

General Entrance Examination for Master's Program in Summer 2023

Guideline for International Applicants

Admission Policy

1. Our policy

The Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies seeks to secure the current and future health and sustainability of the global environment in two essential ways: first, by training future researchers and practitioners for future environmental careers in academia, management, policy-making, advocacy and project implementation; and second, by establishing sustainability as the basis of an integrated and interdisciplinary field informed by ethics, science, technology and the humanities that can address the environmental challenges confronting the 21st century.

2. Who are we looking for?

Our goal is to produce graduates who through their excellence and distinctive talents will have an impact in their chosen fields. We are seeking students who demonstrate high moral character and richness of spirit, including:

- Future researchers from all academic fields with a keen interest in global environmental problems and their solutions;
- Future internationally-minded practitioners with a deep enthusiasm for environmental management and a sincere commitment to acquiring and implementing the knowledge and practical skills required to tackle environmental problems from the local to the global level in every walk of life;
- A diverse body of students from many different backgrounds and possessing many different perspectives. Our students enter through a variety of admission tracks, including a mid-career admissions option for students with extensive work experience in environmental issues, some of whom may choose to study while continuing their professional careers, and an international admissions program for international students.

3. What are we looking for?

The Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies offers master and doctoral programs in the field of environmental management, as well as a doctoral program in global environmental studies. The admission requirements for each of these programs relates to the objective of the study program provided.

3.1 Global environmental studies

Our three-year doctoral program in global environmental studies aims to foster researchers who are capable of grasping the full complexity and reach of global environmental issues and tackling global and local environmental issues with an innovative mindset and a range of methodologies that are drawn from a wide variety of scholarly fields, as well as practitioners who have such academic quality. Applicants to this program should hold a master's degree in their chosen field of study in addition to English language proficiency and a keen interest in global environmental issues, but exemptions may be made for those with demonstrated professional experience and expertise in a field related to their expected area of study.

3.2 Environmental management

Our two-year master's program and three-year doctoral program in environmental management are designed to foster outstanding and internationally-minded practitioners who are capable of applying management skills in the search for practical and sustainable solutions to local and global environmental problems, as well as researchers who have such practical capabilities. Applicants to either of these programs will need basic academic knowledge of global environmental issues and English language proficiency in addition to a keen interest in environmental management.

4. Basic policy on admissions

The admissions process for the master's program will be carried out by means of a comprehensive assessment of documents, foreign language ability and an interview. The admissions process for the doctoral program will be carried out by means of a comprehensive assessment of documents and foreign language ability as well as a research presentation and interview.

The Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies (GSGES), Kyoto University, invites international students to apply for a two-year master's program in Environmental Management.

- Applicants are required to select a study area and a faculty member as an academic supervisor from the list of applicable faculty members listed on pages 5-6.
 - Applicants **must** contact their intended supervisor **prior** to application, in order to request future supervision and advice for the application process.
Detailed descriptions of each study area are also available at:
GSGES website: <https://www.ges.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/>
GSGES guidebook: <https://www.ges.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/guidebook/>
 - Applicants who have graduated or are expected to graduate from an overseas university need to apply for a preliminary review by the university's **Admissions Assistance Office (AAO)**, prior to contacting the intended faculty member.
Admissions Assistance Office (AAO): <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/osr7r>
- *Not required for the recipients of MEXT scholarship embassy recommendation or the scholars of JICA KCCP

ENROLLMENT CAPACITY

44 (This includes the number of successful applicants who are going to enroll in October, 2023.)

Note:

- This enrollment capacity includes the number of successful applicants in the career-track selection.
- This enrollment capacity includes the number of successful applicants from a special admissions process called the International Environmental Management Program (IEMP) as well as other admissions.

<https://www.ges.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/schedule-and-guide/>

ENROLLMENT DATE

April 1, 2024

1. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND SCREENING

1-1. Eligibility requirements

You must have completed or intend to complete one of the following by March 31, 2024.

