

Q&A Concerning the Entrance Examinations Guidance (Summer admissions 2021)

* The order of the questions and answers below are different to that on the day of the guidance. Also, some supplementary information is added.

【Related to the entrance examination】

Q1 What kind of students are you looking for?

A1 Please refer to the admission policy, purpose, and educational goals and overview of the establishment of GSGES.

Q2 How to know which study areas are recruiting students for this time?

A2 Please check the application guidelines.

Q3 What does it mean that written examinations will be administered separately by each study area?

A3 This means that you will take an examination of which the specific contents were determined by the study area you wish to apply for.

Q4 Can I ask the professor of the intended study area regarding how to study for the entrance exams?

A4 At the GSGES administration office we do not accept any inquiries regarding preparation for the entrance exam questions. However, since the method of study or preparation might be different depending on your intended study area(s), in the case where you wish to enquire about this, we recommend you to contact the study area and faculty concerned by e-mail.

Q5 What are the rules for submitting the English exam score? Is it okay to submit the certificate of my English proficiency score on the day of the exam?

A5 There are various types of exams such as TOEFL and TOEIC, so please check the application guidelines carefully. Also, as already announced this year, the method of submitting English proficiency scores has changed. When submitting your score, please make sure that the original certificate arrives at the GSGES administration office by 5 pm on the day before the exam (30th August, 2021). You may enclose the original score in your application documents.

Q6 What should I be careful about in the oral examination?

A6 Please check the application guidelines and the PDF and video of the entrance examination guidance. In the master's program, examination scores are based on basic academic ability in addition to the applicant's demonstrated ability to formulate academic problems, conduct research, comprehend and respond to questions as well as the contents of application documents.

In the doctoral program, examination scores are based on the applicant's demonstrated research ability, the suitability of the research plan, expressive ability, and contents of application documents. Draft

doctoral theses will be judged based on the quality and progress of the research, suitability of the research, quality of the language, and the application documents.

Q7 How to procure the questions of past entrance examinations?

A7 Please specify your intended study area(s) listed on the website of GSGES and send an email to the administration office of GSGES. We will inform you the site and password where the past questions are posted and can be download.

Q8 What kind of background do undergraduate students studying at GSGES have?

A8 Since GSGES aims to provide interdisciplinary education, the fields of students are diverse, covering both the sciences and the social science and humanity fields. The ratio varies greatly depending on the study area/laboratory to which you belong. In the case of social science laboratories, for example, some students are originally graduates of science department who have moved to the social sciences, and vice versa.

Q9 What is the ratio of graduates from inside and outside Kyoto University at GSGES?

A9 Compared to many other graduate schools, GSGES has many students who graduated from undergraduate programs at other universities. Also, not only is the number and ratio of international students high, the graduate school also has students from various universities, faculties, and countries.

【Related to the GSGES program and education】

Q10 Is it possible to take classes online?

A10 Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Kyoto University decides and issues the policy for the whole university. Based on this, GSGES also decides whether to give lectures face-to-face or online. However, since GSGES has a high ratio of international students currently unable to enter Japan, many courses are offered in a hybrid manner, combining both face-to-face and online formats. In particular, compulsory subjects and laboratory seminars are conducted in a hybrid format.

Q11 Is there any consideration for working students? Is it possible to balance graduate studies and work commitments?

A11 Although there are several aspects that cannot be answered easily, our view is that this is basically possible. First of all, in the doctoral program, research for the doctoral dissertation accounts for a major part of the program. This mainly consists of guidance from academic advisors and presentations at laboratory seminars, etc. In fact, many students enrolled in the doctoral program at GSGES are working professionals.

On the other hand, for the master's program, there are courses to be taken, so it is necessary to secure that time. In addition, there are compulsory and selective lectures in addition to some courses requiring participation in fieldwork that are generally concentrated within a certain period of time. However, please note that these lectures are mostly concentrated in the first semester of the first year. Also, regarding the internship, which is compulsory, there is a system for requesting a waiver based on professional experience, so please consider this as well.

Also, GSGES has a long-term study system that allows students to systematically acquire curriculum credits for a period of time beyond the prescribed period of study (i.e. 2 years for master's degrees and 3 years for doctoral degrees). Please consult with your academic advisor.

Q12 I would like to know roughly what the internship training entails.

A12 The master's program requires 3-months, and the doctoral program (environmental management major) requires 5-months or more of internship training. But this varies considerably depending on the internship destination. For example, if you do an internship at a private company or a foundation, it is expected you would directly engage in the work there. On the other hand, if you do an internship at a research institution, you may be required to conduct research close to the theme of your own graduate research, and then submit a report. In addition, there are cases where internships are held at a university. In this case, instead of listening to lectures at the university, you will be engaged in academic activities such as conducting surveys in the area where the university is located. In this way, internship training varies depending on the internship destination, so please consider these when selecting an internship destination.

Q13 What is the schedule for deciding on internship training?

A13 Guidance on internship training will be held in April. At this time, you will be informed of the rules, documents to be submitted, and the possibility of financial support. Then, you can decide where and how long to do the internship before summer while consulting with your supervisor.

Q14 Regarding the course certification system, you can apply for up to two out of four, but are there any lectures set for each course?

A14 There are lectures set for each course, and you need to take them. Lectures are shown in the curriculum guidelines distributed during the first year guidance, so you will need to check them after admission.

Q15 Are master's theses and doctoral dissertations required to be written in English?

A15 The master's thesis or doctoral dissertation can be written in English or Japanese.