

# SPSF

SOPHIA PROGRAM FOR  
SUSTAINABLE FUTURES

PROSPECTUS 2024



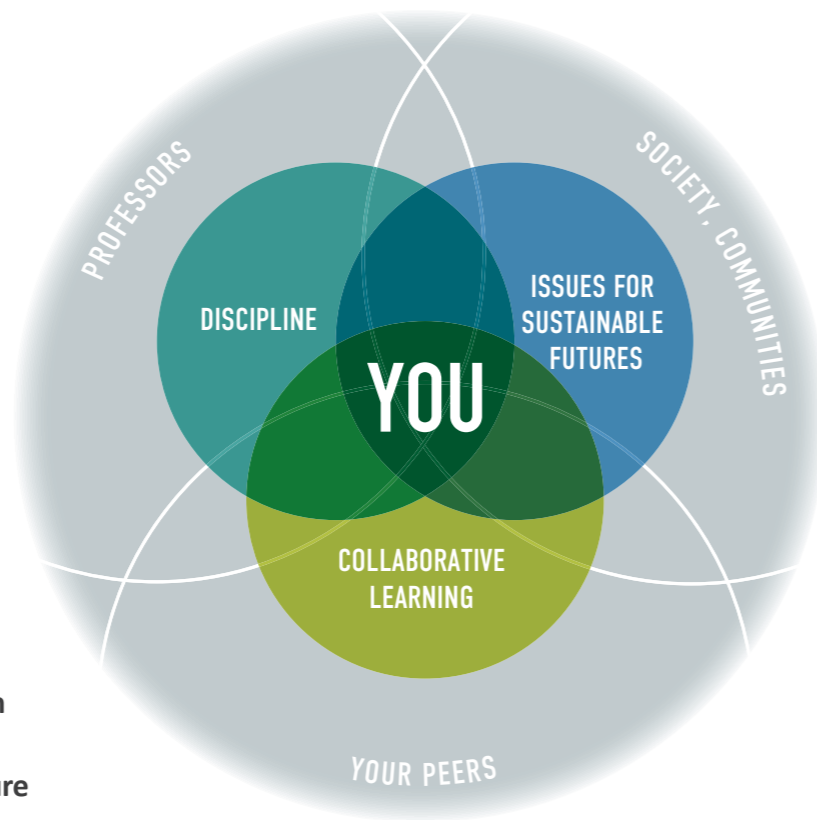
TO CREATE  
OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURES  
IN THE CAPITAL OF JAPAN