- 1) A bachelor's degree at a Japanese University
- 2) A bachelor's degree program at a university (minimum of 16 years total education) outside Japan
- 3) A degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree by completing studies with an enrollment term of at least three years (including the completion of such studies of relevant subjects in Japan via a correspondence course provided by a school in a foreign country, and the completion of studies at an educational facility accredited as having an approved curriculum under the educational system of said country, or those corresponding to such studies as designated by the Minister of MEXT) at a university or other school in a country outside Japan (only those universities or schools for which the overall conditions of education and research activities have been assessed by a party authorized by the government of said country or the organization concerned, or those corresponding to such entities as designated by the Minister of MEXT)
- 4) Alternative qualifications equivalent to the above.

*Career-track selection is for applicants who intend to continue their vocational status after enrollment in the graduate school.

1-2. Eligibility screening

Applicants meeting requirement 4) above, including applicants with less than 16 years of total education and not satisfying requirement 3) above, must first complete an eligibility screening through Online Application System (access the link below).

Online Application System : https://kjs.gakusei.kyoto-u.ac.jp/general_summer2023master_eligibility

Application period : from June 2 to June 9, 2023 (JST)

[Documents to be uploaded for eligibility screening]

Only documents written in English or Japanese are accepted. When not available, a certified translation in either of the two languages should be attached.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1) Photo (in JPEG) | A photo in a 6:5 ratio format taken within the last six months with no hat or head covering unless there is a religious or medical reason. |
| 2) Passport (in JPEG/PNG/GIF/PDF) | 【Only international students】 Pages with photo and personal information |
| 3) Academic transcript (in PDF) | Official transcript issued at the university which you have graduated from or which you currently belong to. A copy of transcripts is acceptable if it is attested by an authorized official of the university with a seal and signature. |
| 4) Curriculum materials (in PDF) | Curriculum materials of your current/graduated program describing the graduation requirements and syllabuses. |

*Documents certifying achievements and qualifications or showing abilities equal to or higher than university graduation as well as documents certifying achievements and activities in society can be submitted.

The results of the screening will be announced on the Online Application System **at noon (JST) on June 22, 2023.**

2. APPLICATION

Apply through Online Application System (access the link below).

Online Application System : https://kjs.gakusei.kyoto-u.ac.jp/general_summer2023master

Application period : from July 13 to July 18, 2023 (JST)

[Documents to upload]

Only documents written in English or Japanese are accepted. When not available, a certified translation in either of the two languages should be attached.

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1) Photo (in JPEG) | A photo in a 6:5 ratio format taken within the last six months with no hat or head covering unless there is a religious or medical reason. This picture will be used for identification during the interview and the student ID card after enrollment. |
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|---|---|
| 2) Passport (in JPEG/PNG/GIF/PDF) | 【Only international students】 Pages with photo and personal information |
| 3) Academic transcript (in PDF) | Official transcript and graduation certificate (or certificate of expected graduation) issued at the university which you have graduated from or which you currently belong to. A copy of transcript, graduation certificate (or certificate of expected graduation) or degree certificate is acceptable if it is attested by an authorized official of the university with a seal and signature. |
| 4) Graduation certificate or certificate of expected graduation (in PDF) | *Those who pass the examination will be required to submit the original papers of the uploaded documents in the enrollment procedure. |
| 5) Proof of Payment (in JPEG/PNG/GIF/PDF) | EXAMINATION FEE : 30,000 JPY Payment Period: from July 7 to July 18, 2023 (JST) Make a payment through EXSS (Examination Settlement Service*). After payment, download the proof of payment from EXSS. *Refer to https://www3.univ-jp.com/kyoto-u/en/ges/ for more details *A handling charge of 650 JPY will be charged. *The family name and given name you enter on EXSS should be exactly the same as the one used in the Online Application System. The entrance examination fee will be refunded to the recipients of MEXT scholarship after enrollment. 【Not required for the scholars of JICA KCCP】 |
| 6) Statement of reasons for application (in PDF) | Must be written in the designated form* with a PC. *Download the designated form from GSGES website. https://www.ges.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/admissions/schedule-and-guide/ |
| 7) English score (TOEFL, etc.) (in PDF) | English score (TOEFL, etc.) described in Section 3 (3-1) below. *Those who pass the examination will be required to submit the original paper of the uploaded documents in the enrollment procedure. |
| 8) Essay on Global Environment (in PDF) | An essay on a theme set by your intended study area as listed in the separate sheet "Essay on Global Environment: Themes by study area". The essay should be within 4 pages in A4 format (approximately 5,000 Japanese characters or 2,000 English words) and written with a PC. The format is free, but write your name and intended study area at the beginning. The list of references is not counted in the number of words or pages. |

