

# Special Topics in Local Finance 1

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Elective 2 credit

## 1. Course Description

In Japan, the total amount of public services provided by central government and local governments accounts for more than 40% of the GDP: Gross Domestic Product (in comparison, drops below 40% in the United States, and below 60% in France). Furthermore, about 60% of the Japanese public service is provided by local government. Local Finance is an academic field which studies this “public economy” by a local government (i.e., police, education, roads, water supply and sewerage systems, etc.). This lecture is designed as the first part of an introductory course to learn essential knowledge of Local Finance.