Introduction

Based on long-established tradition, Kanazawa Law has made major contributions to the scholarship and teaching of law. Kanazawa University has a faculty member who has been a scholar in a particular discipline. Selected through entrance examinations, the students not only study hard but also engage in extracurricular activities such as cultural and social activities. After graduation, they continue to study in graduate school or begin to work as leading professionals in public and private organizations.

Kanazawa Law is a community of faculty members, staff, and students who are focused on law and politics as pursuits of justice. We hope many students who are interested in law can clarify the ideals of justice that law and politics should serve from the viewpoint of praxis. We hope many more people and students will join this exciting challenge in our beautiful city of Kanazawa.

Program

**Bachelor’s Program**

Social Sciences

In 1980, the Faculty of Law and Letters was designated as one of the six faculties of the newly established national Kanazawa University. In 1949, the Faculty of Law and Letters became the Fourth Upper High School (1887–1949). In 1949, the Faculty of Law and Letters was dissolved, and incorporated into the Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies.

**Admission**

**Entrance Examination**

Students who have completed their high school education and who have completed their secondary schooling in Japan. It includes a written test in Japanese (comparative law) and an area of “Home work” (for the general entrance examination) and an interview. In order to take the test, applicants must have previously taken the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students, as well as the TOFEL test.

**Quota of Enrolled Students**

170 first-year students and 10 third-year students transferred from other universities.

Division of Law and Politics, Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies (Master’s Program) **History**

The Graduate School of Law at Kanazawa University (Master’s Course) was established in 1973 in order to equip students with the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Law and Politics through seminars and the advice of members of the Faculty of Law. The Graduate School of Law was dissolved and incorporated into the Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies in April 2006.

Program **Overview**

The Division of Law and Politics of the Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies consists of four programs: Basic Science of Law, Public and Social Law, Private Law, and Politics. The student selects the program that covers his/her major area of study.

Teaching Language

Almost all subjects are taught in Japanese.

Requirements for Earning Bachelor’s Degree

The Bachelor of Law is awarded to students who are enrolled at least four years (three years for those earning exceptional grades) and have earned at least 126 credits.

Requirements for Earning Master’s Degree

Master of Law or Master of Politics is awarded to students who have completed at least two years (one year for those earning exceptional grades), have earned at least 30 credits, and have submitted an acceptable master's thesis written under the guidance of a faculty member.

Credits Arrangement

The division of Law and Politics is very flexible, so each student can design his/her curriculum to best support particular research goals. Altogether, 30 credits (one credit is equivalent to a semester 2 hours) as a minimum are required as supervised independent study for writing a master’s thesis. 8 credits for subjects in the program selected by the student, 4 credits for the research method, 10 credits in elective courses. The 10 elective credits may include subjects taught in another division of the Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies.

Special Subjects for International Students

Introduction to Japanese Law

The Division of Law and Politics offers two lectures in “Introduction to Japanese Law”. Each lecture is taught by a faculty member, where one of these is in English and the other is in Japanese. Through these lectures, students can get an outline of Japanese Laws.

Basic Lecture

Many international students whose level of Japanese is sufficient to understand lectures taught in Japanese may audit undergraduate lectures. In this case, on condition that he/she receives the permission of the faculty member giving the chosen lecture, the student can earn credits of “Basic Lecture I, II or III” of the Division of Law and Politics.

Teaching Language

Teaching subjects are taught in English. Students whose major is one of these subjects may write his/her master’s thesis in English. Other subjects are taught in Japanese.

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Contact Information

School of Law (undergraduate program) and Division of Law & Politics (master’s program):

- **Office of Student Affairs, Section for Law and Economics**, Kakuma-machi, Kanazawa 920-1192, Japan
  - Tel: +81-76-264-5460
  - Fax: +81-76-264-5468
  - E-Mail: n-hkgaku@adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp

- **Website of Kanazawa Law**:
  - [http://www.law.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/](http://www.law.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/)

**Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies**

- **Office of Student Affairs, Section for Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies**, Kanazawa University Kakuma-machi, Kanazawa 920-1192, Japan
  - Fax: +81-76-264-5460
  - E-Mail: adm.kanzawa-u-ni@ni.kanazawa-u.ac.jp

**Website of Kanazawa Law**:

- [http://www.law.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/](http://www.law.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/)
Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies, Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies (Doctoral Program)

History
Since 1993, Kanazawa University has hosted a graduate school that can confer the Doctor of Law and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). Since the reorganization of KU's graduate schools in 2006, the Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies has offered programs leading to the acquisition of the Doctor of Law and Doctor of Philosophy degrees.