In addition, **career-track applicants** are requested to upload the following.:

| | |
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| 9) Letter of recommendation (in JPEG /PDF) | Must be written by the head or manager (or equivalent) of the company/organization/institution to which you currently belong. |
| 10) Summary of relevant work experience to date (in PDF) | A report of approximately 500 words in English or 1,000 characters in Japanese summarizing your vocational experience, in particular where the experience relates directly to your intended study area in the master's program. |

NOTE on examination fee:

- The fee is non-refundable.
- For households in regions where the Disaster Relief Act is effective and whose principal wage-earner has been adversely affected by the disasters listed on the website below, an exemption may be made to payment of the entrance examination fee for cases where a risai shomeisho (Disaster Victim Certificate) has been issued. For the list of recognized disasters and requirements for exemption, refer to http://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/ja/admissions/fees_exemption/
For further details, contact the GSGES administration office no later than **17:00 (JST) on June 13, 2023**.

3. ADMISSION SELECTION

Admission selection will be carried out by means of a comprehensive evaluation of the documents, English ability and an interview.

3-1. English Score

To evaluate English ability, all applicants including native speakers of English must upload **one** of the following:

- 1) Original score record of **TOEFL-iBT** (recommended; including TOEFL iBT Home Edition),
- 2) Original official score certificate (report) or certificate of achievement of **TOEIC** or **TOEIC Listening & Reading** (Secure/Public testing program), or
- 3) Original test report form of **IELTS (Academic Module)**.

If you do not upload one of the above, you will be graded “Zero” for English ability.

IMPORTANT: In each case, the score record submitted should be for a test-score dated on or after April 1, 2020. Original official score reports sent directly to Kyoto University by ETS (Educational Testing Service) will not be accepted. The score records of TOEFL-CBT, TOEFL-ITP, TOEIC SW, TOEIC Bridge, TOEIC-IP and IELTS (General Training Module) are not acceptable.

Note: Applicants may find the following information useful, if they wish to identify the superior of two or more test scores for submission:

- A TOEIC score can be converted using the score comparison table on page 9.
- Conversions of IELTS scores into TOEFL scores can be made using the ‘TOEFL iBT® and IELTS® Academic Module Scores Comparison Tables’ provided by ETS.

3-2. Interviews

Interviews will be held in accordance with the following:

| Date & Time | Contents | Location |
|---|---|---|
| August 29 - August 31, 2023 9:00 - 18:00 (JST) each day * The date and time of the interview for each applicant will be specified from the above period. * The interview session is approximately 35 minutes long. | General knowledge of global environment; knowledge of intended study area; research and study plans after admission; qualities and abilities required by the admission policy; the contents of application documents. | Research Bldg. No. 5 on the Kyoto University Main Campus *Interview will be conducted online only for applicants living overseas. |

(1) Admission selection will be carried out by each study area. Applicants should select a study area and a faculty member as an academic supervisor and indicate this choice on the Online Application System.

- Applicants should contact the intended supervisor **prior** to application, in order to request future supervision and advice for the application process.
- Applicants who have graduated or are expected to graduate from an overseas university, expect for the recipients of MEXT scholarship or the scholars of JICA KCCP, need to apply for a preliminary review by the university’s Admissions Assistance Office (AAO)* prior to contacting the intended faculty member.

*Admissions Assistance Office (AAO): <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/osr7r>

Applicable study areas and faculty member

| Study area | Professor | Associate Professor | Senior Lecturer |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Department of Global Ecology | | | |
| Global Environmental Policy | Makoto Usami | | |
| Environmental Economics | Kenji Takeuchi | | |
| Global Ecological Economics | | Akihisa Mori | |
| Sustainable Rural Development | Satoshi Hoshino | Kenichiro Onitsuka | |
| Water Environment Conservation | Taku Fujiwara | | |
| Historical Geography and Culture | Aki Yamamura | Yu Tokunaga | |
| Environmental Marketing Management | | Akira Yoshino | |
| History of Art and Culture | Erika Takashina | | |
| Environmental Education | | Misuzu Asari Gregory Trencher | Roger Cloud Baars |