# SPSF EXPLAINED

## SPSF: A New Learning Environment to Create Sustainable Futures

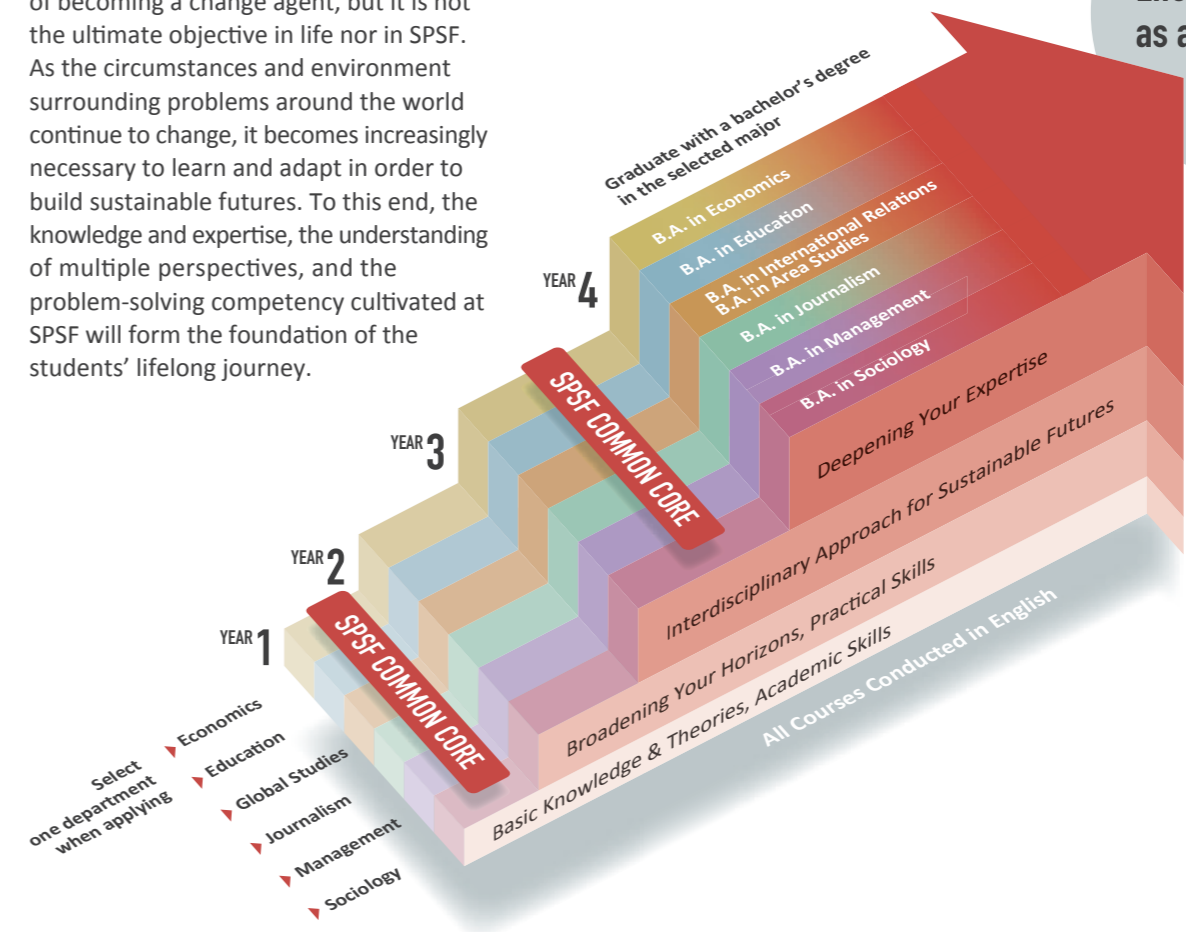
The Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures provides students with a broad understanding of the world's diversities and teaches them the practical skills needed to contribute to building sustainable futures for others, with others. The students will learn about sustainability issues on a global and local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



- Enhance Your Expertise in Your Department
- Broaden Your Horizons with an Interdisciplinary Approach
- Aiming to Build a Sustainable Future Together with Peers

## The Journey to Becoming a Change Agent in Creating Sustainable Futures

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.



### 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 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### Message from SPSF PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Creating a sustainable future is not a responsibility to be delegated to others, but rather a challenge we must tackle together. SPSF acknowledges the interdependence in sustainability and adopts an interdisciplinary approach that spans various fields in the social sciences, encompassing nature, society, and our future. We also offer global internships, clubs, and extracurricular activities dedicated to promoting sustainability. Let's shape a sustainable future together!



Professor  
Dr. Hideki MARUYAMA

## YOUR FOUR YEARS AT SPSF

	YEAR 1		YEAR 2		YEAR 3		YEAR 4	
	Autumn	Spring	Autumn	Spring	Autumn	Spring	Autumn	Spring
<b>SPSF Common Core</b>	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						
<b>Specialized Education</b> of the selected fields of study ▶ Dept. Info P. 5-10	Courses offered by Dept. of Economics		<b>Interdisciplinary Learning</b>				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							
<b>General Studies</b>	Compulsory & elective courses including foreign language courses taught in Japanese							
<b>Others</b>			Internships					
			Study Abroad					
			Social Engagement Programs					
			Off-Campus Programs / Life Events					

Other activities may need the extra semester(s) to graduation.



Lectures and seminars for Sustainable Futures.

### First-Year Lecture in/about Sustainable Futures

This lecture course is required for all SPSF first-year students. The six departments provide lectures related to each discipline of sustainability, while the SPSF coordinator shares the latest studies on sustainability and develops the lecture content from each department. Students learn about issues related to the various disciplines and engage in discussions that connect this broad content through the all-encompassing perspective of sustainability. The course deals with the basics of sustainability study and academic discipline in order to work towards sustainable futures.

