

# **M** PEAK

Programs in English at Komaba

*Course Guide*





## Climb every mountain PEAK

I've loved mountains ever since I can remember. Yet on my first climb with my family as a small child, the PEAKs seemed so overwhelming and impossible to scale that I complained all the way up the winding trail. It's been a long journey since, but two years ago I made my maiden voyage to Japan – as we descended upon the land of the rising sun, I was struck by the autumnal beauty of the vast mountain ranges and their towering PEAKs.

Today, a little further down the road, I find myself not only living in the fascinating country of Japan, but I am now a student on the PEAK program at one of the world's leading universities! Who said prophecies couldn't be self-fulfilling? Of course, student life presents challenges (often exacerbated in a foreign country), but there are always friends and faculty on hand to lend support and transform them into opportunities.

In short, PEAK has taught me to aim for the summit of whatever I put my mind to; my future now looks bright and full of promise and adventure.

### 13:30 Classes

All PEAK courses are taught in English by an international faculty who are established scholars in their field. PEAK provides a vibrant culture for students from all over the world and this has made it possible for me to broaden my horizons.



## Student life in Tokyo

### 08:15 Gingko trees

Many PEAK classes begin at 08:30 in the morning. As I walk from the dorm to university, my favorite part on the Komaba campus is the pedestrianized thoroughfare, which is lined with ancient ginkgo trees that love to flaunt their seasonal colors.



### 15:00 Library

The state-of-the-art main library offers a treasure trove for reading and research. UTokyo's library system houses almost 10 million volumes and provides access to over 20,000 periodicals. The Komaba library alone provides 1,100 study spaces for students with free Wi-Fi access everywhere! Services for PEAK students are offered in English by the dedicated administrative staff. Life at university is full of amazing experiences!

### 19:00 Shibuya Station

This evening, I dined out with friends from UTokyo Global Interaction Friends. Many of them are Japanese and they help me with the language. We talk for hours and share experiences, or explore Tokyo together. Sometimes we go on overnight trips to discover Japan, too.



### 17:00 Shibuya

PEAK is located at the Komaba campus of UTokyo. The Komaba neighborhood is quiet, safe and secure and an island of greenery. It is ideally located only five minutes by train and twenty minutes by foot to Shibuya, one of Tokyo's preeminent commercial and cultural areas, hundreds of theaters, museums, shops, restaurants, bars and parks! You can also use Japan's unrivalled transport network to explore other great cities, historic sites, pristine coastlines, majestic mountains and beautiful countryside. Tokyo is a dynamic, vibrant city – from where the world is your oyster!

### 21:00 Student Dormitory

It is easy to get used to dorm life, which is just five minutes from campus by foot. I usually make dinner with my friends in the dorm and often hang out in each other's rooms and enjoy chatting about classes, extracurricular activities and life in general. As a PEAK student, I feel I can reach the summit of anything I try in the future thanks to all the great friends and faculty at UTokyo.



# About PEAK

PEAK (Programs in English at Komaba) at UTokyo is a unique, innovative English-medium four-year undergraduate degree program. As one of the world's leading universities, we admit a select group of globally-oriented students and offer them exciting possibilities for intellectual growth and personal development. PEAK students major in one of two programs:

## The International Program on Japan in East Asia (JEA) The International Program on Environmental Sciences (ES)

The aim of these undergraduate degree programs is to share the rich intellectual resources and ethos of UTokyo with the wider world and international community of students and scholars. JEA and ES classes are small and interactive in order to facilitate the exchange of ideas and foster creative thinking. In addition, students have the opportunity to study Japanese language during their time at UTokyo.

# Application

## Schedule

- 1 Application Guidelines Released (early July)
- 2 Application Period (early December – early January)
- 3 First Screening: Document Review (January)
- 4 Second Screening: Interview (February – March)
- 5 Acceptance (April)
- 6 Enrollment (September)

## Application Documents

✓	Application Form
✓	Essay
✓	Official School Transcripts
✓	Official Examination Results for Academic Ability (Standardized Examinations)
✓	Official Test Scores for English Proficiency (if applicable)
✓	Certificate of (Expected) Graduation
✓	Evaluations
✓	School Profiles (if applicable)
✓	Other Documentary Evidence of Achievements (if applicable)

# Fees

## Application Fee: ¥5,000

The application fee must be paid when applying.