| Department of Technology and Ecology | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Environmentally-friendly Industries for Sustainable Development | Shinya Echigo | Shuhei Tanaka | |
| Environmental Infrastructure Engineering | Takeshi Katsumi | Atsushi Takai | |
| Global Environmental Architecture | Hirohide Kobayashi | Chiho Ochiai | |
| Biodiversity Conservation | Takao Ichioka Kanto Nishikawa | | |
| Landscape Ecology and Planning | Shozo Shibata | Katsue Fukamachi | |
| Elemental Materials Chemistry | Kazuo Tanaka | | |
| Department of Natural Resources | | | |
| Regional Planning | Izuru Saizen | Satoshi Asano | |
| Urban Infrastructure Design | Masashi Kawasaki | Keita Yamaguchi | |
| Terrestrial Microbiology and Systematics | Chihiro Tanaka | Akira Yoshimi | |
| Terrestrial Ecosystems Management | Shinya Funakawa | Hitoshi Shinjo | |
| Ecosystem Linkages and Human Society | Naoko Tokuchi Ryunosuke Tateno | | |

(2) The table below shows the knowledge required for each study area:

Department of Global Ecology:

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|------------------------------------|--|
| Global Environmental Policy | Knowledge of environmental policy |
| Environmental Economics | Knowledge of environmental policy and economics |
| Global Ecological Economics | Knowledge of environmental policy and economics |
| Sustainable Rural Development | Knowledge of rural planning and rural development |
| Water Environment Conservation | Knowledge of water environment conservation (water quality, water and sanitation, wastewater treatment, river basin water environment management, etc.). |
| Historical Geography and Culture | Knowledge of historical geography and American history |
| Environmental Marketing Management | Knowledge of rural planning and rural development |
| History of Art and Culture | Knowledge of art history and culture |
| Environmental Education | Knowledge of education for sustainable development, community resilience, participatory development, mobility, material cycles, low-carbon systems and society, sustainable lifestyles |

Department of Technology and Ecology:

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|---|---|
| Environmentally-friendly Industries for Sustainable Development | Knowledge of environmental engineering (environmental pollution, water supply and sewerage systems, wastewater treatment, solid waste management, solid waste treatment and disposal, and related topics) |
| Environmental Infrastructure Engineering | Knowledge of civil engineering, in particular geo-environmental engineering |
| Global Environmental Architecture | Knowledge of human environment relating to livelihood, housing, community and urban design |
| Landscape Ecology and Planning | Knowledge of landscape ecology, nature conservation and landscape planning |
| Elemental Materials Chemistry | Knowledge of environmental sensors and functional materials |

Department of Natural Resources:

| | |
|--|--|
| Regional Planning | Knowledge of regional planning and rural/regional development |
| Urban Infrastructure Design | Knowledge of landscape engineering (landscape concepts, analysis, prediction, evaluation, and each theory of public space, etc.) and urban planning |
| Terrestrial Microbiology and Systematics | Microbiology in agro-environment and forest environment: Basic knowledge of taxonomy, phylogeny, genetics, biodiversity of microbes and their interactions with hosts and environments |
| Terrestrial Ecosystems Management | Knowledge of terrestrial ecosystems, management practices of agro-ecosystems and rural development approaches |

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| Ecosystem Linkages and Human Society | Knowledge of ecosystem structure and function of forests, rivers, fields, estuaries, and coasts, and connectivity of ecosystems including human societies |
|--------------------------------------|---|

- (3) Evaluation criteria for the interviews:
Basic academic skills, general knowledge and understandings of the subject, problem understanding and analytical abilities in the subject of the intended study area, problem setting and research ability, comprehension of questions and communication skills as well as the contents of the application documents.
- (4) Grading criteria:
All applicants including career-track applicants will be graded according to the sum total of your marks (500 points maximum) for English ability (100 points maximum) and interview performance (including general knowledge of global environment, knowledge of the intended study area, research and study plans after admission, qualities and abilities required by the admission policy, and the contents of application documents), taking into account the application documents (400 points maximum). In order to pass, your combined marks must total at least 250 points, and you must score at least 200 points in the interview.
- (5) You should select the language for the interview (English or Japanese) at the time of application. It cannot be changed after application.
- (6) For applicants living overseas, the interview will be conducted online. Before taking the interview, ensure that you will be in an appropriate environment (e.g., a quiet and private room) with a stable internet connection and the necessary equipment (including camera, speaker, microphone). For the details, refer to the attachment " Guidelines for taking the online interview ".
- (7) Detailed instructions on the interview, including dates and times, will be emailed in early August, 2023. The examination voucher can be downloaded on the Online Application System and printed out after July 26.
- (8) Applicants with disabilities or other needs which require special attention should inform the GSGES administration office as soon as possible.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

