Okayama Prefectural University develops and supports the career formulation of professionals who are engaged in society, and possess deep educational cultivation, high specialization, and an abundant sense of humanity.

This university was opened in 1993, and currently consists of the three faculties of the Faculty of Health and Welfare Science, the Faculty of Computer Science and Systems Engineering, and the Faculty of Design. In recent years, with the progression of globalization, declining birth-rate and aging population, the environment surrounding Japan has changed drastically. In order to respond to these societal changes appropriately, the University is unceasingly reviewing the nature of our education and research, and in addition to adopting intellectual study experiences and interactive classes, it has also established a system to check the teaching methods and the content of classes. The university has also enhanced the liberal arts and the global education that aims to improve English proficiency, and the understanding of different cultures. Okayama Prefectural University will implement our specialized education based on the foundation of these principles.

Okayama Prefectural University
Okayama Prefecture
Soja City
Kurashiki City
Okayama City

Applicant Selection Criteria
Okayama Prefectural University seeks applicants with the following qualities:

■ Students who wish to broadly study humanity, society and nature, and explore the relationships among them
■ Students who wish to thoroughly learn the practical sciences to contribute to society on a wide range of fields both within Japan and overseas
■ Students who are motivated to create new technologies and knowledge, and communicate with the region and world by sharing information

Organizational Chart

President

Vice-President

Graduate School

Health and Welfare Science

- Master’s Course of Nursing Science
- Nutritional Science
- Health and Welfare Science
- Doctorate Course of Health and Welfare Science

Computer Science and Systems Engineering

- Master’s Course of Systems Engineering
- Doctorate Course of Advanced Systems Engineering

Design

- Master’s Degree of Design and Technology
- Aesthetic Design

Faculty

Health and Welfare Science

- Nursing Science
- Nutritional Science
- Health and Welfare Science

Computer Science and Systems Engineering

- Information and Communication Engineering
- Systems Engineering
- Human Information Engineering

Design

- Design and Technology
- Aesthetic Design

Faculty of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Education and Research Development Organization

- Educational Development Center
- International Exchange Center
- Academic Research Promotion Center

General Information Center

- Information Infrastructure Utilization Center
- Information Media Development Center

Regional Cooperation Promotion Center

- Industry-Academia-Government Cooperation Promotion Center
- Health and Welfare Promotion Center
- Regional Cooperation Promotion Center

Library

- COC + Promotion Room

Administrative Office

Number of Students and Academic Staff

Graduate Students: 182 (As of May 2016)
Undergraduate Students: 1,632 (As of May 2016)
Academic Staff: 167 (As of May 2016)
Message from a Graduate

I am currently assigned to the obstetrics ward of a hospital. I devote myself to providing heartfelt nursing care that shares the joy of patients in the process of the pregnancy and giving birth, while also supporting the mental health of those who feel anxiety towards pregnancy or giving birth. I feel great satisfaction in seeing the smiling faces of mothers and their children when they are discharged from the hospital. From this fiscal year, I became a member of the outpatient midwife team, and I am experiencing the real pleasure of a midwife, which cannot be found in the obstetrics ward or delivery center.

Career Paths after Graduation
- Nurse (hospital, clinic, etc.)
- Midwife (hospital, clinic, delivery center, etc.)

Message from a Graduate

I prepare meal menus that account for both the condition and preferences of patients. As part of NST, which is jointly carried out by professionals with different specialized areas to deal with one patient, I support patient care from the nutritional aspect. When the patient has recovered to be able to eat meals, I feel great satisfaction. Furthermore, when I review meals with a patient, and in response to the target weight they share positive words such as, “I’ll work towards it positively,” I am also encouraged to do my best in supporting them.

Career Paths after Graduation
- Hospitals, health and welfare facilities (for the elderly, etc.)
- Food-related firms (production, development, research)
Message from a Graduate

I provide rehabilitation for severely physically and mentally handicapped children (and adults) through a support for their daily lives and interaction with them. In social welfare, there is no “correct answer,” and there are many days when I wonder what is best. Even so, when we held a sports day with the families of the facility, everyone enjoyed it very much. Even if a person only says, “aah,” the feeling they wish to express is different on a moment-to-moment basis. I want to understand those differences and help increase their happiness.

Career Paths after Graduation

- Various types of social welfare organizations
- Child welfare facilities
- Foster homes for elderly care
- Facilities for disabled individuals
- Kindergartens
- Nursery schools
- Certified childcare facilities
- Healthcare organizations
- Social welfare-related firms, etc.

Master’s Degree

- Master’s Course of Nursing Science
  With the looming aging population problem and the era of advanced medical care, high-quality healthcare services are in high demand. To meet those needs, the Master’s Course aims to cultivate professionals versed in more specialized skills who can reconstruct the nursing sciences and provide leadership.