### Third-Year Seminar for Sustainable Futures

This seminar course is also required to integrate the contents of various lessons the SPSF students have learned. Students bring their knowledge and skills to collaborate in addressing global and local issues related to sustainable futures. The seminar will be based on PBL style and potentially offer off-campus programs such as internships, study tours abroad, and online lessons. The students set their groups for common selective issues about sustainability and develop a solution after researching and analyzing the backgrounds and structures of the issues.

## “SPSF Common Core” The Required Courses for All SPSF Students.



As all of these compulsory classes are conducted in small classes (about 10 people), I personally enjoyed that I was able to connect more not only with peers but also with the professor. I feel like college can be full of classes with even hundreds of students where your distance from your professor can make it difficult to seek help when needed. In contrast, the Academic courses were more personalized and easy to keep on track as there were often times when professors would talk to you one-on-one which really helped.



First-year in the Department of Management Usaburo MENDENHALL



The General Studies courses provide a balance in class format compared to the small-sized SPSF classes, allowing me to meet and exchange opinions with students from Japanese departments too. I have enjoyed taking 'Mixed Roots Identity and Transnational Identity' by Professor Rooks since it gave me an opportunity and space to rethink and embrace my cultural identity. 'Cultural Revitalization and Community Building' by Professor Mizutani, has also opened my eyes on communities I was ignorant about.



Second-year in the Department of Sociology Sana HORIKAWA



Second-year in the Department of Journalism Maya YAMADA

I get quite nervous standing and presenting in front of other people, so this definitely pushed me out of my comfort zone. These classes give the basics of what will be used throughout university life. Academic writing was especially important considering we have to write a lot of reports and cite sources.



Second-year in the Department of Economics Prakash SARKOTA

Among the General Studies courses, I loved the class 'Philosophy of the Human Person' taught by Professor Haidar. Despite being online during the pandemic, this course was very interesting as it introduced me to the world of Philosophy through its easy-to-follow lectures and readings. Sometimes, I would ponder topics such as moral dilemmas and human freedom for days.

# DEPARTMENTS

## DEPT. OF 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 AY2023

		First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core		Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Specialized Education	Compulsory	Introduction to Microeconomics Introduction to Statistics Introduction to Macroeconomics	Introduction to Data Analysis		
	Electives	Research, Discipline, and Other Major Core (Compulsory Electives); Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, Poverty in the Global Economy, Economics of Social Policy, Global Development Goals, Bachelor's Thesis, etc.			
		Interdisciplinary Learning			
General Studies		Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Language		Refer to page 3 and 4.			



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.



Second-year in the Department of Economics **Keita Robert Hooker YOSHIKAWA**

## DEPT. OF 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 AY2023

		First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core		Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Specialized Education	Compulsory	Introduction to Educational Studies Introduction to Comparative Education Comparative Education in Asia International Education Education and International Development Curriculum and Instruction			Research in Education Bachelor's Thesis/ Bachelor's Graduation Project
	Electives	Special Topics in Education 1-5 SPSF Research Methods SPSF Fundamentals		Undergraduate Seminar in Education 1-4	
		Interdisciplinary Learning			
General Studies		Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Language		Refer to page 3 and 4.			



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.



Second-year in the Department of Education **Mana UEDA**

## DEPT. OF GLOBAL 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 AY2023

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Specialized Education	Compulsory	Introduction to Global Studies Academic Skills for Global Studies		Bachelor's Thesis
		Introduction to International Relations		Seminar 4
		Introduction to Area Studies		
	Electives	200 level Global Studies (GS), International Relations (IR), Area Studies (AS)		
		Major & Minor 300-400 level (IR/AS)		Seminar 1&2
	Other Core Category2 courses, FGS Electives, FLA courses, FFS courses, CLER courses etc.			
	Interdisciplinary Learning			
General Studies	Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Language	Refer to page 3 and 4.			



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.



Third-year in the Department of Global Studies **Yuto TOYOSHIMA**

## DEPT. OF 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 AY2023

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year	
SPSF Common Core	Refer to page 3 and 4.				
Specialized Education	Compulsory	Communication 1 Seminar1(Media Research)	Seminar 2 Seminar 3	Bachelor's Thesis Seminar 4	
	Electives	International Communication 1-2		Mass Media1-2, Reporting English1-3, Ethics of Mass	
		Communication1-2, etc.			
		Language (Japanese / Chinese / French / Spanish)			
		Introduction to Global Media, Media Research, Global Media Program, etc.			
	Interdisciplinary Learning				
General Studies	Refer to page 3 and 4.				
Language	Refer to page 3 and 4.				