The results of the selection will be made available on the Online Application System at **noon (JST) on September 4 2023**.

5. ADMISSION AND TUITION FEES

Instructions regarding enrollment procedures and payment of admission/tuition fees will be sent to successful applicants around late February, 2024. Admitted students must obtain their college student visas by the enrollment date. See details in the document "Notification for successful applicants", available on the examination result page of the Online Application System.

Admission fee: 282,000 JPY

Tuition fee: 267,900 JPY per semester (535,800 JPY annually)

Please note that fees may be subject to change.

Exemption

- The recipients of MEXT scholarship or the scholars of JICA KCCP are not required to pay the admission and tuition fees.

6. HANDLING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

In accordance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies, etc. and Kyoto University regulations, each applicant's name, gender, date of birth, address and other personal information (including information relating to performance evaluation) as provided in application documents is used only for admission procedures, scholarship applications, and preparation for accepting students.

All inquiries are to be addressed to the GSGES administration office:

Administration Office
Graduate School of Global Environmental Studies
Kyoto University

Yoshida Main Campus Research Bldg. No.5,
Yoshida-honmachi, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan

Tel: +81-75-753-9167, Fax: +81-75-753-9187

E-mail: 160tikyukankyoumu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Office hours: 9:00-12:00 and 13:00-17:00 (JST)

Score Comparison Table of TOEFL-iBT • TOEIC

| TOEIC Score | TOEFL iBT Score |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 65 – 83 | 14 |
| 84 – 100 | 15 |
| 101 – 119 | 17 |
| 120 – 138 | 18 |
| 139 – 153 | 19 |
| 154 – 163 | 20 |
| 164 – 183 | 21 |
| 184 – 205 | 23 |
| 206 – 226 | 24 |
| 227 – 239 | 25 |
| 240 – 250 | 26 |
| 251 – 264 | 27 |
| 265 – 278 | 29 |
| 279 – 291 | 30 |
| 292 – 301 | 31 |
| 302 – 318 | 32 |
| 319 – 335 | 33 |
| 336 – 349 | 35 |
| 350 – 357 | 36 |
| 358 – 368 | 37 |
| 369 – 385 | 38 |
| 386 – 395 | 39 |
| 396 – 408 | 41 |
| 409 – 418 | 42 |
| 419 – 431 | 43 |
| 432 – 442 | 44 |
| 443 – 454 | 45 |
| 455 – 466 | 47 |
| 467 – 474 | 48 |
| 475 – 482 | 49 |
| 483 – 491 | 50 |
| 492 – 507 | 51 |
| 508 – 522 | 53 |
| 523 – 529 | 54 |
| 530 – 536 | 55 |
| 537 – 553 | 56 |
| 554 – 567 | 57 |
| 568 – 576 | 59 |
| 577 – 583 | 60 |

| TOEIC Score | TOEFL iBT Score |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 584 – 590 | 61 |
| 591 – 600 | 62 |
| 601 – 613 | 63 |
| 614 – 626 | 65 |
| 627 – 635 | 66 |
| 636 – 642 | 67 |
| 643 – 649 | 68 |
| 650 – 659 | 69 |
| 660 – 671 | 71 |
| 672 – 681 | 72 |
| 682 – 688 | 73 |
| 689 – 696 | 74 |
| 697 – 707 | 75 |
| 708 – 720 | 77 |
| 721 – 726 | 78 |
| 727 – 731 | 79 |
| 732 – 736 | 80 |
| 737 – 745 | 81 |
| 746 – 757 | 83 |
| 758 – 767 | 84 |
| 768 – 774 | 85 |
| 775 – 781 | 86 |
| 782 – 789 | 87 |
| 790 – 798 | 89 |
| 799 – 808 | 90 |
| 809 – 815 | 91 |
| 816 – 824 | 92 |
| 825 – 833 | 93 |
| 834 – 842 | 95 |
| 843 – 849 | 96 |
| 850 – 859 | 97 |
| 860 – 869 | 98 |
| 870 – 880 | 99 |
| 881 – 896 | 101 |
| 897 – 905 | 102 |
| 906 – 914 | 103 |
| 915 – 926 | 104 |
| 927 – 937 | 105 |
| 938 – 949 | 107 |

