

Graduate School of Advanced Leadership Studies, Kyoto University Shishu-Kan Program for Leading Graduate Schools

Graduate school of advanced leadership studies, Kyoto University was selected in fiscal 2011 for the program for leading graduate schools (all-round model) project by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology - Japan (MEXT).

In support of the government's drastic reforms on graduate-level education, the project aims to assist graduate schools in redefining themselves as representing the highest seat of learning. With this goal in mind, the project intends to develop a degree program of proven universal quality that seamlessly combines master's and doctoral programs and covers a colorful array of expertise areas, with active participation by businesses, governments, and universities. By assembling leading instructors and students from both Japan and abroad, the program will guide talented students to become leaders who, equipped with an all-encompassing perspective and originality, are ready to take on global challenges in the area of their choice, whether it be private, public, or academic.

The target profile for a program graduate is an individual who is willing to assume responsibility as a global leader with a high sense of mission and ethical perspective, is capable of enduring various kinds of pressure and integrating existing disciplines and areas of concern through flexible thinking that stems from a broad spectrum of knowledge and profound expertise, and has acquired the appropriate discernment and ability to act "in the field" through abundant practical training both in Japan and abroad.

[Origin of the name "Shishu-Kan"]

The name "Shishu-Kan" is derived from mon-shi-shu (literally, "hearing, thinking, practicing"), which is one of the traditional patterns of learning in Japan, and kan, meaning "hall" . Among those three stages of acquiring wisdom – first by hearing, then by deep thinking, and finally by practicing daily – Shishu-Kan deliberately focuses on the thinking and practicing aspects.

Career Path

A Ph.D. in Advanced Leadership Studies will be conferred upon graduates of the Shishu-Kan program. The goal of the program is to develop individuals who possess a sense of mission, ethical perspective, insight, planning ability, humanity, perseverance to achieve breakthroughs, and sense of responsibility, and are competent in all fields, supported by solid expertise commensurate with top leaders of the international community and a flexible and broad-based intellect.

Diverse career paths that fulfill individual students' aspirations

Finding a position

Multinational and local enterprises, international authorities, central government ministries, local governments, research institutes, universities, etc.

Joining an NGO

Working at non-governmental organizations dealing with global issues

Starting up a business

Becoming an entrepreneur in Japan or abroad for the creation of social innovations

Since the programs for leading graduate schools are fundamentally different from any of our existing doctoral programs, we believe it necessary to ensure that executives in global enterprises central government understand the unique profiles of the human resources that will be produced by this doctoral program.

Kyoto University will proactively communicate educational activities and their outcome to society in an interactive manner, while at the same time building new career paths through cooperation among universities, businesses, and administrative agencies, and by taking advantage of roundtable conferences and other opportunities.

Graduate School of Advanced Leadership Studies, Kyoto University

Shishu-Kan Program for Leading Graduate Schools

Inquiries

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A seamless 5-year leadership development program that carefully supports students through a challenging curriculum

The graduate school aims to develop individuals who are willing to assume responsibility as global leaders with a high sense of mission and ethical perspective, are capable of enduring various kinds of pressure and integrating existing disciplines and areas of concern using flexible thinking that stems from a broad spectrum of knowledge and profound expertise, and have acquired the appropriate discernment and ability to act "in the field" through abundant practical training both in Japan and abroad.

Three development policies

- Focus on ambition, self-management, and sense of responsibility
- Focus on power of execution and perseverance to achieve breakthroughs
- Focus on knowledge and experience of international standards

Supporting students through thick and thin

Residential college

To assist students in dealing with their voluminous and strenuous assignments for doctoral thesis research, the special lecture and discussion for leadership, etc., the program provides a residential college where they may engage in profound discussions around the clock with their peers in the same or different areas of expertise. At the college, a resident faculty member (a head of college) and mentors provide students with daily advices. Students are also invited to join a variety of events, including a sports day, in order to hone both their bodies and their minds.



Financial support (details to be determined)

Outstanding students will be provided with grants in order to allow them to better concentrate on their educational curricula and doctoral thesis research by alleviating their economic burden (tuition, etc.). Expenses for conducting original educational / research activities will also be covered when such is deemed necessary.

Special lectures and discussions for leadership

Through presentation and subsequent discussion with guest lecturers and vigorous interactions with instructors in the forms of debate exercises, detailed guidance on writing assignments, students are expected to learn what it takes to be a leader (mindset, action, and challenging spirit).



Along with writing assignments, group work is also given.

Tailor-made curricula

Based on the leadership profile to which each student aspires, leadership educational plans and their curricula are designed individually to include the knowledge and experience required of such leaders.

Thesis defense and Conferment of degree

Thesis defense: Students are required to earn a TOEFL-iBT score of 100 or above, in addition to undergoing an examination for degree conferment.