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.



Second year in the Department of Journalism **Jialin YANG**

## DEPT. OF 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 AY2023

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Specialized Education	Compulsory	Introduction to Management		
	Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methodology; Challenging Frontline Issues in Global Business, etc.</li> <li>• General; Principles of Accounting, Principles of Management, Principles of Marketing, etc.</li> <li>• Specialized; Consumer Behavior, Financial Accounting, Strategic Management, Global Branding, Research Seminar in Management, Bachelor's Thesis, etc.</li> </ul>		
		Interdisciplinary Learning		
General Studies	Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Language	Refer to page 3 and 4.			

Why  
SPSF?



Associate Professor **Dr. Taku TOGAWA**

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.



First-year in the Department of Management **Usaburo MENDENHALL**

## DEPT. OF 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 AY2023

	First-year	Second-year	Third-year	Fourth-year
SPSF Common Core	Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Specialized Education	Compulsory	Principles of Sociology First Year Seminar in Sociology Quantitative Methods in Sociology Sociological	Sociological Theory1&2 Qualitative Methods in Sociology Introduction to Statistics	Advanced Seminar in Sociology
	Electives	Environmental Sociology, Contemporary Social Problems, Social Change in Postwar Japan, Sociology of Families, Sociology of Globalization, Sociology of Happiness, Work and Employment in Japan, Special Topics in Sociology 1-2, Bachelor's Thesis, etc.		
		Interdisciplinary Learning		
General Studies	Refer to page 3 and 4.			
Language	Refer to page 3 and 4.			

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**

# STUDENTS' LIFE at SOPHIA

## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



**Mana UEDA**  
Second-year in the Department of Education

I am currently the vice representative of the school event planning and organizing circle, "nexnect". Our circle organizes several school events throughout the year, but our most popular events will be Yukata Day (held in July), and Autumn Freshman Week (October). I enjoy seeing students and staff participating and having fun in the events organized by nexnect, and this circle has been a great place for me to develop my teamwork skills.



**Tigha MITSUHASHI**  
Third-year in the Department of Education

I'm currently part of the table tennis club at Sophia, and I am currently taking the role of vice captain at the time of writing. Table tennis being a sport that anyone can enjoy at any age, developing your skills in it can be worthwhile and fun. For me personally, being part of the club has helped me grow as a person and I enjoy every moment of it.



**Keita Robert Hooker YOSHIKAWA**  
Second-year in the Department of Economics

I participate in KASA sustainability which is a club that promotes sustainability on campus. KASA sustainability engages in a number of projects on campus such as composting and the operation of an on-campus garden. These activities are very rewarding as I can engage with students from diverse backgrounds including those who are in graduate and doctoral programs at Sophia. Together, we work toward developing a more sustainable university environment.



"You can meet lifelong friends!"

## STUDY ABROAD

**Hana SAEKI**

Third-year in the Department of Global Studies

● **How was your study abroad?**

Studying abroad in Canada helped me recognize my interests in multiculturalism and how salad societies work by allowing inclusive open discussions, empowering and accepting different communities, and overcoming challenges together. It helped me notice and share differences between Japan and Canada to my friends while learning my own strengths and capabilities!

● **Message for prospective students**

Studying abroad can be intimidating. However, everything you experience will make you far more confident, resilient, open to new perspectives, and prepared for anything in the future. If exploring and connecting with people all around the world is something you want to try, then studying abroad is the perfect opportunity!



**Q&A**

**Q: What are the general steps for participating in the exchange program?**

- A: General steps are,
1. Students apply for the exchange program and pass the internal selection.
  2. Sophia University officially nominates the students to the host institution.
  3. Students submit application documents to the host institution.
  4. The host institution reviews their application and issues a Letter of Acceptance.
- Your exchange program is fully finalized only after being accepted by the host institution after the internal selection at Sophia and the screening process by the host institution.