| TOEIC Score | TOEFL iBT Score |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 950 – 960 | 108 |
| 961 – 976 | 109 |
| 977 – 988 | 110 |
| 989 – | 111 |

【Master】 Essay on the Global Environment Theme of Study Area

Department of Global Ecology

| Study area | Theme |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Global Environmental Policy | Make a research plan that includes a review of the literature on the subject or related subjects, research objectives or questions, and a description of research methods. Regarding reference citations, follow the author-date system in the Chicago Manual of Style, which is available on the Internet. |
| Environmental Economics | Discuss how do you apply causal inference in environmental economics research. |
| Global Ecological Economics | Explain transition strategies that move the current socio-economic or socio-technical systems toward sustainable ones, referring to the literature on environmental economics, policy, and management studies and/or sustainability transitions research, and concrete examples of transformative changes (e.g. institutional, policy, organizational, technological, and business model innovation) around the world. Using graphics, tables, and figures is highly recommended. Think of the linkage between this essay with your intended research in the master course. |
| Sustainable Rural Development | Explain the future direction sought for rural planning studies in your country, based on the development of the field so far. Figures and tables may be used for explanation. |
| Water Environment Conservation | After reviewing global or regional water and sanitation issues, explain how your research will contribute to solving global or regional water and sanitation problems, with specific plans for your future research activities. |
| Historical Geography and Culture | Select one of the following themes and discuss it. 1) The historical relationship between urban space and geographical environment in Japan, citing relevant research and mentioning specific examples. 2) The historical relationship between human beings and the natural environment in the United States, citing relevant research and mentioning specific examples. |
| Environmental Marketing Management | Select one of the following issues, from 1) to 3), that you would like to work on in graduate school, discuss a potential solution and how your research can contribute to it. 1) Harmonization between corporate economic activities, and the environment and society 2) Risk communication related to food or the environment 3) Development of rural agriculture in harmony with the environment and society |
| History of Art and Culture | Discuss the historical relationship between art and the natural environment in Japan, citing relevant research and mentioning specific examples. |
| Environmental Education | Discuss a current sustainability or environmental problem and a way that various actions to transform society can address this. Discuss clearly the type of actions you propose (policy, education, capacity building, business model innovation, technological development etc.) and explain how you expect these to address the problem you described. Use examples from around Japan or other countries. Introduce academic theory and previous debates in literature as needed. |

Department of Technology and Ecology

| Study area | Theme |
|---|---|
| Environmentally-friendly Industries for Sustainable Development | After reviewing global or regional water and sanitation issues, explain how your research will contribute to solving global or regional water and sanitation problems, with specific plans for your future research activities. |
| Environmental Infrastructure Engineering | Explain the issues you are addressing (or have addressed) in your graduation research that are relevant to geoenvironmental engineering. |
| Global Environmental Architecture | Our laboratory research explores various aspects of Human Environmental issues including people, livelihood, shelter, and community. Select one of these current issues and discuss it from the perspective of their relevance to global environmental problems. |
| Biodiversity Conservation | Explain the Nagoya Protocol on ABS (Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity) and its current problems. You can illustrate them with table and figure. |
| Landscape Ecology and Planning | Climate change and ecosystem degradation on a global scale affect people's living environment. To solve these problems the concept of "nature-based solutions" is attracting attention, which involves the trial focusing of solutions that use the characteristics of nature. Provide at least three examples of such activities based on this concept and discuss the effect of each. |
| Elemental Materials Chemistry | Explain environmental pollutants in water, soil, and air environment, and as well as their emission pathways. Explain their impact on the environment and organisms. Also, illustrate the detection methods and their measurement mechanisms for each contaminant. |

