- Political Economy
- Poverty in the Global Economy
- Research Seminar 1, 2, 3, 4
- Time Series Analysis

EDUCATION

- Bachelor's Thesis / Bachelor's Graduation Project
- Comparative Education in Asia
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Education and International Development
- Educational Psychology
- International Education
- Introduction to Comparative Education
- Introduction to Educational Studies
- Research in Education 1, 2
- Special Topics in Education
 - Philosophy of Education
 - Sociology of Education
 - Educational Policy Issues in Contemporary Asia
 - Global Citizenship, Humanity Empowerment and Critical Moral Consciousness
 - Introduction to Epistemic Injustice, Transformation, and Education
- Undergraduate Seminar in Education 1, 2, 3, 4

GLOBAL STUDIES

- Academic Skills for Global Studies
- Advanced Studies (Cultures and Societies of Asia)
- Advanced Studies (Democracy and Conflict)
- Advanced Studies (Global Migration and Koreans in Japan)
- Advanced Studies (Sustainability Education)

- Asian Politics
- Bachelor's Thesis (Area Studies) 1, 2
- Bachelor's Thesis (International Relations) 1, 2
- Basics of International Cooperation B
- Basics of Southeast Asian Studies B
- Basics of Theories of Civil Society B
- Contemporary Societies of the Middle East
- Education for Minorities in Japan
- Global History and Asia
- Independent Studies 1, 2, 2a, 2b, 3, 4, 4a, 4b, 5, 6, 6a, 6b
- International Human Rights
- International Organization: Theory and Practice
- International Politics: Theory and Practice
- International Relations of Asia–Pacific
- Introduction to Area Studies
- Introduction to Global Studies
- Introduction to International Relations
- Life and Culture in Africa
- Modern History of the Middle East B
- Peace Research
- Premodern History of Southeast Asia
- Seminar (Area Studies) 1, 2
- Seminar (International Relations) 1, 2
- Society and Politics in South Asia
- Theory of International Politics

JOURNALISM

- Bachelor's Thesis A, B
- Communication 1
- Ethics of Mass Communication 1, 2
- Global Media Program
- International Communication 1, 2

- Introduction to Global Media
- Mass Media 1, 2
- Media English
- Reporting in English 1, 2, 3
- Seminar 1(Media Research)
- Seminar 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B

MANAGEMENT

- Advanced Strategic Management
- Bachelor's Thesis
- Challenging Frontline Issues in Global Business
- Consumer Behavior 1, 2
- Corporate Finance
- Entrepreneurship 1, 2
- Financial Accounting 1, 2
- Fundamentals of Accounting 1, 2
- Global Branding
- Global Marketing 1, 2
- Innovation Management
- Introduction to Management 1, 2
- Management Accounting 1, 2
- Management of Multinational Enterprises
- Marketing Strategy 1, 2
- Organizational Behavior
- Organizational Theory and Analysis
- Portfolio Management and Investment
- Principles of Accounting
- Principles of Management
- Principles of Marketing
- Research Seminar 1, 2, 3, 4
- Special Topics in Management 1, 2
- Special Topics in Marketing
- Strategic Management

SOCIOLOGY

- Advanced Seminar in Sociology
- Bachelor's Thesis
- Contemporary Social Problems: Immigration in Japan and Integration of Immigrants
- Environmental Sociology
- First Year Seminar in Sociology
- Introduction to Statistics
- Principles of Sociology
- Qualitative Methods in Sociology
- Quantitative Methods in Sociology
- Social Change in Postwar Japan
- Sociological Theory 1, 2
- Sociology of Families
- Sociology of Globalization
- Sociology of Happiness
- Special Topics in Sociology
 - Introduction to Gender Studies
 - Resilience and Future of Japanese Rural Communities
- Work and Employment in Japan

SPSF Common Core

THEME-BASED

- First-Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures
- Third-Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures

ACADEMIC SKILLS

- Academic Writing 1, 2
- Academic Presentations
- Critical Thinking & Discussions

Language

JAPANESE LANGUAGE COURSES

- Academic Japanese 1–1, 1–2
- Academic Japanese 2–1, 2–2
- Advanced Japanese 1, 2
- Advanced Japanese Oral Communication
- Business Japanese
- Introduction to Statistics
- Introduction to Japanese Business Culture
- Japanese 1, 2, 3, 4
- Japanese Business Culture
- Japanese Literacy
- Japanese M1, M2, M3
- Reading & Writing 1, 2, 3
- Translation English to Japanese: Theory & Practice

OTHER LANGUAGES

Note: Other languages include leveled progression; it varies by language.

