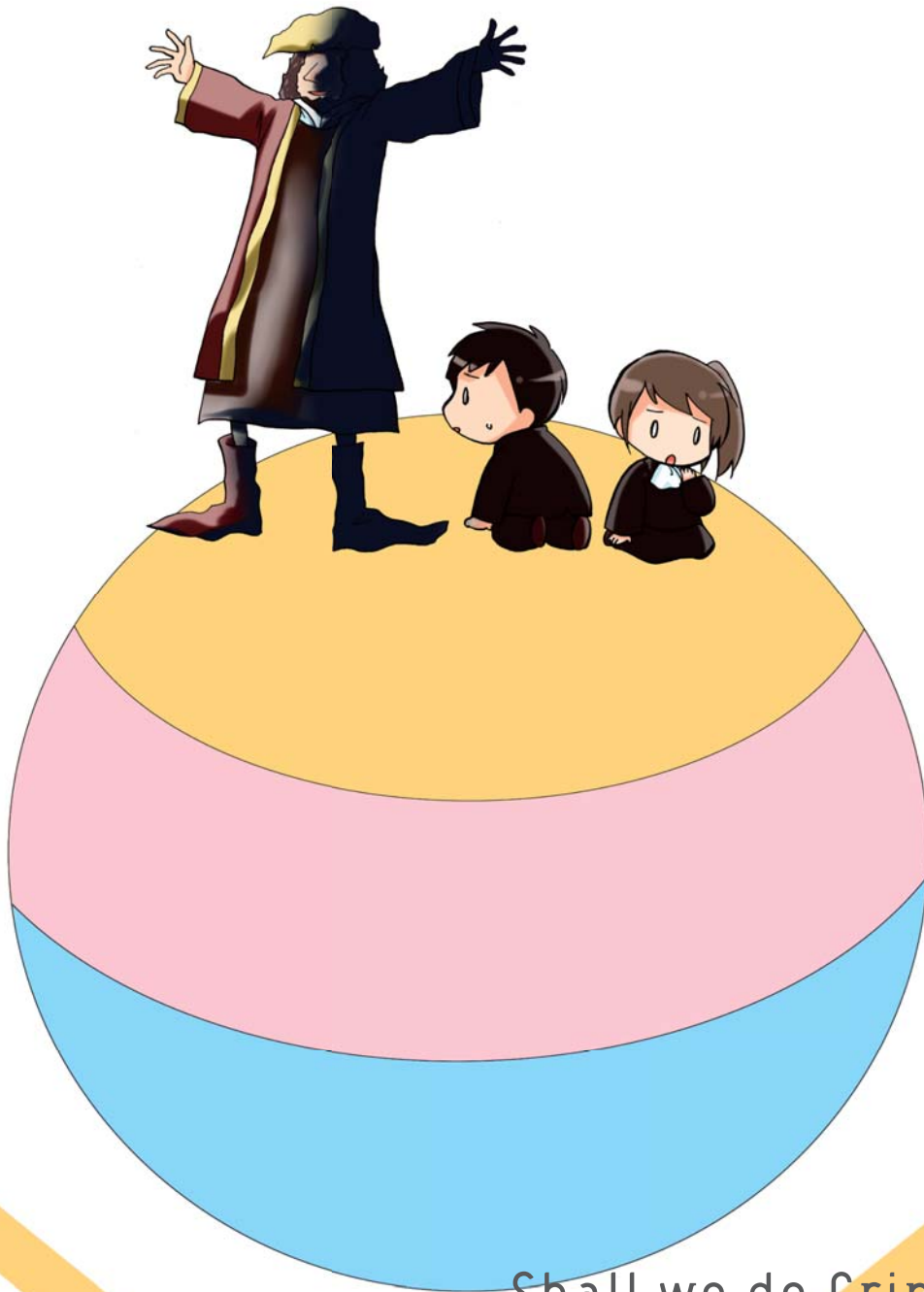


# Is Criminology interesting?



Shall we do Criminology?

