

TGU Newsletter

Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy vol.05

Prepare for Landing!

The academic year of 2023 will be the final year for the Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy, a research unit established in 2014 under the 10-year Top Global University (Waseda Goes Global) project. Through the former research units such as the Center of Excellence Program for the 21st Century and the Global Center of Excellence Program, as well as through the current project, our faculty, staff and graduate students have made great efforts to bring us about an exceptional, world-class research and education hub for political economy, where political science and economics are soundly merged.

The biggest reason I think that political science and economics would merge is that more and more research methods in various fields are being shared among scholars these days. Currently, theoretical models centered on game theory, statistical causal inference, and experiments (survey, field, laboratory) are naturally used by both political scientists and economists according to their own interests. Since these methods are constantly evolving, it's crucial that we keep learning from leading experts from in and out of Japan in order to keep up with the evolution for each method.

For this reason, we value international exchange. In addition to inviting many researchers from overseas to give lectures and seminars to the students at Waseda, we also send out our students to overseas institutions to receive training as well as to present their research results abroad. The researchers/students based in the Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy are connected to the world while staying at Waseda.

The current goal of our research unit is to successfully land the TGU project by 2023, and to prepare for a new takeoff of the unit thereafter. We appreciate your support and encouragement from everyone involved.



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2014年度から10年間の補助を受けて継続してまいりました実証政治経済学拠点は、2023年度が最終年度となります。それ以前の21世紀COE、グローバルCOE以来の教職員・大学院生の努力の結果、本学術院は政治学と経済学が融合する政治経済学の国内随一・ワールドクラスの研究教育拠点としての地位を築き上げてきたと自負しております。

私が政治学と経済学が融合しているとする最大の理由は、研究方法が共有されつつあることです。ゲーム理論を中心とした理論モデル、統計的因果推論、実験（サーベイ・フィールド・ラボラトリー）は、政治学者も経済学者も自分の興味に応じて当然のように使いこなしています。また、これらの手法は絶えず進化していくので、その進化についていくためには、国内外を問わず、各手法の第一人者に教えを受けなければなりません。

このため、本拠点は国際性を重視しています。海外から多くの研究者を招き授業やセミナーなどを行っていただくと共に、本拠点から多くの研究者を海外の研究機関に派遣し、トレーニングを受けたり、研究成果の発表を行ったりしています。このように、本拠点をホームにする研究者は、早稲田にいながら世界とつながっています。

本拠点の当面の目標は、2023年度までのSGU事業を無事に着陸させること、それ以降の本拠点の新たな離陸に向けて準備することです。ご関係の皆様からのご支援ご鞭撻のほどよろしくお願いいたします。

News & Topics

Latest publications by Professor Takumi Naito / 内藤 巧 教授 最新論文

[The small open economy in a generalized gravity model](#) (with Svetlana Demidova and Andrés Rodríguez-Clare)
NBER Working Paper 30394, August 2022.

[Can the optimal tariff be zero for a growing large country?](#)
International Economic Review 62 1237-1280 August 2021.

[Trade diversion is reversed in the long run](#)
Review of Economic Dynamics 39 202-219 January 2021.

ESS@WASEDA

Essex Summer School at WASEDA (ESS@WASEDA) started in 2016 in collaboration with the University of Essex. We were able to hold ESS@WASEDA in person at Waseda Campus this year for the first time since the outbreak of Covid-19, inviting Dr. Royce Carroll and Dr. Akitaka Matsuo from the University of Essex and offering two courses from September 12 to 22. ([Reference article](#))

2016年度から実施しているエセックス大学のサマースクールESS@WASEDAが、コロナ禍による中断を経てこの夏3年ぶりに早稲田キャンパスで開催されました。2022年度はエセックス大学よりRoyce Carroll先生と松尾晃孝先生を招聘し、9月12日～22日の期間に2コースを開講しました。([関連記事](#))

Scaling Methods and Ideal Point Estimation (online)

Course review by Dr. Royce Carroll

“The students at the Waseda-Essex Summer School were highly engaged in the course and it was a rewarding experience to teach them. By the conclusion of the course, it was clear that the students were ready to apply the skills they learned to their research. I encouraged them to look for potential applications in their data and stay in touch with me for advice on how to use the methods. Overall, it was a very enjoyable experience to meet these students and I look forward to future cooperation with Waseda.”