- Arabic
- Burmese
- Cambodian
- Chinese
- French
- German
- Hindi
- Indonesian
- Italian
- Korean
- Persian
- Portuguese
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swahili
- Tagalog
- Thai
- Turkish
- Vietnamese

DEPT. OF ECONOMICS

 Bachelor of Arts in Economics

Do you want to learn how economics can be used to provide insight into real-world, social and economic phenomena, as well as enhance logical thinking skills? Join us at the Department of Economics, where we teach you basic and advanced economic concepts, such as macroeconomics, microeconomics, and sustainable development. You will also apply your analytical skills to examine various issues associated with developing sustainable societies in a range of settings. You will have the opportunity to take courses in other Sophia University Departments and develop knowledge of other areas where economic concepts can be applied. Our courses feature small class sizes to promote active discussion between students and lecturers. We welcome self-motivated applicants who are interested in improving their understanding of the socio-economic issues occurring in modern society.

CURRICULUM As of AY2026

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures Academic Skills★ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures 	
General Studies				
Microeconomics Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Microeconomics Applied Microeconomics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intermediate Microeconomics Industrial Organization Game Theory 		
Macroeconomics Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Macroeconomics Applied Macroeconomics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intermediate Macroeconomics Long-run Economic Growth International Finance 		
Data Analysis Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematics for Economics Introduction to Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Econometrics Time Series Analysis Intermediate Econometrics Applied Econometrics 1 and 2 		
Specialization		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economics of Market Failures Economics of Social Security Economics of Financial Markets Political Economy Labor Economics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Economics and Business Environmental and Natural Resource Economics Circular Economy and Sustainable Business Contemporary Issues in International Development Global Development Goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty in the Global Economy Japanese Economy Asian Economy Japanese-track courses offered in the Department of Economics
Research		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Learning Seminar 1 and 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Seminar 1 and 2 Research Seminar 3 and 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor Thesis
Interdisciplinary Learning		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses offered by other SPSF departments (Management, Sociology, Education, Global Studies, Journalism) 		

★ Academic Skills: Academic Writing 1 & 2, Critical Thinking & Discussion, and Academic Presentation
NOTE: Courses in **bold** indicate compulsory courses.

Why SPSF?



Associate Professor **Dr. Matthias SCHLEGL**

Economics is the study of how individuals, businesses, and governments make choices about the use of scarce resources. Sustainability is therefore an important consideration in the economic analysis of societal challenges such as inequality, globalization, environmental problems or financial instability. Our interdisciplinary approach allows students to acquire a broader view on these issues and to think about sustainability from an integrated perspective.

I think that the Economics program within SPSF provides a unique opportunity to specialise in economics at a high level, which is an option at only a select number of other English-medium undergraduate courses in Japan. Specifically, the Economics program within SPSF provides the chance to study at an internationally competitive level, with highly demanding seminar courses to prepare students for entrance to international graduate programs.



The Department of Economics **Keita Robert Hooker YOSHIKAWA**

DEPT. OF EDUCATION

 Bachelor of Arts in Education

The Education major at the Department of Education explores education and human development from international and interdisciplinary perspectives. You will take three core courses on Comparative Education, International Education, and Education and International Development, and three foundations courses on Curriculum and Instruction, Philosophy of Education, and Sociology of Education. The major prepares future educators, researchers, and global citizens who can create education for sustainable futures that respects human dignity. We look forward to welcoming you to our program.

CURRICULUM As of AY2026

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures Academic Skills★ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures 	
General Studies				
Compulsory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Educational Studies Introduction to Comparative Education Comparative Education in Asia International Education Education and International Development Curriculum and Instruction 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's Thesis/ Bachelor's Graduation Project Research in Education
Compulsory Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Special Topics in Education 1: Philosophy of Education Special Topics in Education 2: Sociology of Education Special Topics in Education 3: Educational Policy Issues in Contemporary Asia Special Topics in Education 4: Global Citizenship, Humanity Empowerment and Critical Moral Consciousness Special Topics in Education 5: Introduction to Epistemic Injustice, Transformation, and Education 			
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantitative Methods in Sociology Introduction to Statistics Introduction to Macroeconomics Introduction to Microeconomics Principles of Sociology Principles of Accounting Principles of Management Principles of Marketing Introduction to Area Studies Introduction to Global Studies Introduction to International Relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global History and Asia Social Change in Postwar Japan Contemporary Social Problems Sociology of Globalization Sociology of Happiness Sociology of Families Consumer Behavior 1/2 Global Marketing 1/2 Poverty in the Global Economy Global Development Goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undergraduate Seminar in Education 1 Undergraduate Seminar in Education 2 Undergraduate Seminar in Education 3 Undergraduate Seminar in Education 4 Special Topics in Sociology 1 Special Topics in Sociology 2 Ethics of Mass Communication 1/2 International Communication 1/2 Entrepreneurship 1/2 Society and Politics in South Asia Global Branding Theory of International Politics Peace Research Environmental Sociology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Studies (Cultures and Societies of Asia) Advanced Studies (Democracy and Conflict) Advanced Studies (Global Migration and Koreans in Japan)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses for Teacher & Curator Certification, Other Faculty / Department Courses 				

★ Academic Skills: Academic Writing 1 & 2, Critical Thinking & Discussion, and Academic Presentation

Why SPSF?



