

Graduate School of Education
Faculty of Education

TOHOKU UNIVERSITY
Graduate School of Education
Faculty of Education

LEARNING IS FUN !
Even 80 more years
wouldn't be enough.

Interdisciplinary Exploration of Education: Designing a Better Future for Learning

HIDEKI KOZIMA

Dean, Graduate School of Education / Faculty of Education
Tohoku University

Imagine a world without education. What would it be like? There would be no buses, no trains, and no internet. No one would be able to read, nor could they calculate money. Indeed, books and money themselves would likely not even exist.

Education is a uniquely human activity. Wherever humans exist, from the depths of the jungle to the extreme north, adults teach children, and children seek to learn from adults. Through this active process of teaching and learning, human beings have shared individual inventions and discoveries, passing them down through generations and creating rich and diverse cultures.

How has this endeavor of education developed throughout history, and what systems govern it? How is it affected by poverty and conflict, and how can we address these challenges? What are the psychological mechanisms that underlie the activities of teaching and learning? What happens when these mechanisms don't function properly, such as in cases of developmental disorders, and what can be done? What kind of support can we offer to those who are suffering from mental disorders? How will generative AI change education, and how should it change?

The mission of the Faculty of Education at Tohoku University is to unravel these issues through an interdisciplinary approach, including neuroscience and information science, and from there, to create the future of education. Won't you join us on this intellectual adventure?



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TOHOKU UNIVERSITY Graduate School of Education Faculty of Education

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THE Japan University Rankings Ranked **No.1**

*According to THE Japan University Rankings 2023 by Times Higher Education (a UK-based higher education magazine)

Tohoku University
Established

1907

(Founded as Tohoku Imperial University)



Number of Books in the
Main Library

Located on the same campus
as the Faculty of Education

2,884,912 Books 43,713 Journals

*Data from the "Tohoku University Overview" (as of March 31, 2023)

Campus Area

Approximately

22 Million m²

*Data from the "Tohoku University Overview"
(as of July 1, 2023: 21,904,883 m²)



Faculty of Education
Established

1949

Department of Education, Department of
School Education, Department of Special
Education, Two-Year Teacher Training Course

Tohoku Education by the Numbers



Number of
Faculty Members in
the Faculty of Education

41

(Academic Year 2024)

Faculty-to-Student Ratio: **7.41**



Number of Students in
the Faculty of Education

305

(As of May 1, 2024)

Male-Female Ratio: **45:55**

Number of First-Year Students in
the Faculty of Education

74

(Number of students admitted to the Faculty
in the 2024 academic year)

Male-Female Ratio: **47:53**



Number of
Academic Exchange
Agreements

19

Universities/Institutions

International Student Ratio (Faculty of Education)

Undergraduate Program: **10 / 303**

Graduate School of Education: Master's Program (2 years): **29 / 97**

Doctoral Program (3 years): **13 / 79**

(As of February 2025)



Graduate School of Education / Faculty of Education 1/3

Sciences of Lifelong Education Course

Learn Methods to Research the Process From Human Birth to Death.

The course aims to cultivate individuals who possess insights, planning abilities and practical skills necessary for contributing to the formation of a sustainable and just society. Students will gain a deep understanding of lifelong character formation and education from fundamental, macroscopic and social perspectives. Specifically, the course reconsiders education as a process of "character formation" and teaches research methods that study the entire process from birth to death, not only in institutionalized learning environments like schools, but also from the perspectives of philosophy, history, sociology, and cultural anthropology.

Faculty Members

Taketo KAI Professor
Sports Culture

Ryuhei ISHIIYAMA Associate Professor
Social Education

Tomohiro YAKUWA Professor
History of Character Formation

Tetsuo SAWADA Associate Professor
History of Character Formation

In ja LEE Associate Professor
Theory of Character Formation

Yosuke WASHIYA Associate Professor
Sports Culture



Education Policy and Social Analysis Course

Developing the Ability to Solve Complex Issues Involving Politics, Economics, and Society

Countries facing financial crises and aging populations with declining birthrates, as well as increasing ethnic and cultural diversity, need to consider educational policies not only from the perspective of efficient social resource allocation but also from the perspective of fair treatment of diverse individuals. This course offers an educational program that integrates the academic fields of educational sociology, educational administration, and comparative education under the common framework of "Educational Policy Science." The goal is to cultivate individuals with the ability to identify issues from a broad perspective, advanced analytical skills, and critical thinking, all of which are necessary to solve the complex problems where politics, economics, and society intertwine.