Doctoral thesis

In their thesis the defense, students compile their research outcome obtained through their special research in major subjects, international internship, and project-based learning in order to demonstrate their abilities as a global leader.

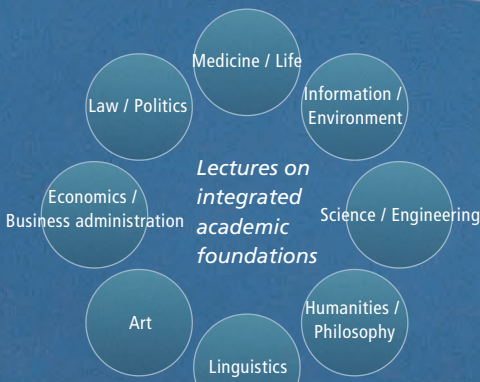


Integrated advanced training for developing international leaders

Ph.D. in Advanced Leadership Studies, Kyoto University

Primary Qualifying Examination

Students undergo a preliminary examination of their doctoral thesis drafts concerning research and knowledge that will lay the foundations for integrated problem solving. Only those who have passed the interim review may move on to their third year.



3rd year Lectures on integrated academic foundations

- Students attend the lectures on integrated academic foundations, which serve to lay the foundations for underpinning the competency to view various fields from a broad perspective and integrate them, and for helping to develop the problem solution capabilities and knowledge required to hold discussions on equal footing with lectures both in Japan and abroad.
- With university-wide support, the lectures are given by instructors from both within and outside of the university.
- Many subjects are taught in English.

Secondary Qualifying Examination

Students take an examination concerning the outcome of the Special research in major subjects (draft doctoral thesis) that serves as the axis of their integrated problem solution, and examinations on integrated academic foundation lectures and linguistics, as well as an oral examination. Only those who have passed the secondary review may move on to their fourth year.

4th year International internship

- Students are dispatched overseas as "specially appointed researchers." Down-to-earth practical training on problem discovery / solution in the field are provided through cooperation from universities, private enterprises, governments, UNESCO, JICA, and other international authorities.
- Designed to foster in an integrated manner the consciousness, sense of responsibility, and perseverance to achieve breakthroughs of an international leader.



Eligibility requirements

- Basic academic ability examination, thesis examination, oral examination
- TOEFL-iBT score of 80 or above

5th year Project-based learning

- Tapping into the experience and knowledge gained over their first four years, students draw up their own projects and carry them out with the involvement of those concerned both in Japan and abroad.
- Students acquire the abilities to plan, act, negotiate, and communicate that are necessary to offer multidisciplinary and interlinked solutions to global issues.

2nd year

Special research in major subjects

[Research for doctoral thesis]
[International service-learning]
[Special lecture and discussion for leadership] Every other Saturday

1st year

Special research in major subjects

[Research for doctoral thesis]
[Domestic service-learning]

In their 1st year, students join short-term volunteer activities in Japan not only to learn the volunteer spirit, but also to understand the numerous positions and perspectives that leaders must assume and the variances that are to be found among different cultures and societies. In their 2nd year, students join in such practical training outside of Japan (International service-learning).

[Special lecture and discussion for leadership] Every other Saturday

Features of the Program

- (1) Special research in major subjects that allow students to acquire solid expertise commensurate with a doctoral degree. Serves as the axis of tailor-made curricula
- (2) Lectures on integrated academic foundations mainly in English, which help to develop the problem solution capabilities and knowledge required to hold discussions on equal footing with global leaders
- (3) Special lectures and discussions for leadership: opportunities for thorough discussions with top leaders from various circles
- (4) Practical training in the field via service-learning during the first two years, which helps to foster a world outlook and build up humanity
- (5) One-year International internship, which helps to develop overall abilities that are recognized internationally
- (6) Project-based learning during the 5th year, in which students plan and carry out their own projects by involving those concerned both in Japan and abroad
- (7) Residential college that allow students to concentrate on school work in a spirit of friendly rivalry
- (8) Applicants are selected through a basic academic ability examination, thesis examination, oral examination, TOEFL-iBT scores (80 or above), etc., regardless of nationality, current employment, graduated university, etc. (around 20 admissions per year)
- (9) An External Evaluation Committee and an Advisory Board comprising top leaders from Japan and abroad ensure constant reforms and improvements.

Organizational structure / teaching staff

Agency for Leading Graduate School Program (tentative)
(Chief Program Supervisor: President of Kyoto University)

- Operating Committee (Deliberation of important matters)
- Doctoral thesis Review Council (Preliminary examination of review for degree recognition)

External Evaluation Committee

Doctoral thesis Review Committee of the other Leading Graduate School Program (Multidisciplinary Area Model)