Associate Professor **Dr. Maria MANZON**

In the words of our students: "education is at the core of many sustainability issues"; "education is the foundation for achieving sustainability by spreading its importance to society". Education is key to sustainable futures. Quality education (SDG 4) is central to all the other SDGs. It is through education that we can nurture minds, hearts, and hands for sustainable futures.

In the SPSF curriculum, many of the courses are conducted in smaller classes, therefore we often have the opportunity to have critical discussions with our classmates. During our discussions, I enjoy exchanging opinions with others of different perspectives, backgrounds, and academic interests. The discussion with students among the 6 SPSF departments has been a great chance for me to widen my viewpoint and understanding.



The Department of Education **Mana UEDA**

DEPT. OF GLOBAL STUDIES

- 🎓 Bachelor of Arts in International Relations
- 🎓 Bachelor of Arts in Area Studies

The Faculty of Global Studies (FGS) offers a unique opportunity for students to study both International Relations and Area Studies, enabling them to develop an interdisciplinary perspective on pressing global issues. Majoring either in International Relations or Area Studies in their third year, students engage in small-sized classes and seminars and learn through lively group discussions. The flexible curriculum allows students to explore other departments, learn foreign languages, and study abroad. Students broaden their horizons and develop skills for their future careers. Join FGS and become part of a community dedicated to making a positive impact on society both in Japan and worldwide.

CURRICULUM As of AY2026

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures • Academic Skills★ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures 	
General Studies				
Compulsory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Global Studies • Introduction to International Relations • Introduction to Area Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Skills for Global Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bachelor's Thesis
Compulsory Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 level Courses in Global Studies • 200 level Courses in International Relations • 200 level Courses in Area Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major 300-400 Level Courses in International Relations or Area Studies • Minor 300-400 Level Courses in International Relations or Area Studies 		
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses for Teacher & Curator Certification, Other Faculty / Department Courses 			

★ Academic Skills: Academic Writing 1 & 2, Critical Thinking & Discussion, and Academic Presentation

Why SPSF?



Associate Professor **Dr. Ayako KOBAYASHI**

SPSF enriches students' learning experience by fostering diverse perspectives. Engaging discussions highlight the complexities of global goals and tailoring solutions to local contexts, considering diverse histories, cultures, and social systems. SPSF sparks a profound interest in sustainable development issues intricately woven into our daily lives, empowering students to make meaningful contributions in our ever-evolving world.

I believe the department offers various areas which gave me an insight into other departments, realizing other interests I did not have before. The first-year lecture on SPSF was one of the first ways I have gotten an idea of other departments to develop an understanding and extend my interests from the course. I am also hopeful for the future of this program to offer more variety of courses, as new departments are being introduced to the program.



The Department of Global Studies **Yuto TOYOSHIMA**

DEPT. OF JOURNALISM

- 🎓 Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

Journalism is a major that examines the impact of media and communication on our world and future. The Department of Journalism's Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures offers a unique program that emphasizes the role of journalists and media organizations in shaping a better tomorrow. Students will acquire both theoretical knowledge and practical skills in journalism and communication while addressing real-world issues related to sustainable futures. Through seminars and a graduation dissertation, students will also develop their critical thinking and analytical abilities. If you have a passion for journalism and sustainability, we invite you to join our program.