## Admission Fee: ¥282,000

A one-off admission fee must be paid upon acceptance.

## Annual Tuition Fee: ¥535,800

Tuition fees are paid in two instalments.

The above fees are subject to change. Please note that UTokyo does not discriminate between local and international students and charges the same fees regardless of nationality or citizenship.

# Scholarships

## UTokyo Scholarship

A four-year scholarship that covers the admission fee, annual tuition fee and living expenses (¥126,000 a month). Up to ten students may be offered the scholarship, which is awarded on the basis of the results of the admissions screening process. As a rough guide, the average cost of living in Tokyo for a student is ¥120,000. Other scholarships are also available. For further details, please visit the PEAK website.

# PEAK Curriculum

## Liberal Arts Curriculum

**Year 1 & 2** A unique feature of the undergraduate curriculum at UTokyo is that during their first two years students study a wide range of liberal arts subjects. This provides them with a solid foundation for their subsequent and specialized studies in the third and fourth years.

### JEA & ES Junior Division: Sample Courses

- First-Year Seminar\*\*
  - International and Area Studies
  - Economics and Statistics
  - International Relations
  - Philosophy and Ethics
  - Language and Literature
  - Decision Sciences
  - Basic Electromagnetics
  - Analytical Chemistry
  - Mathematics\*
  - Earth Science\*
  - Life Science\*
- \*\* Mandatory for both JEA & ES students  
\* Mandatory for ES students

### PEAK Japanese Language Courses

1) Required Courses: All PEAK students are required to take intensive Japanese courses. Students are divided into five groups according to their level of proficiency (from novice to native).

2) Elective Courses: Elective Japanese courses are offered to all PEAK students from the first to the fourth year. Elective courses help students broaden their interests, fortify their strengths, and overcome their weakness in the Japanese language. We offer courses in a variety of areas, including conversation, kanji, speech styles, news and events in Japan, business Japanese, literature, films and other topics on culture.

### Weekly Schedule in the JEA Second Year

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1					Intensive Japanese
2		Intensive Japanese	Philosophy and Ethics	Applied Japanese	Academic Frontier Lecture Series
3	Idea and Arts I	Language and Literature			Information
4			First Year Seminar I	Physical Education and Health Sciences	International and Area Studies I
5			International Relations		


### Course Overview



**Professor Bregham Dalglish**

**First-Year Seminar**  
The First Year Seminar (FYS) at UTokyo is one of the university's distinguishing features. In the PEAK incarnation of the FYS, students are introduced to academic life and the variety of skills and abilities that are required to successfully navigate it. These include research methods, academic integrity, critical thinking, academic debating, team collaboration, video projects and the fundamental principles and methods of the natural and social sciences, as well as the humanities.


### Course Overview



**Professor Akira Maeda**

**Decision Sciences**  
In this course, students learn the theory and practice of Decision Analysis (DA). DA is a school of thought within the discipline of decision-making and is based on probability, optimization and expected utility theories. It offers a framework for normative decision-making. Through the use of transparent methodologies and tools that are grounded in objective information and quantitative analyses, DA helps decision-makers find optimal solutions.

### Meet the students



**Xinran Qu (age 19)**

**What is your favorite course so far and why?**  
My favorite courses are those in the Japanese language. Since I want to work in Japan after graduation, they provide me with the knowledge I need in order to survive outside of university. What's more, the Japanese that I learn in class has enabled me to make many friends among the local students.

## Japan in East Asia or Environmental Sciences

**Year 3 & 4** The last two years of undergraduate studies are called the Senior Division. Students take specialized courses as part of the degree they read for (JEA or ES).

### JEA Senior Division: Sample Courses

- Area and Historical Studies Seminar
- Social and International Studies Seminar
- Media and Modernity in Japan
- Philosophy of Globalization Seminar
- Language and Culture Seminar
- Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies Seminar
- Japanese for Research (Meiji Periodicals)
- Society in East Asia
- East Asian Thought
- Japan in East Asia Seminar


### ES Senior Division: Sample Courses

- Chemistry for Environmental Studies
- Energy Technology and Natural Resources
- Sustainable Social-Ecological Systems
- Experiments in Environmental Sciences
- Food Safety and Risk Analysis
- Fieldwork and Case-studies for Environmental Sciences
- Fundamentals of Ecology
- Earth System Science
- Law and the Environment
- Statistics