**Q: Can I apply for a study abroad scholarship?**

A: Yes, you can, except each scholarship has requirements to be met. The Study Abroad Support Program offered by JASSO (Japan Student Services Organization) and other internal scholarships granted by Sophia will be announced to the eligible students after passing the internal selection.

**Q: In which year do students go to study abroad?**

A: Mostly in the 3rd year, followed by 2nd-year and 4th-year.

"Time flies so fast!"

## CAREER PROSPECTS



**Jialin YANG**  
Second-year in the Department of Journalism

Since I'm from department of Journalism, maybe I will go to several newspaper companies or social media companies with the recommendation from the Professors.

**Iku NAKAMURA**

First-year in the Department of Education

I want to study further about conflicts, security, and development to work in international cooperation organization in the future. I am attempting to attain MA in a foreign university.



**Poonyaporn SUTHAMPORN**  
Third-year in the Department of Sociology

While I am still on the journey of discovering what career path to take, I am certain that I would like to be involved in a career that circulates around sustainability promotion. Whether that is becoming a sustainability analyst, joining a CSR department, etc.

"Sophia, where my dream comes true"

## DORMITORY LIFE

**Poonyaporn SUTHAMPORN**

Third-year in the Department of Sociology

Surrounded by residents from diverse nationalities and upbringings, I was able to learn and experience different cultures beyond the university environment through dorm events such as the welcome event, summer festival, cultural night etc. At the dorm, I am also currently a Living Group Leader (LGL) as I wanted to be a small part in forming an enjoyable living experience where residents connect with one another and engage in different activities together.



**Sana HORIKAWA**  
Second-year in the Department of Sociology

Living in Arrupe dorm with 6 other people has been fun yet also a learning experience. I have been able to grow my community and create a different kind of connection with my dorm mates, who are always there to welcome me home. Being with other Sophia students and seeing their lifestyles and cultural practices at a personal level every day, I have been able to truly learn more not only about others, but also myself.

**Tigha Mitsuhashi**

Third-year in the Department of Education

The Sophia Edagawa Men's Dormitory is quite unique compared to other dormitories as the student life is more independent. For individuals who want to grow, and develop a sense of independence, the Sophia Edagawa Men's Dormitory is a great place to start.

"How is your dormitory life?"

# SPSF OVERVIEW

- Program Name:** Sophia Program for Sustainable Futures (SPSF)
- Enrollment: September (Autumn semester)**
- Degree (B.A.):** Journalism (Dept. of Journalism), Education (Dept. of Education), Sociology (Dept. of Sociology), Economics (Dept. of Economics), Management (Dept. of Management), International Relations (Dept. of Global Studies), Area Studies (Dept. of Global Studies)
- Enrolled Students by academic year**

September, 2020	37
September, 2021	51
September, 2022	47
- Total Enrollment: 129 (As of May, 2023)**

Journalism	12 students
Education	22 students
Sociology	16 students
Economics	29 students
Management	9 students
Global Studies	41 students
- Student Ratio of Females to Males (As of May, 2023)**

Female	40%
Male	60%
- Student Ratio of Japanese to Non-Japanese (As of May, 2023)**

Japanese	36%
Non-Japanese	64%
- Number of Students by nationality (Non-Japanese) (As of May, 2023)**

KOR	12
USA	11
CHN	8
GER	2
IDN	2
IND	2
THA	2
AUS	1
BGD	1
EAS	1
LUX	1
NPL	1
PAK	1
VNM	1
- Structure:** Undergraduate Program, Six Departments: Economics, Education, Global Studies, Journalism, Management, Sociology
- Establishment:** In 2020\*  
\*Initial student enrollment was in 2020 in the four departments: Economics, Education, Global Studies, and Sociology. The two departments, Journalism and Management, began accepting students every year in succession the following academic year.

# 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 languages can SPSF students learn?**  
A: SPSF is a program entirely taught in English, not a program studying English as a foreign language. For languages other than English, students can take language courses offered in English (e.g., Japanese and Chinese) and language courses offered in Japanese (e.g., German and Korean). There are 21 languages students can study.
- 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.