CURRICULUM As of AY2026

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures • Academic Skills★ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures 	
General Studies				
Compulsory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar 1 (Media Research) • Communication 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar 3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seminar 4 • Bachelor's Thesis
Compulsory Electives		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Communication 1 • International Communication 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass Media 1 • Mass Media 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics of Mass Communication 1 • Ethics of Mass Communication 2
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting in English 1 • Reporting in English 2 • Reporting in English 3 • Special Topics in Sociology 1 • International Political Economy • Global Political Economy • Japanese Government and Politics 	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language (One language from Japanese, Chinese, French, Spanish) 	
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quantitative Methods in Sociology • Introduction to Statistics • Introduction to Macroeconomics • Introduction to Microeconomics • Principles of Sociology • Principles of Accounting • Principles of Management • Principles of Marketing • Introduction to Area Studies • Introduction to Global Studies • Introduction to International Relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Global Media • Media English • Global Media Program • Qualitative Methods in Sociology • Social Change in Postwar Japan • Contemporary Social Problems • Sociology of Globalization • Sociology of Happiness • Sociology of Families • Consumer Behavior 1 • Marketing Strategy 1 • Poverty in the Global Economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Branding • Conflict Resolution • Peace Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Studies (Cultures and Societies of Asia) • Advanced Studies (Democracy and Conflict) • Advanced Studies (Global Migration and Koreans in Japan) • Advanced Studies (International Human Rights) • Advanced Studies (International Organization B)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses for Teacher & Curator Certification, Other Faculty / Department Courses 			

★ Academic Skills: Academic Writing 1 & 2, Critical Thinking & Discussion, and Academic Presentation

Why SPSF?



Associate Professor **Dr. Tomoki KUNIEDA**

The Department of Journalism focuses on sustainable futures. To achieve the SDGs, we need to share facts and ideas across contexts. We will learn about journalism and media communication and their roles in addressing environmental and social issues. This program aims to develop students' skills and abilities for sustainable futures.

At first, I thought that I couldn't fit in well because of the language and cultural differences, however after two years of study, the diversity and inclusive environment have created a unique academic atmosphere in the department, which helped us work on several problems globally, such as the cross-cultural communication cases. Through multiple cultural considerations, we found more possible solutions and perspectives on the topic of global warming, sustainable journalism, and world peace cases. Also, the globalization process made most social problems more complicated. Still, when conducting the team discussion with students from all over the world, we found more possibilities and opportunities.



The Department of Journalism **Jialin YANG**

DEPT. OF MANAGEMENT

 Bachelor of Arts in Management

Business plays a vital role in tackling contemporary societal challenges by developing innovative business models. Our mission is to nurture aspiring leaders who can make rational decisions and catalyze transformative shifts in organizations and communities. Students sharpen their evidence-based critical and analytical thinking skills through our specialized curriculum across areas such as accounting, entrepreneurship, marketing, organization, and strategy. Foreign language and cross-departmental courses, as well as study abroad programs enhance students' transdisciplinary and global communication skills. We welcome applicants to join us in identifying problems and finding solutions to create a sustainable future as the next generation of business leaders.

CURRICULUM As of AY2026

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures Academic Skills★ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures 	
General Studies				
Compulsory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Management 1 Introduction to Management 2 			
Compulsory Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles of Management Principles of Marketing Principles of Accounting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Management Organizational Behavior Organizational Theory and Analysis Entrepreneurship Marketing Strategy Consumer Behavior Global Marketing Fundamentals of Accounting Financial Accounting Management Accounting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Seminar 1-2 Special Topics in Management Challenging Frontline Issues in Global Business Global Branding Special Topics in Marketing International Accounting Advanced Strategic Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Seminar 3-4 Bachelor's Thesis
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses for Teacher & Curator Certification, Other Faculty / Department Courses 			

★ Academic Skills: Academic Writing 1 & 2, Critical Thinking & Discussion, and Academic Presentation

Why
SPSF?



Associate Professor **Dr. Agata KAPTURKIEWICZ**

Students in the SPSF management course will learn the theories and frameworks to identify challenges facing sustainability in our society. I believe that studying in our department will provide students with valuable knowledge, giving them opportunities to think about solutions for social issues through the lens of business and management.

Management, being a wide-ranging field, offers students the opportunity to explore various career paths. As a high school student, I remember feeling uncertain about my future career. However, taking management courses like marketing, accounting, economics, and entrepreneurship allowed me to try out different subjects and gain clarity about my goals and interest.



The Department of Management **Usaburo MENDENHALL**

DEPT. OF SOCIOLOGY

 Bachelor of Arts in Sociology

Sociology is the study of how social surroundings influence and are influenced by human behavior and consciousness. Sociologists critically question social reality to understand and improve social phenomena. Sociology covers all aspects of life, from personal relationships to global issues. Our curriculum aims to foster intellectual curiosity and critical interest in human society. By teaching students how to analyze and comprehend our complex world with sociological theory and methodology, we help students understand the various dimensions of modern society as well as their relation to social structure and change. This enables our students to develop skills to propose solutions for an inclusive and sustainable society.