- Master’s Course of Nutritional Science
  The course aims to nurture nutrition specialists who possess advanced knowledge and skills. A major characteristic of the course is the opportunity to receive state-of-the-art research guidance in cooperation with excellent research organizations outside the university.

- Master’s Course of Health and Welfare Science
  Students will learn skills and gain knowledge necessary to create an environment in which children, the elderly and disabled can lead healthy, vigorous lives as well as being able to proactively participate in society. In practical terms, research on health and welfare systems that meet the needs of a society with a low birthrate and an aging population; the development of methods to evaluate the mind and body of applicable individuals; and the evaluation and development of welfare devices and support technologies will be carried out.

Doctorate Degree

- Doctorate Course of Health and Welfare Science
  Candidates will conduct research to scientifically approach the issues relating to human welfare and health from multiple angles including life, nutrition, nursing and welfare. While further deepening the scholarship of the health and welfare sciences and aiming to construct a base for academic research on the maintenance and improvement of the health of local citizens, the Doctoral Course nurtures researchers and educators who possess advanced knowledge and can propose resolutions to various problems relating to health and welfare.
Department of Information and Communication Engineering

Nurturing the future engineers and researchers who unlock the unlimited potential of information and communication with practical skills and imagination

With the progress of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), represented by the Internet and wireless information communication technology, we are currently undergoing a rapid transformation to an advanced information society. ICT is supported by the academic fields of Computer Science and Systems Engineering, Communication Engineering, and Electronic Engineering. With these three fields as a foundation, this department aims to nurture engineers who possess both the necessary software skills for intelligent information systems, and the hardware skills indispensable for increasing the speed of those systems, are able to view problems from the perspective of the users, and have a global field of vision.

Message from a Graduate

After joining the company, I have been involved in updating programs and performing Internet version updates. I am currently responsible for server and terminal settings. As this is still my first year, I am still gaining a wide range of experiences at work, learning our customer’s PC environment, and the overall flow of my duties. While am only performing the work that I am assigned, I feel satisfaction in improving the efficiency of our customers’ work through the settings for which I was responsible. I would like to cherish the “sincerely and consideration (omoiyari)” of our company, and eventually engage in large-scale infrastructure composition and make proposals.

Career Paths after Graduation

- Programmer
- Network engineer
- Planning & development of communication circuits and electronic devices
- System engineer
- Communications service provider

Department of Systems Engineering

Nurturing students to become engineers who create engineering value through a combination of knowledge that traverses the field and technological skills

The information systems of an advanced information society are considered vital not just as a network foundation, but in terms of their relationship to people, the environment and manufactured goods, and as the foundation for realizing the manufacturing of products more conveniently and more gentle on humans and the environment. In the Department of Systems Engineering, students will study the information communication that is indispensable to the development of computers, mechanical engineering for the production of goods that place high value on mechanics, as well as interface engineering which connects people with machines and computers. We aim to nurture professionals who possess the sense of a cross disciplinary engineer, and who can proactively participate in the creation of new engineering value.

Message from a Graduate

I am developing the ASICs (integrated circuits) mounted in our company’s printers. New technical challenges are always arising in ASIC development due to the adoption of new technologies or design methodologies. I feel accomplishment when we manage to solve a problem through the sharing of ideas. I feel great satisfaction in improving the functionality of our products through development.

Career Paths after Graduation

- Information communications industry
- Electronics manufacturer
- Precision device manufacturer
- Machine & transportation device manufacturer
**Message from a Graduate**

I am responsible for designing new sports shoe products. I feel great responsibility and satisfaction in the fact that my ideas are reflected in the product, and those products are delivered to customers all around the world. I would like to be responsible for the development and design of shoes provided to top athletes in the future. I would like to compete alongside the players in global tournaments such as the Olympics and World Cup.

**Career Paths after Graduation**

- Manufacturing industry
- Information service industry
- Health
- Healthcare & welfare related firms
- Sports related industry
- Civil servant etc.
Department of Design and Technology

Nurturing students aiming to become designers and architects who challenge issues head-on

The Department of Design and Technology is composed of two fields, the "Field of Product & Information Design" and the "Field of Architecture & Urban Design." When advancing to their second year, students choose one of the two fields and proceed in further specialized coursework in their chosen area. In the Field of Product and Information Design, students will pursue not just a pleasing appearance, but functionality and ease-of-use in daily miscellaneous goods, information equipment, and even large-scale products such as automobiles. Students in the Field of Architecture and Urban Design will seek the acquisition of skills from urban planning to interior design, and also have fieldwork experiences outside the university.

