Kyoto University Collaborative Graduate Program in Design

To respond to the complex needs of our modern society, Kyoto University Collaborative Graduate Program in Design is Japan’s first program featuring an integrated, five-year curriculum for “Design” which seeks solutions by calling on knowledge from a variety of academic disciplines. This program aims at cultivating students who deepen their expertise in their own disciplines while working together with specialists in other disciplines as well as with stakeholders to deal with society’s variegated issues and create a new structure for the society of tomorrow.

Students enrolled in this program conduct their studies around the six core disciplines of informatics, mechanical engineering, architecture, management, psychology, and the arts (in cooperation with the Kyoto City University of Arts) while also engaging in a variety of training and field work aimed at acquiring the ability to design society. In order to participate in the program, a student must first be admitted into one of the five departments in the Graduate School of Informatics: Department of Intelligence Science and Technology, Department of Social Informatics, Department of Systems Science, and Department of Communications and Computer Engineering, and then can be considered for selection as a Preparatory Course student and Regular student in this program. Upon completing the program, students of the Doctorate Program of Graduate School of Informatics will earn a Doctorate degree (Ph.D.).

Participant Organizations:
Graduate School of Education (Division of Educational Studies), Graduate School of Engineering (Department of Architecture and Architectural Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Science, Department of Micro Engineering, and Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics), and Graduate School of Informatics (Department of Intelligence Science and Technology, Department of Social Informatics, Department of Applied Mathematics and Physics, Department of Systems Science, and Department of Communications and Computer Engineering)

Partner Organizations:
Kyoto City University of Arts, NEC Corporation, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT), Nomura Research Institute, Panasonic Corporation, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Mori Building Co., Ltd., and about 40 members in Design Innovation Consortium (Osaka Gas Co., Ltd., OMRON Corporation, KDDI R&D Laboratories, Sharp Corporation, Sony Corporation, Toshiba Corporation, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone West Corporation (NTT WEST), IBM Japan, HAKUHODO Inc., Yokogawa Electric Corporation, Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd., etc.)

Website: http://www.design.kyoto-u.ac.jp
E-mail: contact@design.kyoto-u.ac.jp

International Course Program in Graduate School of Informatics

Kyoto University was designated as one of the 13 hub universities for the “Project for Establishing Core Universities for Internationalization (Global 30),” which was launched in 2009 by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. In the initial phase of this project, participating universities were called upon to provide quality education according to their respective functions and to create an environment that makes it easier for foreign students to study in Japan. The G30 program was coordinated within Kyoto University and across all its participating graduate schools by the KU Profile Program.

As an ongoing result of the G30 initiative, we have simplified entrance procedures for foreign students and set up the International Course Program in the Departments of Intelligence Science and Technology, Social Informatics, and Communications and Computer Engineering of the Graduate School of Informatics. To be admitted into these departments, applicants can now take the entrance examination in English. Within those departments, a wide variety of courses are now taught in English. Thanks to this, students willing to acquire Kyoto University Master and Doctoral degrees can do so using only English. Note that the International Courses Program is open both to Japanese and foreign students, regardless of nationality.

International Courses website: http://www.g30.i.kyoto-u.ac.jp/
Contact: jyoho-kyomu@mail2.adm.t.kyoto-u.ac.jp (Student Affairs Division)
Academic Programs

The Graduate School of Informatics provides graduate study programs that lead to Master’s and Doctoral degrees. Taking into account the many different aspects of Informatics, students are required to take several compulsory credits outside their own department as a way to encourage interdepartmental education.

Requirements for the Master’s Program

To receive a Master’s Degree, every student is required to take at least 30 credits, to submit a thesis in the student’s field of specialization, and to pass an examination based on the thesis. To encourage a well-rounded curriculum of study, students are asked to take subjects offered not only by one’s own department but by other departments as well.

Requirements for the Doctoral Program

A Doctoral degree requires original, high-quality research in an individual field. To receive a Doctoral Degree, students are required to take at least 6 credits from courses offered at this school and to pass an examination based on the submitted thesis.

The Number of Students to be Admitted by Department

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Master’s Program</th>
<th>Doctoral Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department of Intelligence Science and Technology</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Social Informatics</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Applied Analysis and Complex Dynamical Systems</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Applied Mathematics and Physics</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Systems Science</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Communications and Computer Engineering</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>189</strong></td>
<td><strong>60</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Both non-Japanese and working professionals are eligible for admission into the graduate program. Doctoral students may enroll in this graduate school as part-time students concurrently with their professional responsibilities.

Entrance Examination

The academic year begins in April and/or October. In general, a Master’s degree requires two academic years of study, and a Ph.D. three years. Admission to graduate program is granted to those individuals who have passed the entrance examination of the Graduate School of Informatics conducted by the relevant departments. The examination is held from mid-July to mid-August. Additional examinations may be held in mid-December and mid-February in the event of vacancies.

Applications for the International Course, in which the degree will be earned in a solely English language medium, are also accepted in the departments of Intelligence Science and Technology; Social Informatics; Communications and Computer Engineering.

For further information, please contact:

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Informatics in Kyoto University is the study of information in natural and artificial systems.

Informatics studies the creation, recognition, representation, collection, organization, optimization, transformation, communication, evaluation and control of information in complex and dynamic systems.

Informatics has human, social, cognitive, biological, linguistic, computational, mathematical and engineering aspects. It includes systems science and communications engineering.

Informatics has close relations with a number of disciplines in the natural and human sciences. It is developed employing contributions from many different areas; in turn, it can contribute to their further development.

Interfaces to human and social areas, mathematical modeling and information systems are the three pillars of Informatics in Kyoto University.