Criminology Research Center  
Ryukoku University

You,  
Unlimited



# Ryukoku University's Pursuit of a Compassionate Criminology

## The establishment of Ryukoku Criminology through the intergration of various types of knowledge

For over 40 years, and embodying our founding spirit, our University has developed correction and rehabilitation activities to support social rehabilitation for people who have committed crimes and/or engaged in delinquent behavior. In 2010, we opened the Comprehensive Correction and Rehabilitation Center, the only research organization among private universities in Japan which specializes in criminal policy through a three-pronged approach of research, education, and social contribution.

Based on this tradition and our achievements, we further established the Criminology Research Center in 2017. We will establish Ryukoku Criminology based on the foundations of crime prevention and human support, and call attention to the Ryukoku brand not only domestically, but internationally too. Our Center's feature is to integrate various types of knowledge concerning crime, and systematize a new Criminology with the dual aims of crime prevention and human support.

## See reality as it really is

The founding spirit of Ryukoku University, which in 2019 will celebrate its 380th year since opening, follows the true teaching of Pure Land Buddhism (Jodo Shinshu). This refers to the vow of Amida Buddha aspiring to awaken all living beings from ignorance to enlightenment. We value the state of seeing reality as it really is without being self-centered and turning away from the truth.

Crime countermeasures often tend to thrust correction and improvement on offenders or delinquent juveniles in a condescending manner. Ryukoku Criminology examines such



Shinichi Ishizuka  
Director, Professor of the Faculty of  
Law at Ryukoku University

presumptions, scientifically determines the various obstacles that prevent people from living appropriately as people with proper respect for the independence of all, and aims at helping everybody recover together in a peaceful environment.

Seeing crimes is equivalent to knowing families, local communities, entire societies, nations, the world, and all living human beings within it and how those crimes were committed. Statistically, crime and imprisonment rates are low in Japan, but the reasons why these are low has not been sufficiently established yet. The ultimate goal of Ryukoku Criminology is to acquire the mind and technique to focus on the truth through scientific recognition of Japanese culture and history, as well as society and the world.

Criminology sounds interesting, doesn't it? If you think so, "Shall we do Criminology?" Let's study Criminology together and we'll figure out why it's so interesting!

## The Three Departments that Constitute the Ryukoku Criminology Project

Ryukoku Criminology, which focuses on crime prevention and human support, undertakes various projects in three departments in order to advance future criminological concepts and criminal policy proposals.

### ● Research Department

Each unit investigates and conducts research on criminological phenomena using an individual perspective (approaching method) in the three fields of "Crime and Human Beings", "Crime and Society", and "Crime and Science".

### ● Education Department

Based on the results of our research, we evaluate current crime countermeasures and criminal policy, and provide new recommendations. We also cultivate diverse and talented personnel to advance the future of Criminology.

### ● International Department

Through engaging with Criminology experts and research organizations in other countries, we will improve the quality of Criminology in Japan, and widely disseminate our research achievements overseas.

In time for the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice which will be held in Kyoto in 2020, we will compile our criminological concepts and criminal policy proposals, and announce them at "Ryukoku Congress 2020".

### Crime and Human Beings

- Forensic psychology
- Therapeutic jurisprudence
- Correctional religious studies

### Crime and Society

- Sociological criminology
- Socio-legal studies
- Legal education

### Crime and Science

- Policy evaluation
- Survey Research
- Forensic methodologies



Public offering research

## Research Department

Based on the foundations of crime prevention and human support, we cast light on criminological phenomena from various angles, and illuminate their real nature. Let us introduce more details along with experts in each specialized field.



Masahiro Tsushima  
Research Department Head, Professor of the  
Faculty of Sociology at Ryukoku University

### ■ Condemn the crime rather than the criminal?! — Crime and Human Beings —

There are some people who suffer from ADHD (Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) in criminal facilities. Toshinobu Takeda, a psychiatrist, investigates the reality of this issue utilizing the technical knowledge of forensic psychology and supports those persons concerned.

In addition, there are people who suffer from various types of addiction in contemporary society. In order to aid recovery from addiction, a therapeutic jurisprudence expert, Shinichi Ishizuka, constructs "Entaku" (round-table forum), aiming to support the independence of the persons

concerned.

Prison chaplains, who help people with a "recovery of the mind" through religion, work actively in criminal facilities. Yoshiyuki Inoue carries on the history and tradition of our University through Correctional Religious Studies which is based on the teachings of Shinran Shonin.