Faculty Members

Eiichi AOKI Professor
Educational Administration

Yoshihiro IMOTO Associate Professor
Comparative Education

Kazunori SHIMA Professor
Educational Sociology

Taketoshi GOTO Associate Professor
Educational Administration

Nobutaka FUKUDA Professor
Educational Sociology

Global Education Course

Fostering Individuals Capable of Practicing and Researching New Education in a Globalized Society

In response to the complex and diverse challenges in a globalized world, there is a need to transform the way we approach education to build a sustainable society. In this course, from an interdisciplinary perspective that includes school education, adult education, international education development, and multicultural education, we reexamine traditional teacher-centered education and explore educational practices that enable individuals to engage with awareness of the parties concerned in responding to new "answerless" situations while collaborating with people who hold different values. Students will develop the ability to actively respond to unprecedented new situations while collaborating with people who possess contrasting beliefs. The course aims to develop researchers and practitioners with specialized abilities to analyze educational issues in a globalized society, grounded in local contexts, and contribute to solving practical problems based on values such as respect for diversity, fairness, and social justice.

Faculty Members

Kazuya TANIGUCHI Associate Professor
School Education Theory

Kazuko SUEMATSU Professor
Multicultural Education

Lei CAO Assistant Professor
International Education Development

Dai MATSUMOTO Associate Professor
Adult Education

Mino TAKAMATSU Associate Professor
Multicultural Education

Jing LIU Associate Professor
International Education Development

Yuki WATABE Associate Professor
Multicultural Education





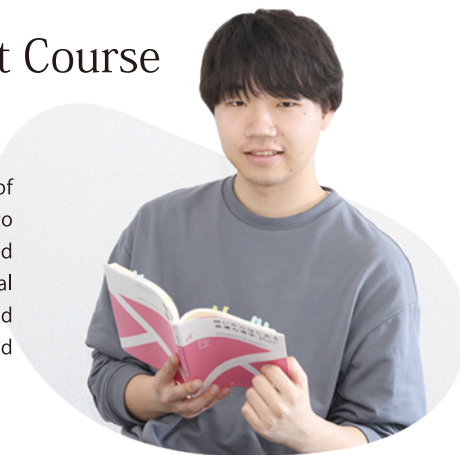
Scan here for more



Educational Informatics and Innovative Assessment Course

Building a Foundation in Assessment with a View toward Learning Innovation

In designing modern educational and learning environments, the advanced and effective integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is required to provide learning opportunities accessible to all. This involves not only the development of educational programs using ICT but also the verification and assessment of their processes and effects. This course aims to cultivate individuals who have the foundational knowledge of assessment, essential skills, and expertise necessary to measure and evaluate education based on objective data and evidence, while also focusing on learning innovations suitable for an era characterized by the maturation of Japanese society, declining birth rates, and the diversification of values.



Faculty Members

Masahiro ARIMOTO Professor
Educational Assessment and Measurement

Masayuki KUMAI Professor
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Ryuichi KUMAGAI Professor
Educational Assessment and Measurement

Hideki KOZIMA Professor
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Saori KUBO Associate Professor
Educational Assessment and Measurement

Katsumi SATO Associate Professor
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Taira NAKAJIMA Associate Professor
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Yuichiro MATSUBAYASHI Associate Professor
Educational Assessment and Measurement

Ayahito ITO Lecturer
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Naoki KURAMOTO Professor
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Tomohioro MIYAMOTO Professor
Design Theories in Educational Informatics

Tomoko SATO Associate Professor
Educational Assessment and Measurement



Educational Psychology Course

Understanding the mechanisms of teaching, learning, and human development, as well as support needs, from a psychological perspective.

In educational psychology, "education" is broadly viewed as the challenges faced in various human interactions. For example, how to teach elementary students struggling with fractions, why juvenile delinquency rates are higher among middle school students compared to other age groups, and how to support children with communication difficulties (such as those with autism spectrum disorder). This course takes a multi-faceted and comprehensive approach from a psychological perspective to understand these mechanisms, including teaching, learning, and human development, as well as disabilities and support needs in developmental processes. The course aims to cultivate individuals capable of developing theoretical and practical psychological and educational support using empirical methods, as well as training professionals in psychology.

