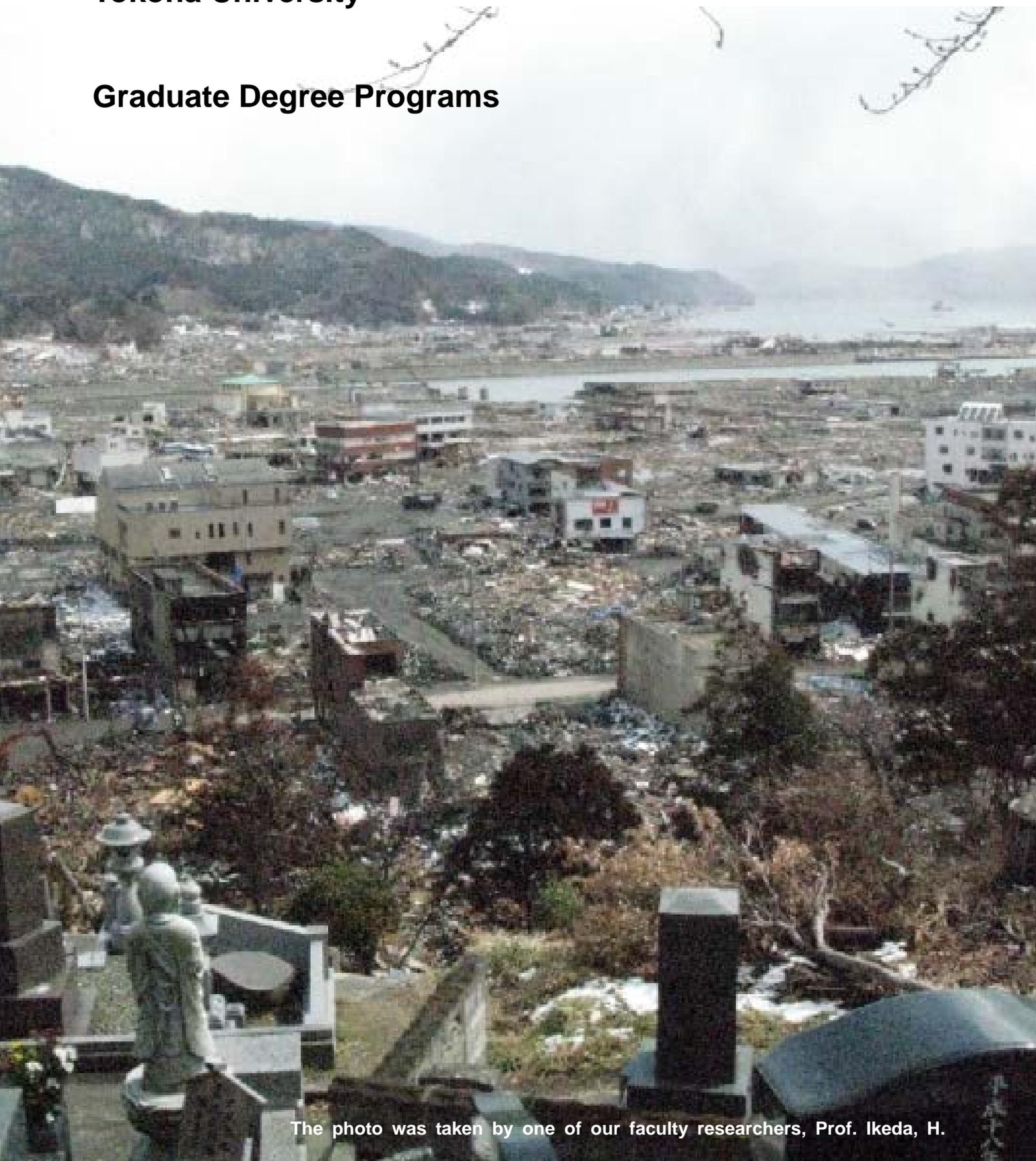


**Graduate School of Environment and Disaster Research,
Tokoha University**

Graduate Degree Programs



The photo was taken by one of our faculty researchers, Prof. Ikeda, H.

Environment and Disaster Research Aimed at Realization of a Sustainable Society

On March 11th 2011, the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred. More than fifteen thousand people were killed, and thousands more were affected. This disaster presented enormous challenges. Moreover, nuclear power plant accidents due to the earthquake created great impact all over the world, urging us to reconsider the future of energy demand and supply and environmental issues.

Natural disasters can occur suddenly at any time. It is critical to cope with the aftermath of such disasters with effective interdisciplinary teamwork. Meanwhile, it is said that Japan has entered a period of heightened seismologic activity. It is essential to best utilize learned lessons to prepare for future disasters.

Despite stagnation in the global economy, there remain challenges ahead to achieve reconstruction following the Great East Japan Earthquake and formulate a sustainable society in harmony with the environment.

In our master's course, disasters are considered as drastic changes in the environment. Researchers are required to develop an interdisciplinary viewpoint to study environmental and disaster preparedness problems. It is our responsibility to cultivate specialists of environment and disaster research in order to contribute to a sustainable society globally.