CURRICULUM As of AY2026

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures Academic Skills★ 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures 	
General Studies				
Compulsory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles of Sociology First Year Seminar in Sociology Quantitative Methods in Sociology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sociological Theory 1 Sociological Theory 2 Qualitative Methods in Sociology Introduction to Statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Seminar in Sociology 	
Compulsory Electives		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Social Problems Social Change in Postwar Japan Sociology of Families Sociology of Globalization Sociology of Happiness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work and Employment in Japan Environmental Sociology Special Topics in Sociology 1 Special Topics in Sociology 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor's Thesis
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Macroeconomics Introduction to Microeconomics Principles of Accounting Principles of Management Principles of Marketing Introduction to Area Studies Introduction to Global Studies Introduction to International Relations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Econometrics Consumer Behavior 1 Marketing Strategy 1 Poverty in the Global Economy International Communication 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Society and Politics in South Asia Theory of International Politics Challenging Frontline Issues in Global Business Global Branding Peace Research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Studies (Cultures and Societies of Asia) Advanced Studies (Democracy and Conflict) Advanced Studies (Global Migration and Koreans in Japan)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courses for Teacher & Curator Certification, Other Faculty / Department Courses 				

★ Academic Skills: Academic Writing 1 & 2, Critical Thinking & Discussion, and Academic Presentation

Why
SPSF?



Professor **Dr. Carola HOMMERICH**

Sociology is a thematically broad discipline. It has strong overlaps with other disciplines like economics, education, journalism, and global studies. Within SPSF, you can also take courses from these other disciplines. This will help you gain a deeper understanding of the highly complex issues we are facing today and is a clear asset in identifying ways of moving towards sustainable futures. This is something that is unique to SPSF.

The interdisciplinary courses held by the SPSF program are helpful in providing opportunities to holistically approach the topic of Sustainability. By gaining new perspectives from courses of different fields and through discussions with peers from diverse backgrounds, the SPSF program encourages students to critically analyze the possibilities as well as the challenges we face in attaining a sustainable future which I believe is something of vital importance in current society.



The Department of Sociology **Riki KOGURE**

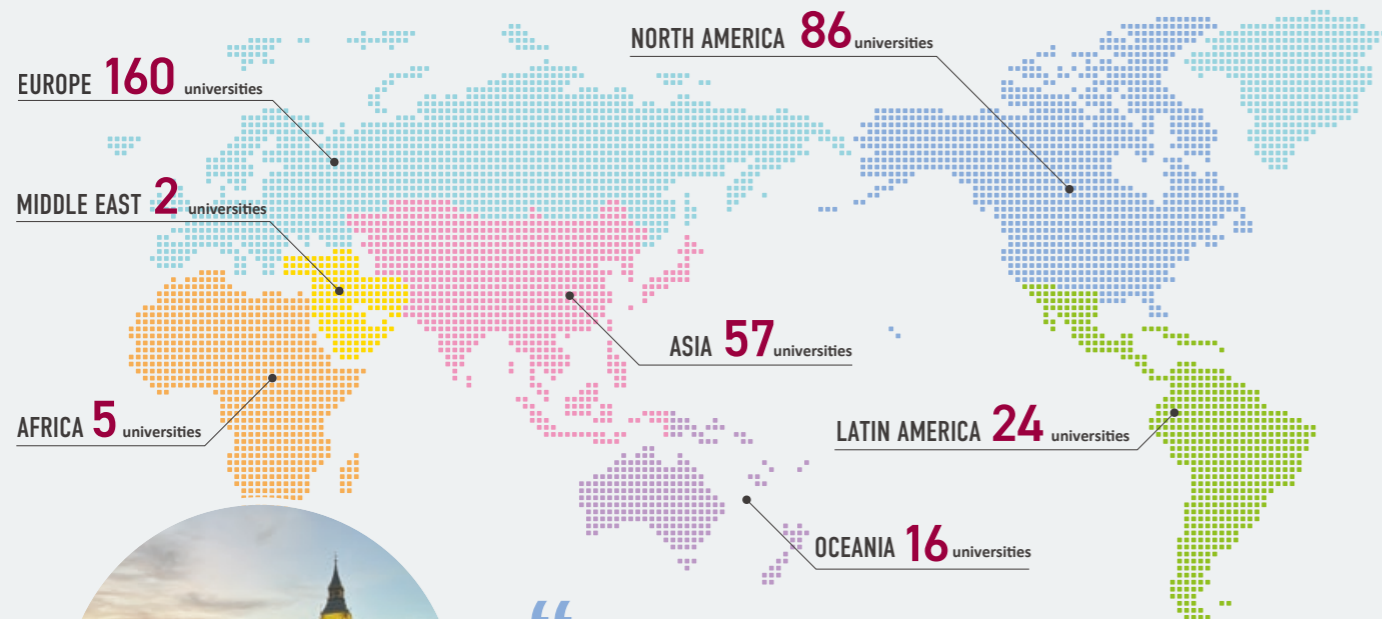
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO?