### Weekly Schedule in the ES Third Year

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
1	Environmental Economics				
2	Statistics				
3	Experiments in Environmental Sciences II				Operations Research
4	Experiments in Environmental Sciences II		Law and the Environment	Environmental Informatics	Energy Technology and Natural Resources II
5	Japanese Integrated Academic Skills			Chemistry for Environmental Studies	


### Course Overview



**Professor Shiho Maeshima**

**Media and Modernity in Japan**  
This course provides students with an overview of the interconnections between the formation of modern discourses and the development of various media in Japan from the 17th century through to the early 20th century. While the emphasis is on print media and their relation to the gendered formation of modern life, Japan's self-image and other related issues are also explored.


### Course Overview



**Professor Richard Shefferson**

**Fundamentals of Ecology**  
Fundamentals of Ecology is a course offered in the Environmental Sciences track that provides students with an overview of both the basics and the cutting edge in ecology and evolutionary biology. Students consider real-world problems, such as the current extinction crisis and global overpopulation, and learn the basic theory and scientific skills to help solve them. Students also participate in some field and lab exercises to familiarize them with how ecology is actually done by scientists.

### Meet the students



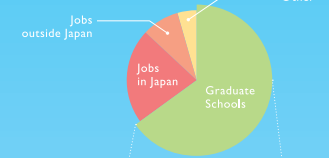
**Jan Grigat (age 22)**

**How do you go about choosing your courses?**  
During the first year I chose some courses that I might not have considered taking (e.g., Japanese Law), but I thought it would be a good opportunity to broaden my horizons. In the second year I have tried to narrow my selection down to courses that genuinely interest and fascinate me.

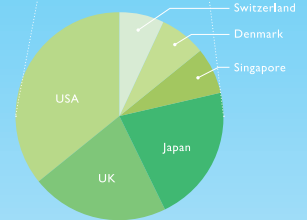
# PEAK Graduates

The figures show that a majority of PEAK students choose to pursue graduate studies in several top-ranked universities in Europe, Asia and the USA, while others have moved into the corporate or public worlds in both Japan and their countries of origin. The career support office provides information and career counseling. It also holds various career-related seminars and events.

### Careers of PEAK Graduates



### Graduate School Destinations



# PEAKVOICES

Interviews  
with PEAK students

**01 : What motivated you to apply for PEAK?**

**02 : What is the best part of studying in PEAK?**

**03 : What other PEAK heights would you like to scale in the future?**

**04 : What are your words of wisdom for prospective students?**

**Ela** (age 19)  
Country : Slovenia



**01 :** As a high school student I was fascinated by Japan and I wanted to study in an open-minded environment with plenty of academic fields to explore. PEAK seemed to fit both of my requirements perfectly.

**02 :** Not being confined to a narrow degree discipline. Especially in the Junior Division, the selection of courses spans many disciplines, despite being relatively limited in number.

**03 :** Having discovered a passion for philosophy, I would like to continue along this path at the graduate level.

**04 :** University, especially a culturally diverse program like PEAK, is a fantastic place to remind you that no matter how much you know, you don't know anything yet – so be curious and humble on your journey.

**Cheong** (age 21)  
Country : Malaysia



**01 :** I'm interested in issues and subjects related to the environment and I wanted to go abroad for my undergraduate studies. PEAK satisfied these two criteria, which is why I applied for it.

**02 :** Academically, the curriculum in PEAK helped me discover new areas that I never thought I would be interested in. Another good thing about PEAK is its diversity; you can meet and befriend people from different parts of the world.

**03 :** After graduation I would like to work in a field that uses IT to tackle environmental problems.

**04 :** Try to identify your goals (academically, or in terms of your career and life itself) as early as possible, but at the same time don't be afraid to explore new options. Once identified, strive to achieve them.

**Mehta** (age 20)  
Country : India



**01 :** I wanted to obtain a unique degree and experience living in a culturally rich country, while studying in a multicultural and diverse environment.

**02 :** Knowing that learning is not limited to the classroom and that knowledge comes from all areas of life and parts of the world is the best part! I get to meet a great mix of people from all over the world and I learn something new every day.

**03 :** I would like to study international politics and media further as I envision a career in foreign diplomacy and international journalism for myself.

**04 :** PEAK has the potential to truly change your life, and you have the potential to come to PEAK! Be a part of our diverse global community and spend the best four years of your life here.

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