Dissertation Topics

Various dissertation topics have been explored: global environmental problems, disaster response and restoration analyses based on field work investigation, developing and implementing computer systems to support disaster victims using spatial information processing, etc. Examples are shown in the box below.

Topics of Disaster Research

- Development of training programs to cultivate community leaders for disaster management in response
- Role analysis of emergency housing reconstruction -Case study of Ojiya city in Mid Niigata Prefecture Earthquake -
- Consciousness for disaster reduction in Chinese foreign students in Japan and response in a local community
- Development of planning process and promoting measures of Business Continuity Plan for smaller business enterprises using restricting factor analysis

Topics of Environment Research

- Development of biogas quantitative method using weight method
- Analyzing inhabit restricting factors on *Tanakia ianceolata* and *Procodularia japonensis*
- Research of vernacular engineering methodology on vernacular property policy in the Abe River basin

Courses

We offer two-year graduate programs leading to the degree of Master of Environment and Disaster Research. Two courses are offered at the school: (1) Disaster research, and (2) Environment research.

● Disaster Research

Students are expected to understand social impacts of disasters. Through our research, we continuously verify aspects of disaster damage in our society as well as consider the process of response, restoration or reconstruction. It is also essential to consider countermeasures required to improve response capabilities. Topics may include such areas as administrative and social institutions and promotion of Business Continuity Management. Our research takes a role in realizing a future sustainable society where citizens appropriately prepare for, respond to, and cope with disasters. It is essential for our students to acquire multidisciplinary expertise in order to contribute to society.



Survey, the Great East Japan Earthquake (Left: Prof. Tanaka)

● Environment Research

As human activities expand and exploitation proceeds, environmental destruction and major disasters become serious problems. They create impediments to realizing a sustainable society. Our research aim is to strive to realize a human society which coexists in harmony with the environment. It is essential to study scientific and engineering approaches for a disaster-free sustainable society. Students learn scientific and engineering methods, combining them with the knowledge of social science in order to develop sustainable, yet rich natural surroundings for community life.



Air-conditioning devices for animal experiment lab (Prof. Ikeda)

Curriculum

General: Psychology of Environment and Disaster, Anthropology of Environment and Disaster, Development Assistance & Project Management, Qualitative Research Methods, etc.

Disaster Research: Seminar on Disaster Preparedness, Ethnography in Disaster, Information System for Disaster Management, Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction Planning, Geology for Disaster Prevention, Urban Risk Management, Education for Disaster Preparedness, Theoretical Foundation for Disaster Drill/Exercises, etc.

Environment Research: Environmental Toxicology, Comparative Study of Social Environment, Environmental Change and Disaster Prevention Science, Geographical Information System for Environmental Management, Remote Sensing Systems, etc. (2 credits for each)

Dissertation: Participation in research is emphasized from the first year. All students present their research plan at the beginning of the fall semester in the first year. In the second year, progress report and public hearing on dissertation are required. (12 credits for 2 years)

*Minimum credits required for graduation: 30

Faculty Researchers

	Name	Main Research Topics
Disaster Research	Kishie Shigekawa	Systems and countermeasures for increasing disaster response abilities in local communities, volunteers and administrations
	Hirofuka Ikeda	Social system aimed at safety for advanced researches (earthquake-proofing promotion, business administration, business continuity management, etc.) and for emergency restoration (prior revival, revival preparation, colony reorganization, etc.)
	Satoshi Tanaka	Earthquake structural damage, Disaster victim support systems, Life reconstruction process of disaster victims
	Taketo Shimano	Geological mechanisms and phenomena of volcanic eruption, estimation of volcanic hazards
	Ikuo Abe	Information for disaster management: content and dispatching methods, etc.
	Hiroko Koumoto	Social psychology for environment and disaster management, Organizational behaviors in disaster response
Environment Research	Kakuji Fujikawa	Geographical Information System, analyzing factors to estimate damage from disasters and environmental changes
	Michiko Shimoda	Vegetation science and ecology, measures for the conservation of plant and wildlife resources
	Masahiko Ikeda	Environmental study for human safety and health
	Hiroshi Ogawa	Development of wastewater treatment system, management strategies of septic tanks for local community

At the Foot of Mount Fuji

Tokoha University, Fuji campus, was established in 2000 as Fuji Tokoha University. It was the first and only undergraduate faculty where environment and disaster research courses were offered. It is the nearest university to Mt. Fuji. Its volcanic environment provides us with various research topics. The Graduate school of Environment and Disaster Research was established in 2006 to cultivate specialists to contribute solutions to global problems.

In recent years, Hurricane Katrina, the Mid Niigata Prefecture Earthquake, and the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred. Global warming, dwindling natural resources and energy problems have become more serious. Our goal is to cultivate skilled specialists to challenge such problems.



Contact Information

Admissions Office, Tokoha University
 1-22-1 Sena, Aoi-ku, Shizuoka city,
 Shizuoka, Japan zip420-0911
 TEL: +81 54-263-1126 FAX: +81 54-261-2313