“ Holding a dual Japanese–Korean identity, studying at Yonsei offered a transformative bridge between my heritage and academic interests. Immersed in Seoul’s vibrant energy, I navigated a rigorous environment while forming deep connections with international and local students, strengthening my independence, sense of belonging, and becoming more confident and globally minded.

—Miu O., The Department of Sociology, Yonsei University, Korea



350 partner universities as of May 1, 2026
from **64 countries/regions**



“ My experience at McGill University was truly rewarding. Studying abroad allowed me to experience different cultures, develop greater independence, and become more adaptable in unfamiliar environments. The friendships, memories, and personal growth I gained continue to have a lasting impact on me. Looking back, it was one of the best decisions I have made, and I strongly encourage other students to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

—Keita U., The Department of Global Studies, McGill University, Canada

Find Out More



“ Studying in London allowed me to deepen my academic interest in sustainability and business, volunteer with an NGO, and immerse myself in a truly different environment. Sophia’s wide range of overseas programs makes it easy to turn curiosity into action. From Paris to London to Canberra, each experience brought new perspectives that fed into the next.

—Soh Syulin N., The Department of Management, Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris, France & University of London the School of Oriental and African Studies, UK

“ While at the University of British Columbia, I pursued my passion for screenwriting and psychology. I also joined UBC A Cappella. I explored many parts of Canada and made lifelong friends from Canada and other countries and reunited with them in Japan recently.

—Ruri K., The Department of Journalism, University of British Columbia, Canada



“ Take advantage of your short university life and go study abroad and fulfil this opportunity to create many amazing stories, friends, and open new doors. Once you graduate, you may never be able to experience exploring new places as a student. Going to Texas was the best decision I made in university.

—Reo I., The Department of Economics, The University of Texas at Austin, USA



GRADUATION RESEARCH

At SPSF, the graduation thesis is a core capstone experience in which students apply the knowledge and methodologies developed through their studies to explore topics of personal and academic significance. The annual Graduation Thesis Conference further strengthens this learning by providing a platform to share research and reflect on growth across disciplines.

In 2025, six graduating students were interviewed by three first-year students, creating a meaningful bridge between cohorts. This initiative offered a valuable opportunity for younger students to directly learn from their seniors' experiences, fostering intergenerational dialogue and deepening perspectives on sustainability.



Watch Highlights



Read Interviews



SHAPE YOUR FUTURE

SPSF STUDENTS' THESIS / PROJECT TITLES

*Only some titles are shown.

The Confluence of Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Smart Cities

How Does the Societal Perception of Disability Shape Support Measures? A Comparative Study of Japan and Nicaragua

Heteronormativity as Lived Experiences of Gay Undergraduate Students in Japan

Public School Funding Gaps in America: Mapping the Relationship Between Home Price and High School Student Outcomes in King County, Washington

Determinants of Environmental Literacy and its Relationship to Pro-environmental Behaviors among Youth in Thailand

Digital Transformation Analysis for Japanese Rural Revitalization

Fighting Misogyny with Hate: Observing Digital Activism of Women-led Anti LGBTQ Counter-movements in Japan

Perceptions of University Academics on the Outcomes and Future Directions of MEXT's English Education Policies

The Significance of the US Housing Market for the 2008/2009 Financial Crisis

View More



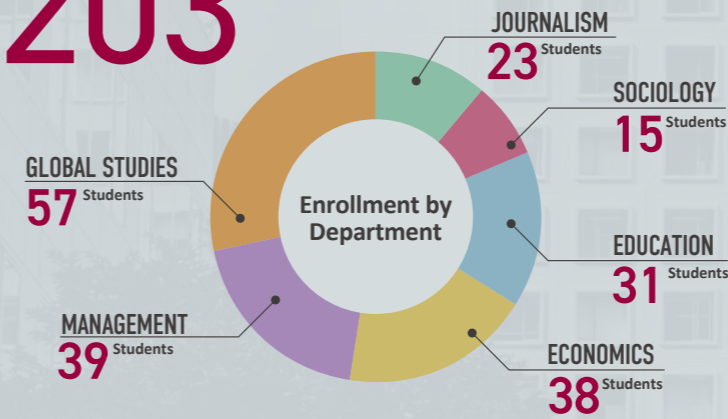
SPSF FACTS

- **Program Name:** Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures (SPSF)
- **Enrollment:** September (Autumn semester)
- **Establishment:** In 2020
- **Total Matriculated Students for the 2025 Academic Year:** 70
- **Structure:** Undergraduate Program, Six Departments: Economics, Education, Global Studies, Journalism, Management, Sociology