Program
Credits Arrangement
During his/her residence in the doctoral program, the student must earn at least 16 credits, 6 of which may be given by his/her supervisor. The student must earn the remaining 10 credits from other faculty members (1 course = 2 credits). With this regulation, we hope that if faculty members will help the student to improve his/her ability to carry out creative scientific research based on different perspectives and disciplines.

Publication of Articles
Students are expected to publish at least two articles on his/her research topic in journals before submitting his/her dissertation. “Human and Socio-Environmental Studies,” published by the Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies at KU, provides opportunities for students to publish their articles. PDF files of articles published in this journal can be accessed on the Internet.

Teaching Language:
Some subjects are taught in English. Students whose major involves one of these subjects may write his/her dissertation in English. Other subjects are taught in Japanese.

Requirements for Earning Doctor’s Degree
The Doctor degree is awarded to students who are enrolled at least three years (one year for those earning exceptional grades), have earned at least 16 credits, and have submitted an acceptable dissertation written under the guidance of a faculty member.

Admission
Entrance Examination
The Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies (doctoral program) holds an entrance examination, in July and February of each year, for all students who have received a Master degree from a Japanese or foreign university. Admission decisions on international students are based on the results of an oral examination (in Japanese or English), submitted master’s thesis, and research plan. Successful applicants applying in July enter the Graduate School in October of the same year, those applying in February enter in April of the same year.

Quote of Enrolled Students: 12 per year

Law School (Graduate School for Candidates of National Bar Examination)
Law School is a postgraduate program closely modeled on the American post-graduate system. Graduation from a law school is currently the condition to sit for the national bar examination. Kanazawa University opened its Law School in 2004 as one of the first such law schools in Japan. The Law School consists of a three-year program for students who have graduated from undergraduate programs other than an undergraduate law program and a two-year program for students who have graduated from an undergraduate law program. The Quota of Enrolled Students of Law School at Kanazawa University is 25 per year. The “Jius Doctor” degree is conferred to graduates of the Law School.

Program for Exchange Students from Sister Universities of KU and KU Law
Kanazawa University has more than 100 sister universities. With many of them, KU has concluded university-wide agreements for student exchange. Furthermore, the Law School of Kanazawa University has initiated its own department-level student exchange programs, a noteworthy example being the agreement made with the College of Law at National Chengchi University in Taiwan. Exchange students stay at KU as non-degree students. Japanese ability is not necessary for exchange students of KU. If they are able to attend courses taught in English. Moreover, KU offers a variety of Japanese language courses, which can be taken not only by degree students but also by non-degree students.

Faculty of Law (Faculty Members)
A “Faculty of Law” of Kanazawa University means an academic affiliation of teaching staff, in our case that of Law and Politics. The Faculty of Law consists of about 50 professors and associate professors, many of whom (about 60%) are in charge of teaching students in the School of Law (undergraduate program), Division of Law & Politics (master’s program), and Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies (doctoral program). Some of the faculty members are in charge of teaching students in the Law School (graduate school for bar exam candidates), and the remainder of them are in charge of teaching students in other schools and divisions (mainly the School/Division of International Studies).

Fees and Scholarships
Admission and tuition Fees are subject to change. Therefore, refer to the website for the most current information. Degree students with financial difficulties who are enrolled in the undergraduate or graduate courses are eligible for tuition exemption (full or half) if they demonstrate an exemplary academic record. Admission and tuition fees of exchange students are waived. Various organizations support scholarship programs for international students through Kanazawa University. Please see our website for more information on opportunities available to international students at KU.

Students in master/doctoral programs generally have the opportunity to serve as Teaching/Research Assistants and receive compensation from KU.

Kanazawa Law
An institute for research on Law and Politics as pursuits in the service of Justice