Message from a Graduate

I am responsible for product package design. While taking advantage of having studied not only graphic design used on the package but also solid bodies, I propose a total design package including the composition. I feel satisfaction when the packages I have designed are actually lined up in stores, and learning of their evaluation and sales in the market. While speed in designing is more necessary than it was in my student days, I am overcoming this by observing various designs, gathering information beforehand and establishing the design forms at which I excel.

Career Paths after Graduation

- Architect
- Product designer
- Interior designer
- Graphic designer etc.

Department of Aesthetic Design

Nurturing students to become a design and modeling specialist required by society, with a sensitivity and intelligence that captures the times

The Department of Aesthetic Design offers a system in which students select either the "Field of Visual Design" or the "Field of Model Design" in their second year, and go on to learn in various specialized courses. In the Field of Visual Design, in addition to learning total visual design combining various different areas such as graphics, photos, images, CG and web, students also conduct planning proposals and research on communication design. In the Field of Model Design, students will attempt unique mono-technical craftsmanship incorporating modern imagination and artistic viewpoints into techniques such as woodworking, ceramics, dyeing, and printing. At the same time, students will also learn about planning and proposals for projects contributing to the culture of daily life making full use of solid body, space, and media.

Message from a Graduate

I work as a CG designer at a game company that plans and develops home game software and smartphone applications. I engage primarily in the production of 3DCG effects used within the games and the 2DCG designs for illustrations. I feel satisfaction when I see the titles I have worked on actually being played by people.

Career Paths after Graduation

- CG designer
- Video director
- Art director
- Video creator
- Event producer etc.
Graduate School of Design

Nurturing professionals who contribute to society through design

Master’s Degree

- **Master’s Course of Design and Technology**
  The Master’s Course of Design and Technology is divided into two areas. In the area of Product and Information Design, students will work on practical, comprehensive education and research on products that create a fulfilling lifestyle. In the area of Architecture and Urban Design, students will conduct education and research that aim to harmonize people with their environment.

- **Master’s Course of Aesthetic Design**
  In the Master’s Course of Aesthetic Design, students aim to challenge the possibilities of designing and modeling. They will work on specialized and comprehensive research on the designs demanded by society.

At the university library, it is possible to borrow and return literature owned by other facilities by utilizing the cooperative system established with Okayama Prefecture libraries. Furthermore, electronic blackboards and whiteboards are installed in the entrance hall, and these boards can be used for group work and other activities.
International Exchange

International Exchange Center

The International Exchange Center, opened in October 2014, conducts the planning and operation of language & culture training courses and study tours at international academic exchange partner universities for students of Okayama Prefectural University, and Japanese language and culture training courses for international students, as well as running an English Language Village, Korean Language Village and Skype English.

International Training

Students can experience history and culture, and deepen their understanding of different cultures while building practical language skills through the language and culture training courses implemented in cooperation with overseas academic exchange universities such as Bangor University of the United Kingdom and the University of Adelaide in Australia. During the study tours, in cooperation with partner universities and other on-site international organizations, students interact with local university students, visit Japanese firms in the country, carry out observations in the city, and work on topics students discover by their own initiative, in addition to tourism.

Exchanges with International Exchange Universities

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</table>

International Academic Exchange Partner Universities

- **United Kingdom**: 
  - Bangor University
  - University of St. Andrews

- **South Korea**: 
  - Korea University
  - Yonsei University

- **Australia**: 
  - The University of Adelaide

- **Nepal**: 
  - Tribhuvan University

- **Taiwan**: 
  - National Taiwan University
  - National University of Science and Technology

- **United States**: 
  - Portland State University

Initiatives of Okayama Prefectural University

- Skype English
- Korean language village
- Japanese language & culture training
- Tanabata festival
Okayama Prefecture boasts several nationally renowned tourism assets against a backdrop of its temperate climate, nature and history. Countless tourists visit the many sites within the prefecture utilizing its extensive public transportation network. Furthermore, thanks to its temperate climate, Okayama is known indeed as a fruit kingdom, with many varieties of fruit known nationwide harvested within the prefecture.

Area Guide

Okayama Prefecture

Okayama Prefectural University

Soja City

Kurashiki City

Okayama City

1. Korakuen & Okayama Castle
2. Seto Inland Sea
3. Kurashiki Bikan Historical Quarter
4. Ohara Museum of Art
5. Great Seto Bridge
6. Kibitsu Shrine
7. Bitchukokubun-ji Temple
8. Bitchu Matsuyama Castle
9. Maki-do Cave
10. Yubara Hot Springs
11. Hiruzen Kogen Highlands
12. Kakuzan Park

Okayama Specialties & Local Cuisine