# ADMISSIONS

# REGULAR ADMISSIONS

[ DOCUMENT SCREENING ]

- For First-year Students**  
Acceptance decisions are made on the basis of SAT/ACT/IB Diploma/GCE A Level scores (grades), TOEFL/IELTS scores, official high school transcripts, an essay, and two recommendation letters.
- Application Period**  
First Period: Mid-November - Early December  
Second Period: Mid-March - Early April

# TUITION

[ APPROX. ]

First year: ¥1,560,000  
Second year: ¥1,350,000

For details, please refer to:  
<https://adm.sophia.ac.jp/eng/admissions/>



# SPSF students' message for prospective students



**Rita YOSHIDA**  
First-year in the Department of Management

In Sophia, especially in SPSF, there are diverse people. Of course, our nationality, appearance, language or other visible factors, but also our characteristics, way of thinking and other invisible factors are diverse. So I think you would never be alone because you are different from others. In addition, you can learn different perspectives from your classmates and professors, which is very important for your future. I hope my comments will help you make your decisions, and I hope to see you on campus.

We hope to meet you in this program in the future. If you would like to not only learn from professors but also from other students who have diverse backgrounds with different ways of thinking, I recommend the SPSF program.



**Shion WATANUMA**  
Second-year in the Department of Global Studies

I know that college applications can be really stressful but it will all work out at the end!! SPSF is worth trying.



**Kip Ondrejka SAXON**  
First-year in the Department of Management

Do not be afraid to take courses outside your department. The SPSF Department curriculum is heavily focused on sustainability and modern-day issues.

SPSF will be a great place for you to broaden your learning and engage in different perspectives!!

By entering SPSF and Sophia University you will encounter faculty and peers from diverse upbringings with different interests, and experiences. By being part of SPSF, something our community shares in common is also our curiosity about sustainability, and our drive to take action. Upon joining, it is my utmost hope that you will familiarise yourself with Sophia University's ecosystem/support systems, leverage the aspects/resources available and take the initiative where you want to see a change to make the most out of your time at Sophia University.

## Lydia Su Hyun BYUN

First-year in the Department of Journalism

If you are interested in Sustainability, Liberal Arts, or English-taught courses, SPSF should be a good fit. There are Japanese and non-Japanese professors who are both academics and professionals in this course.

I believe the SPSF is dedicated to providing students with comprehensive education and diverse perspectives necessary to actively contribute to creating sustainable futures. Offering opportunities to work with each other allows students to develop their understanding of the world together. SPSF serves as a guiding force, motivating students to seek and initiate positive change in the world. Come and learn with us!



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Various types of scholarships and financial aids are available.

### Scholarship application accepted at the time of admission application

- **New Student Scholarship**  
Either 1/3, 1/2, or full tuition support for the first year.
- **Adachi Scholarship for international students from Southeast Asia and Africa**  
Equivalent to the full tuition and education enhancement fee for the first year.

### Other financial aid programs:

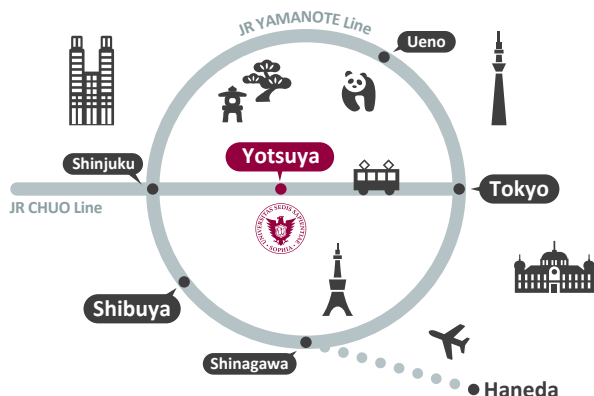
[Applications accepted after entrance]

- **More Information**  
[https://piloti.sophia.ac.jp/eng/scholarships1/scholarship\\_e0005/](https://piloti.sophia.ac.jp/eng/scholarships1/scholarship_e0005/)



## HOUSING SUPPORT

- **Sophia University has several off-campus dormitories and offers affiliated housing options.**  
For more information, please refer to the following webpage.  
<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  
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[www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/](http://www.sophia.ac.jp/eng/)

FIND OUT MORE ON SPSF OFFICIAL WEB

Sophia SPSF Academics



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