Department of Natural Resources

| Study area | Theme |
|--|--|
| Regional Planning | Discuss, by using examples, how regional planning can contribute to achieving a harmonious balance between development and the environment in suburban communities of developing countries or Japan. |
| Urban Infrastructure Design | Describe, with specific examples, what perspectives and methods you consider effective for assessing good urban or rural environments and landscapes to conserve and create them. In addition, review some academic research on your research topic, explain why you are interested in the topic, and discuss its relevant issues. |
| Terrestrial Microbiology and Systematics | Select a topic of your interest related to the science or application of research on the interaction of fungi or micro-organisms with plants and their products. Review some current studies on the topic and describe what and how you intend to research on the chosen topic. Figures and tables may be used for explanation if necessary. |
| Terrestrial Ecosystems Management | Propose a research plan that can address a particular environmental issue of choice affecting terrestrial ecosystems. In this proposal, describe the background, objectives, methods and expected outcome specifically. Figures and tables may be used for explanation. |
| Ecosystem Linkages and Human Society | Explain, with specific examples, what kind of research needs to be promoted in considering "the connectivity of Hills, Humans and Oceans" in terms of the trade-offs relating to the spatio-temporal nature of ecosystem services and/or their beneficiaries. Figures and tables may be used for explanation. |

Guidelines for taking the online interview

Please read and confirm the following items carefully that concern taking the online interview.

What to do by the day of the interview:

1. Ensure that you are in an appropriate environment (e.g. a quiet and private room) when taking the interview.
2. Check in advance whether the interview can be conducted stably with the necessary equipment (including camera, speaker microphone) and whether the internet connection is suitable. Be sure to update your OS and Zoom application and check your connection status, microphone, speaker, and camera settings.
3. If taking an interview from overseas and it is difficult to satisfy the above 1 or 2 items, be sure to notify the GSGES administration office in accord with the instructions given in the examination guidelines.

What to do on the day of the interview:

1. Have your admission ticket handy.
2. Access the Zoom link specified in the examination guidelines 30 minutes before the interview time.
3. Set the display name on Zoom to your Applicant ID and name. (e.g. 1001: GSGES)
4. Follow the instructions given by the staff. Sit directly in front of the camera, showing your facing and upper body (do not wear a mask) so that we can verify your identity. During the interview, keep your upper body about 1m away from the camera so that it fits in the video frame. Do not use virtual backgrounds.
5. When prompted by the staff, show the entire surroundings of the room with your web camera used for the interview.
6. When prompted by the staff, use Zoom's screen sharing function to demonstrate that no apps or tabs other than Zoom are running on your device.
See below for how to use Zoom screen sharing.
Zoom Help Center <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us> => Audio and Video=> Screen Sharing
7. Be sure to remain visible in the camera during the entire interview.
8. Do not keep anything near you other than the admission ticket and the electronic equipment used for the interview.

About cheating

The following acts may be regarded as cheating and should be avoided.

- Being in an environment where background noise such as telephones interfere with the interview
- Being in the company of a third party during the interview
- Communicating with a third party regarding the interview questions
- Recording the interview video or audio
- Entering and leaving the room during the interview
- Carrying out actions that give the impression of having in hand other items except for the admission ticket and the computer equipment used
- Acts of using the computer equipment for purposes other than the communication about the questions asked (e.g. looking up information online)
- Leaking the contents of questions to other parties
- Committing other acts that impair the fairness of the test (e.g. reading reference materials, intentionally interrupting the internet connection, etc.)

Troubleshooting on the day

- If it is difficult to conduct the interview on the scheduled day due to an Internet connection failure, etc., the interview may be conducted on another day and time during the examination period. Details will be announced later.
- In the event of an incident on the day, we will contact you by phone or email. If the applicant incurs a situation that prevents taking the interview, immediately contact the GSGES administration office by phone or email:
Phone number: +(81)-75-753-9167
e-mail: 160tikyukankyoumu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

Important notice

- Each interview will be recorded by GSGES in anticipation of connection problems. The recorded data will be appropriately discarded after the selection is completed.
- If there is a connection error or trouble due to the applicant's own reason and the GSGES administration office is not notified, he / she may not retake the interview.

Other necessary matters will be given in the examination guidelines after application.