In this field, we seek to enhance recovery support for inmates and juvenile delinquents from the viewpoints of Psychology, Law, and Correctional Religious Studies.

### ■ Is crime a mirror of society? — Crime and Society —

From the standpoint of social welfare studies, Kayoko Kurokawa works on the social problem of "eating alone". This research is particularly concerned with children who eat meals in the absence of parents, as well as the effect on the healthy growth of children in situations where "parents are psychologically absent though they exist with the children".

Whilst crimes are "committed by individuals", there is also another aspect, which is that crimes are "produced by society". A research group, with sociologist Masahiro Tsushima as its lead representative, seeks to establish

the tendencies and causes of juvenile delinquency within the context of Japan through the ISRD (International Self-Report Delinquency Study), which is an international comparative investigation regarding juvenile delinquency.

Approaches to criminal phenomena are diverse, and defined depending on the culture of each society and country. Kazumasa Akaike, who is a researcher of the Criminology of France, a nation of individualism, critically analyzes and examines Japan's criminal policy which is dominated by collectivism, and aims to make a "counter proposal".

### ■ Do you research crime scientifically? — Crime and Science —

Koichi Hamai advocates the position that Japanese Criminology should be scientific and evidence-based. He endeavors to provide scientific information to domestic and international policy makers by participating in an international policy evaluation project, The Campbell Collaboration, and investigates victimization based on European research standards.

It is also our agenda to establish a basic framework of Criminology education in Japan through the construction and utilization of a world-leading Criminology education

curriculum.

Akiko Kogawara questions the way forensic methodologies exist in Japan's criminal justice system. She is reviewing the standards and guidelines for reliability and credibility of forensic methodologies, such as image/video analysis and DNA appraisal. Apprehension about the use of evidence in "Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS)" cases, which has been a focus of attention in recent years, questions foundational attitudes towards the utilization of scientific expertise.

## Public Offering Research to see Criminology from many sides

We called on the entire University for cooperation to develop the accumulation of various types of research as well as diverse and talented personnel in Ryukoku University. In 2017, three "Public Offering Research" projects relating to "Hate Crime", "Sexual Crime", and "Childcare and Delinquency" were adopted.

Respectively, Kim Sangyun conducts research and surveys on the relationship between crime and

discrimination rooted in Japanese society; Tsukasa Saito examines sexual crime that is now seriously affected by the revision of sexual criminal law as well as case law changes in the Supreme Court; and Makoto Nakane investigates delinquency problems starting at the childcare level. Moreover, projects concerning "Gambling Addiction" and "Dialogical Communication" were adopted in 2018.

## Education Department

We are constructing a Japanese and English curriculum based on the results of research conducted by the Research Department, and will disseminate it within and outside Japan. Additionally, research results will be made open to the public through workshops and study sessions. We held a "Legal Education Festival" in 2016 and 2017. In the same manner as such activities, we seek to share knowledge by providing "easy-to-understand classes" to elementary, junior, and senior high school students, as well as general citizens.

We will use the internet to make the Criminology curriculum available to the public, and hear various opinions from key stakeholders. Using this feedback, we will create study materials, and examine the study program. By developing and incorporating policy recommendations and educational activities based on the results of research in this way, we aim to cultivate the next generation of practitioners and researchers, and implement our research outcomes through various means in society.



Kazumasa Akaike  
Education Department Head, Professor of  
the Faculty of Law at Ryukoku University

## International Department

We send researchers to universities and research organizations, and pursue academic exchanges in order to raise Japanese Criminology to an international level. We actively present our research outcomes abroad and at international academic conferences. We also invite internationally renowned researchers, and hold symposiums and seminars in Japan. Internationally, Japan is recognized as a "safe country with low crime levels"; we seek to determine why it is recognized as such and theorize about it.

We consolidate and scientifically review "knowledge" related to correction and rehabilitation that our University has accumulated over the past 40 years, and based on the foundations of crime prevention and human support, establish the Ryukoku Criminology brand.

Ryukoku Congress 2020  
20th-27th, April, 2020

Asia Criminological Society  
12th Annual Conference  
2nd-5th, October, 2020



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From here, I, Dr. Crime,  
will introduce "Ryukoku  
Criminology" to you