Overview of the Center

The Global Media Research Center conducts practical and advanced media and communication research in order to understand the present circumstances of global communication, including such questions as how information is produced, distributed and consumed within such a dynamic global environment and how these processes relate to the formation of the images of actors including states, private enterprises and NPOs within international society.

Name: Global Media Research Center
Affiliation: Graduate School of Languages and Cultures, Nagoya University
Establishment: April 2015
Parent Organization: Media Professional Studies Program
Address: Global Media Research Center Office, Room 301, Liberal Arts and Sciences Building (North Wing), Nagoya University, Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya-shi, 464-8601, Japan
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About Nagoya

Located in central Japan along the Pacific coast, the city of Nagoya has a population of 2.3 million people and is the country’s third largest metropolitan area. The Nagoya region is the hub of Japanese business and industry, a vital part of the country’s economic strength. Corporate offices, manufacturing plants, and research and design centers as well as over 100 global enterprises are headquartered in the Greater Nagoya area.

The city boasts an advanced urban infrastructure. A network of six subway, three railway and numerous convenient bus lines enable easy travel throughout the city. Downtown Nagoya is only a short subway ride from the main Nagoya University campus. By Shinkansen bullet train, Tokyo is an accessible 1.5 hours and Kyoto only 1 hour away.

Nagoya incorporates vibrant urbanity and unique cultural heritage within an attractive natural environment. The city is surrounded by mountains and sea which provide outdoor and cultural activities throughout the year.

Beyond campus, visitors exploring Nagoya can enjoy diverse experiences including: viewing sakura cherry blossoms in spring and momiji maple leaves in autumn, sampling local cuisine such as kishimen and misonikomi udon noodles, discovering hidden traditional streetscapes and visiting historical sites such as Nagoya Castle and Atsuta Shrine.

About Nagoya University

- 6 Nobel Laureates in Japan since 2000 are from NU.
- NU is a research-intensive university:
  - Receiving the most significant government grants
  - Top Global University Project
  - Program for Promoting the Enhancement of Research Universities
- Ranked 3rd and 4th among Japanese universities in terms of number of patents registered in the United States and in Japan (2000–2008)
- Comprising over 20 research institutes
- Ranked 20th university in Asia (QS2014)
- 14 graduate schools, 9 undergraduate schools, 3 research institutes and 19 research centers
- More than 16,500 students (2,643 international - 15% of student body) as of May 1, 2013
- Over 350 academic exchange partners worldwide
- 13 overseas offices - China, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Mongolia, Uzbekistan, Germany, United States.

Facts and Figures of Nagoya University

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Message from the Director

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the Global Media Research Center (GMRC). As the first of its kind in Japan, the Center was launched in April 2015 by the Media Professional Studies Program in the Graduate School of Languages and Cultures at Nagoya University.

Since the Media Professional Studies Program was founded in 2003, we have not only undertaken research aimed at exploring theories of media and communication and media practice, but also provided educational courses at the Master and Doctoral level in close cooperation with newspaper, broadcasting and other media-related companies in the central Japan region. We have aimed at developing graduates with a strong sense of social ethics, profound knowledge and practical skills who can perform a leading role at the forefront of today’s highly sophisticated information society. Nearly one hundred of our graduates are now successfully playing an active part in journalism, broadcasting, publishing, advertising and public relations. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the broader community for the warm support it has shown to our Program.

The Global Media Research Center is a new venture that builds on our achievements since the foundation of the Media Professional Studies Program twelve years ago. During this time, the emergence of new digital media such as social media has brought about enormous changes worldwide. As the global distribution of information has dramatically grown due to the developments of information and communication technology, it is essential for all the actors including states, private enterprises, NPOs, NGOs and individual citizens to be able to exert their influence in the world, and in order to do so they have got to possess the necessary skills to effectively communicate their messages and positions not only domestically but internationally.

In response to the rapidly changing environment of traditional and new media and international society, the Center aims to provide a major platform for media and communication studies and to undertake interdisciplinary research aimed at exploring global communication with an emphasis on international images. We shall be hosting a number of events including International and Local Lectures, Conferences and Seminars, International Student Exchange Programs, and to undertake interdisciplinary research aimed at exploring theories of media and communication and media practice.

Toshiya Nakamura, Ph.D.
Director of the Global Media Research Center

Staff

Core Faculty

Director  Toshiya Nakamura (Professor)
I earned my PhD in Political Science from the University of Melbourne, Australia in 2009. I have been a visiting scholar at the Research Institute for Peace and Security (RIPS), Tokyo (2003), and at the Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES) in Vienna (2008). My principal field of research is international relations with a focus on the foreign and security policies of Japan and Germany as well as interactions between media and politics. My current research interests center on the role of national images in international relations, especially in the public diplomacy of the above two countries.

Coordinator  Nobuhiro Ihara (Associate Professor)
I earned my PhD at the School of Social and Political Sciences of the University of Melbourne in 2010. My dissertation examined the history of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), with a particular focus on its early formative years. Before coming to Nagoya University I worked at the Graduate School of Law and the Faculty of Law at Kobe University. My current research interest is Japan’s foreign policy toward ASEAN in the 1970s. I especially focus on what kinds of signals the Japanese government sent to the regional countries to achieve multilateral political cooperation with them.

Akiko Ogawa (Associate Professor)
I received a BA in Sociology from Nagoya University and an MA in socio-informatics and a PhD in interdisciplinary information studies from University of Tokyo. I have worked as an announcer for Chubu-Nippon Broadcasting and have previously taught at Aichi Shukutoku University. My primary research area is community media, which I investigate from the perspective of social inclusion. I am currently researching Digital Storytelling as a practice through which people can share their experiences and thoughts. For the past seven years I have also been involved in the Media Conte Project, conducting dialogic, collaborative and game-like digital storytelling workshops with diverse groups of people.

Concurrent Faculty

Masataka Kawamura (Professor, Media Professional Studies Program)
I graduated from the Faculty of Economics, University of Tokyo in 1975. I worked for many years as a program director and a producer for NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation, but my work included not only making TV programs but also promoting cross-media communication such as via print publications related to broadcasting contents or international co-production. In London and New York I was engaged in promoting TV JAPAN, an international Japanese TV service. My research interests include comparative studies of broadcasting and the social history of media.

Edward Haig (Professor, Media Professional Studies Program)
I have an MA in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (Aston University, UK) and PhDs in Ecology (University of London, UK) and Linguistics (Lancaster University, UK). My current research interests include the language of ecology / the ecology of language: the ideological use of language in Japanese and English news media; the interrelations between public and private discourses of youth, crime and class; and the language of radio broadcasting. The two main theoretical and methodological tools that I use in my research are systemic functional linguistics and critical discourse analysis.

Affiliated Faculty

Tetsuo Yamada (Visiting Professor, Editor in Chief of the Tokyo Shimbun newspaper)
Yoshihiko Kuribayashi (Visiting Professor, Professor of Nagoya Bunri University)