Faculty Members

Tetsuji KAMIYA Professor
Developmental Psychology

Yoshifumi KUDO Professor
Psychology in Teaching and Learning

Mari HASEGAWA Professor
Developmental Psychology

Kazuhito NOGUCHI Professor
Study of Developmental Disabilities

Seiko SATO Associate Professor
Psychology in Teaching and Learning

Susumu YOKOTA Associate Professor
Study of Developmental Disabilities

Clinical Psychology Course

Training Individuals Who Can Contribute to Society as Psychological Professionals

Psychosocial issues affecting children and adults, such as school refusal and bullying in schools, problems arising from recurring disasters, and issues like abuse and harassment within families and organizations, are becoming increasingly severe. This course aims to train researchers who will discover new insights into psychological support for individuals and families facing these harsh issues. It also prepares students to obtain qualifications as certified public psychologist and clinical psychologists, enabling them to contribute widely to society as psychological professionals engaged in consultation and support work.

Faculty Members

Koubun WAKASHIMA Professor
Clinical Psychology

Hideo AMBO Associate Professor
Clinical Psychology

Nami HONDA Associate Professor
Clinical Psychology

Shunta MAEDA Associate Professor
Clinical Psychology

Saran YOSHIDA Associate Professor
Clinical Psychology

Lenna SCHLEMPER Assistant Professor
Clinical Psychology

Kazuma SAKAMOTO Assistant Professor
Clinical Psychology





Psychology Support Center

The Psychology Support Center aims to contribute the results of basic and clinical psychological research conducted within the Graduate School to the local community. It provides counseling and support to individuals, families, local communities, and disaster victims, while also conducting practical training for certified public psychologists and clinical psychologists. The center houses the Clinical Psychology Counseling Room, the Psychosocial Support Room for Disaster Victims, and the Development and Learning Consultation Room. The Psychosocial Support Room for Disaster Victims continues the work of the "S-Chill" Support Office for Children Affected by the Earthquake, which concluded at the end of FY2020, focusing on emergency support, support for disaster victims, and disaster/disaster-prevention psychological education. Furthermore, we have expanded the support system of the existing Clinical Psychology Counseling Room and built a support system that can comprehensively utilize a wider range of specialties (developmental/learning consultation, remote support, etc.).

Clinical Psychology Counseling Room

This room provides clinical psychological interviews, including psychological assessments, for individuals and their families facing stress and conflict in the workplace or in their daily lives, including issues such as children's school refusal and bullying. It contributes to the local community and serves as an internal training institution for fostering clinical psychologists (designated as a Type 1 graduate school for clinical psychologist training) and certified public psychologists. The members are primarily faculty and graduate students from the Clinical Psychology Course.

Development and Learning Consultation Room



This room provides specialized consultations to professionals in various fields, such as education and welfare, who are struggling with how to respond to children and their guardians from infancy to adolescence, regarding developmental issues, concerns, and learning difficulties. It also provides developmental and learning support required for children and their guardians. The members are primarily faculty from the Educational Psychology Course.

Psychosocial Support Room for Disaster Victims

Taking over materials and collaborative organizations from the Support Room for Children Affected by the Earthquake, this office will conduct (1) support for bereaved families and foster parents after disasters, (2) emergency support and support for disaster victims, and (3) disaster psychological education. In addition, for remote disaster areas, a remote support system will be established and introduced. The members are primarily faculty from the Graduate School of Education.

Remote Support Team

We provide a wide range of consultations for those seeking remote support, such as individuals experiencing social withdrawal (hikikomori), family caregivers, and those living in remote areas.



Faculty Members

Koubun WAKASHIMA Center Director
Director of Psychosocial Support Room for Disaster Victims
Professor

Hideo AMBO Deputy Director
Director of Clinical Psychology Counseling Room
Associate Professor

Susumu YOKOTA
Director of Development and Learning Consultation Room
Associate Professor

Faculty Members

Hideo AMBO Director / Associate Professor

Shunta MAEDA Deputy Director / Associate Professor

Koubun WAKASHIM Professor

Nami HONDA Associate Professor

Saran YOSHIDA Associate Professor

Ayumi UMEDA Associate Professor

Lenna SCHLEMPER Associate Professor

Faculty Members

Susumu YOKOTA Director / Associate Professor

Mari HASEGAWA Professor

Tetsuji KAMIYA Professor

Yoshifumi KUDO Professor

Kazuhito NOGUCHI Professor

Seiko SATO Associate Professor

Faculty Members

Koubun WAKASHIMA Director / Professor

Eiichi AOKI Professor

In ja LEE Associate Professor

Center for Innovation in Educational Research and Practice

The Center for Innovation in Educational Research and Practice is an organization that allows for a more agile response to socially important educational issues and enables students to enhance their research and practical skills through participation in projects. The center's various divisions—"Priority Research Project Division," "Regional Education Support Division," "Research and Education Support Division," and "International Exchange Support Office"—promote initiatives related to research and education.