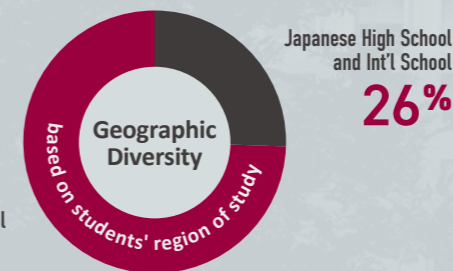
FIGURES as of MAY, 2026

Total Enrollment

203 Students



74% Overseas High School and Int'l School



Nationality



SPSF FAQ

Q: Is the SPSF's enrollment intended for Japanese high school graduates or overseas high school and international school graduates (including international students)?

A: Both are possible. The program starts in autumn semester, which makes it easier for international students, returnees, and students from international / overseas schools to enroll. Of course, graduates of Japanese high schools are also welcome to enroll.

Q: What is the difference between SPSF and the Faculty of Liberal Arts (FLA)?

A: At the SPSF, students focus on the majors in their own department. Students take major courses in their department from the first to the fourth year. At the same time, students take SPSF common core courses in which students from six departments study together, such as courses on the theme of 'Sustainable Futures' and Academic Skills in English, and also take courses in the disciplines of the other departments of the SPSF. Meanwhile, the FLA offers a liberal arts curriculum, which provides students with an academic foundation and intellectual orientation before they choose a disciplinary major. The first year of study in the FLA is devoted to basic education, including the Core Program, General Studies courses, and language. From the second year onwards, the FLA curriculum requires students to choose a major from three fields (Comparative Culture, International Business and Economics, and Social Studies). The degree awarded is a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts. The SPSF and FLA thus have significant differences in curriculum and degrees.

Q: Can I take classes which are taught in Japanese in the same department?

A: Yes, it is possible. Sophia offers a broad range of specialized courses which are taught in Japanese, which SPSF students can also take. However, please note that up to 24 credits of courses taught in Japanese count towards graduation requirements. Please make sure to plan your course of study carefully in consultation with your department advisor, considering the graduation requirements.

LIFE BEYOND SPSF

One entered industry. One pursued graduate study. Different paths, yet both continue to carry the interdisciplinary perspectives and global outlook cultivated through SPSF.

Career and Academic Paths

As of April 2026

Our graduates are pursuing careers at a wide range of leading companies, including:

Accenture / Adecco Group AG / AnyMind Group Inc. / AOI Pro. Inc. / CATENOID Inc. / Chanel SA / Fast Retailing Co., Ltd. / Japan Becton, Dickinson, and Company / Japan Vehicle Recycling Research / Kyodo News / Macromill, Inc. / McCann Worldgroup Holdings Japan Inc. / Megalis / Nihon L'Oreal K.K. / Nippon Express Co., Ltd. / Nippon Steel Corporation / Nippon Travel Agency Co., Ltd. / Nishimoto Co., Ltd. / Nomura Securities Co., Ltd. / Parfums Christian Dior Japon / Procter & Gamble / PwC Advisory LLC / PwC Consulting LLC / Rakuten / Recruit Co., Ltd. / Sanyo Engineering & Construction Inc. / SBI Holdings, Inc. / Sharp Corporation / Shimizu Corporation / Shiseido Company / Sony Corporation / Teneo / Tokyo Edition, Toranomon / Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, Inc. / Yokogawa Bridge Corp. etc.

Others have chosen to pursue further studies at graduate schools both overseas and in Japan, including:

Geneva Graduate Institute / National University of Singapore / Tokyo Gakugei University / University of Cologne / University of Oxford / University of Tokyo / Waseda University



Prakash SAPKOTA

Japan Becton, Dickinson, and Company

Bachelor of Arts in Economics 2025



Studying at the Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures Economics Department provided me with a strong foundation in data analysis, statistics, and analytical thinking, all of which have become highly valuable in my current role. In my daily work, I regularly handle and analyze data to support decision-making and improve operational efficiency. Having a solid understanding of statistical concepts and data-related tools learned through SPSF has greatly helped me adapt to these responsibilities.

One of the main objectives of my current position is optimizing the supply chain under limited resources, which closely relates to the core principles of economics that I studied in SPSF, particularly resource allocation and efficiency optimization. Furthermore, although SPSF is an English-track program, the opportunity to study Japanese alongside my coursework has also significantly contributed to my professional life and communication within the workplace in Japan.