Introduction to Programming for Big Data and Machine Learning in Social Science

Course review by Dr. Akitaka Matsuo

“Although the course had a relatively small number of participants, they were all enthusiastic and their high motivation was evident in their performance on the exam given on the last day of the course. It was also an interesting experience for me to talk with the students during office hours about how they would apply the course content to their research.

As I mentioned in class, I designed this course as the first step for social science students to use R to do data science. I hope that what you learn here will provide you with clues to apply to the data analysis in their future research. Furthermore, I would be happy if this experience would encourage you to consider studying abroad to learn more about your field of expertise or the ever-advancing methods of data analysis in the social sciences.”

「比較的少人数のコースでしたが、受講者の皆さんは熱心で、その意欲の高さは、最終日に行われた試験の成績となって現れたと思います。また、オフィスアワーで受講者たちと、このコースの内容をどのように研究に応用していくのかを話したのは、興味深い体験でした。

授業でも述べたように、私のコースは、社会科学を専門とする人たちが、Rを使ってデータサイエンスをするための第一歩として設計しました。ここで学んだことが、実際のデータ分析に活用できることを期待しています。さらには、専門分野やデータ分析の手法をより深く学ぶために、海外の大学への留学を考えるきっかけとなれば嬉しいです。」



Professor Airo Hino (left) and Dr. Akitaka Matsuo (right)

To the Future / 今後の展望

Professor Airo Hino, Faculty of Political Science and Economics / 日野 愛郎 政治経済学術院教授

Essex Summer School has one of the longest traditions in running a summer school in data analysis in social sciences since 1967, and this year, which marks the 56th year of the program, saw more than 500 participants from over 50 countries. Essex Summer School @ Waseda, which started in 2016, is designed to provide opportunities to graduate students in Asia without having to go to the UK to partake in the method training courses. Waseda has offered the Essex Summer School @ Waseda for 5 years, starting in 2016, of which the Center for Positive/Empirical Analysis of Political Economy has played a crucial role.

The University of Essex currently offers close to 50 varied courses on analytical methods, and I feel there is great significance for deepening ties between methodological training and analytical methods, which are developing rapidly in the field of social sciences, while keeping in mind the diverse world we live in. We hope that participants take the data analysis skills they've learned with them to continue to grow these skills as they use them in their research areas.

Though the program was unfortunately postponed for two years due to Covid-19, we now look forward to next year, the 6th occurrence of Essex Summer School @ Waseda, which we hope will lead to further developments in the field of methodological training.

Essex Summer Schoolは1967年より続く欧州で最も伝統のある社会科学のサマースクールの一つで、56回目を迎えた今年も50カ国から500人を超える学生がデータ分析の手法を学びました。Essex Summer School @ Wasedaは、イギリスに行かずとも早稲田大学において同様のデータ分析のトレーニングを受けることができるよう、2016年よりSGU実証政治経済学拠点を中心となり行われており、今年で5回目を数えました。

現地のエセックス大学では50近くの多種多様な分析方法に関する授業が提供されており、社会科学における分析手法が日進月歩で開発され、かつ多様化する状況に鑑み、方法論教育について連携を深める意義は少なからずあるように思われます。今年の受講生に蒔かれたデータ分析の種がそれぞれの研究を通して芽吹き、2年のブランクを経て再開できたEssex Summer School @ Wasedaが今後の方法論教育の発展につながることを期待しながら、6回目となる来年度の準備を進めたいと思います。