Faculty Members

Taketo KAI Center Director / Professor

Jing LIU Deputy Director / Associate Professor

Tokuka IN Center Member / Assistant Professor

Wanxin YAN Center Member / Assistant Professor

Yuichi OHKAWA Center Member / Assistant Professor

Adiyanyam DAGVADORJ Center Member / Assistant Professor

International Symposiums and Partner Universities

Tohoku University, which engages in global research activities, places great importance on collaborative research exchange with researchers from prominent universities overseas. To promote such exchanges, Tohoku University has concluded university-level exchange agreements with 240 universities and institutions worldwide as of April 2024. Additionally, one or more departments (graduate schools and research institutes) within Tohoku University have independently established departmental agreements with 462 overseas universities and institutions. The Faculty of Education (Graduate School of Education) has departmental agreements with the following 19 universities and institutions, actively conducting research exchanges and mutual student exchanges.

List of Universities and Institutions with Departmental Agreements

- UCL Institute of Education (IOE)
- Graduate School of Social Education, Myongji University
- Faculty of Education, York University
- Teachers' College, National Taitung University (NTTU)
- College of Health and Welfare, Woosong University
- School of Education Science, Nanjing Normal University
- College of Education, National Taiwan Normal University
- College of Education, Korea University
- College of Education, National Chengchi University
- Jing Hengyi School of Education, Hangzhou Normal University
- Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University
- School of Psychology, Nanjing Normal University
- Faculty of Education, East China Normal University
- School of Psychology and Cognitive Science, East China Normal University
- College of Education, Seoul National University
- Faculty of Education, Northeast Normal University
- Faculty of Educational Science and School of Postgraduate Studies, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia
- UNESCO Bangkok
- School of Education, Tianjin University

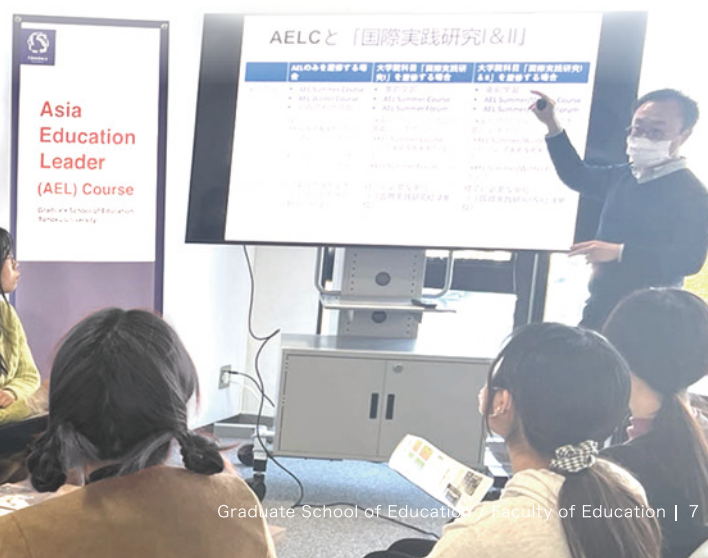


AEL COURSE

AEL stands for "Asia Education Leader." It is an international joint education program that aims to cultivate leaders with an international perspective who can address educational issues in Asia, particularly East Asia.



Scan here for more





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2



3



4

1 Library

The Faculty of Education's library is located on the 6th floor of the research building and occupies about half of the floor. It is staffed by two specialized personnel. The library is equipped with large tables and chairs for reading, individual study booths (carrels), a copier, and computers for book searches. The collection includes nearly 10,000 items such as educational books, journals and university bulletins, all stored in open shelves and 12 movable compact shelving units. The library plays a significant role in supporting the education and research of students and faculty members.

3 Refresh Rooms

These unique facilities of the graduate school are designed to encourage self-study among students. Each floor has one refresh room, which serves as a place for rest, conversation, and also as a space that can be used for independent seminars and study groups. The bright rooms with good views are equipped with sofas, meeting tables, large presentation monitors, and whiteboards, all of which are freely available for student use.

2 Computer Lab

The computer lab is equipped with 30 computers and 3 printers. Each computer has basic software like word processing and spreadsheets, as well as four types of data analysis software installed. The lab also has texts available for learning software usage and data analysis. It is used for classes and workshops, as well as by students for their research and studies.

4 Laboratories

These facilities are designed for various types of experiments related to learning mechanisms (how humans learn and understand) and cognition (human information processing based on various senses). They also support physiological psychology tests, various individual psychological assessments, and behavioral observations of interactions between groups. The systems for recording and analyzing these observations are also in place.