Sana HORIKAWA

Graduate Student at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland

Bachelor of Arts in Sociology 2025
AY2024 Selectee for the 3+2 Program



My experiences in SPSF gave me the foundation for everything that followed academically, professionally, and personally. Studying in an interdisciplinary way alongside people from different academic and cultural backgrounds, and analysing policies and theoretical frameworks critically, directly shaped how I engage in classes, student associations, volunteering, and an internship in Geneva.

On a personal level, SPSF also transformed how I understood my identity. Growing up insecure about my Japanese identity, I found confidence through the programme's diversity and courses on transnational identity. Together with my Latina upbringing, this allowed me to embrace and share both parts of myself more openly, something invaluable in an international hub where cultures are genuinely appreciated and respected.

The supportive environment at SPSF and Sophia University taught me to appreciate not only my own but also others' customs, perspectives, ways of thinking, and lifestyles, both inside and outside the classroom.



What is the 3+2 Program?

The 3+2 Program (Officially known as the 5-year Concurrent BA-MA Programme with Overseas Graduate Schools) is a selective, accelerated BA/MA pathway offered by Sophia University in partnership with the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (GI) in Switzerland and Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC) in Italy.

Through this program, high achieving students can earn a bachelor's degree at Sophia and a master's degree at GI or UCSC in just five years, instead of the usual six—combining a strong undergraduate foundation with advanced training in international affairs.

Ms. Horikawa is the first SPSF student to be selected for this program and is expected to complete her studies at the Graduate Institute in September 2026. (This article reflects information as of May 2026.)



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Various types of scholarships and financial aids are available.

Applications accepted at the time of admission application

● Sophia University New Student Scholarship

Recipients may receive a scholarship covering the amount equivalent to the full, one-half or one-third of the Tuition Fee for the first year.

● Sophia University Benefactors' (Adachi) Scholarship

For Students from Southeast Asia and Africa

Recipients may receive a scholarship covering the amount equivalent to the full Tuition Fee and Education Enhancement Fee for the first year.

Other financial aid programs:

[Applications accepted after entrance]

<https://piloti.sophia.ac.jp/eng/scholarships1/>



HOUSING SUPPORT

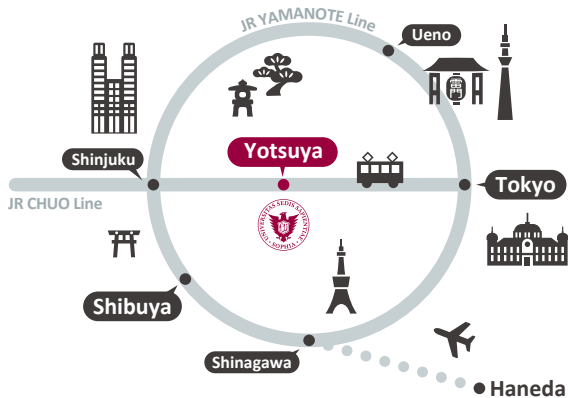
● Sophia University has several off-campus dormitories and offers affiliated housing options.

<https://piloti.sophia.ac.jp/eng/housing/>



In the Heart of Tokyo

The area around the campus has long been a hotspot of Japanese politics, economy, and culture. It is a place where you can feel the dynamism of the global city of Tokyo and enjoy a rich cultural experience that offers easy access to a variety of historical sites and cultural institutions such as museums, theaters, and libraries.



上智大学
SOPHIA UNIVERSITY

Sophia University Admissions Office

7-1 Kioi-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8554, Japan

EMAIL : admission-u-co@sophia.ac.jp TEL : +81-3-3238-4018

www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/

FIND OUT MORE ON SPSF OFFICIAL WEB

Sophia SPSF Academics



ADMISSIONS

Entry Date: September 21, 2027 (autumn entry only)

Method of Admission: Document screening

Application Materials:

1. Transcripts
2. One of the following: SAT, ACT with Science and Writing, IB Diploma, GCE A-level
3. Either TOEFL or IELTS
4. Two Recommendation letters
5. Essay in 500 words

Application Periods: September 2027 entry

● 1st application First-years only

Application Period: November 11 – December 4, 2026

Notice of Results: February 5, 2027

● 2nd application First-years / Transfer*

Application Period: March 10 – March 31, 2027

Notice of Results: June 4, 2027

* Information on departments accepting transfer students is available via the URL and QR code below.

https://adm.sophia.ac.jp/eng/admissions/ug_p/en_ug/spsf/w_h/



TUITIONS AND FEES

[FOR REFERENCE, As of AY2026]

First year: ¥1,644,650

https://piloti.sophia.ac.jp/eng/tuition/gakuhi_undergraduate/



Photo excerpts courtesy of Liu Ruoshi, an SPSF student in the Department of Economics.