

Introduction

Based on long-established tradition, Kanazawa Law has made major contributions to the scholarship and teaching of Law and Politics. Every faculty member is an eminent scholar in a particular discipline. Selected through entrance examinations, the students not only study hard but also engage in pro bono, social and cultural 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 in the service of justice. Accordingly, we are challenging ourselves to clarify the ideals of justice that law and politics should serve from the viewpoint of praxis. We hope many more international students will join this exciting challenge in our beautiful city of Kanazawa.

School of Law, College of Human and Social Sciences (Bachelor's Program)

History

The origin of the School of Law at Kanazawa University (KU) can be traced to May 1881, when Ishikawa Prefecture established the Division of Law in the Teacher Training School. This Teacher Training School later became the vocational college of Ishikawa Prefecture (1881–1887) and then the Fourth Upper High School (1887–1949). In 1949, the Faculty of Law and Letters was designated as one of the six faculties of the newly established national Kanazawa University. In 1980, the Faculty of Law and Letters was further divided into three faculties: the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Letters, and the Faculty of Economics. With the reorganization of Kanazawa University in April 2008, the Faculty of Law evolved into the School of Law in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Program

First Year and Second Year

Students study the main subjects of Law and Politics (e.g., Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Civil Law, Politics) in lectures and seminars. Furthermore, they study various subjects in liberal arts and learn two foreign languages. In the winter semester of the second year, each student chooses one of the following three courses as preparation for his/her future study or work.

Third Year and Fourth Year

The Course of Advanced Legal Studies

This course is for students who will go on to graduate school. Almost all of the subjects in this course are elective, so each student can choose the subjects that best provide a foundation for his/her further studies in graduate school. Graduation from this course requires completion of a graduate thesis or two notes on judicial precedents.

The Course of Public Law & Policy Studies

The main focus of this course is to understand public law and political science. In preparation for careers as public servants, students learn about policy formation by taking classes in such issues as policy processes, public administration, and welfare policy and by studying the dynamics of domestic and international politics and their impact on legal systems.

The Course of Business Law Studies

The main focus of this course is to understand corporate law. In preparation for careers as company executives, students study civil and commercial law, economic law, intellectual property law, international business law and other subjects related to the various activities of companies.

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.

Admission

Entrance Examination

The School of Law has a screening test for international students who have completed their previous schooling abroad. The test is given in February, the same time as the general entrance examination for applicants who have completed their secondary schooling in Japan. It includes a written test in Japanese (contemporary writing in the subject area of “Japanese” 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 TOEFL 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 1971 to provide 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 studies.

Every lecture and seminar in the Division of Law and Politics is given to a small group of students; therefore, faculty members can flexibly set the contents of the lectures and seminars to suit the needs of the participants.

Credits Arrangement

The curriculum of the division of Law and Politics is very flexible, so each student can design his/her own curriculum to best support particular research goals. Altogether, 30 credits (one course in a semester: 2 credits) are required: 8 credits in supervised independent study for writing a master's thesis, 8 credits for subjects in the program selected by the student, 4 credits for colloquia, and 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” for international students. 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

Moreover, 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 guidance 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

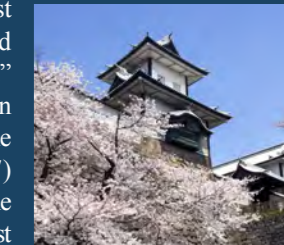
Some subjects are taught in English. Students whose major is one of these subjects may write his/her master's thesis in English. Other subjects are taught in Japanese.

Requirements for Earning Master's Degree

Master of Law or Master of Politics is awarded to students who are enrolled 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.

Why Kanazawa?

Kanazawa is one of the most beautiful cities in Japan. Located on the Sea of Japan (“East Sea” in Korean), Kanazawa is an ancient castle town that during the Tokugawa Period (1603–1867) was the administrative center of the Kaga Domain, the largest and most wealthy fiefdom in the entire country.



Kanazawa did not suffer from bombing in the Second World War. Therefore, it has maintained rows of historical houses and has inherited a wealth of traditional handicrafts and performing arts. UNESCO appointed Kanazawa to the Creative Cities Network in 2009, which the organization launched to promote international cooperation and exchange among world cities that have developed creative and cultural industries.

Today's Kanazawa is a medium-sized and comfortable city. It has a population of 463,000 (as of 2012) with many parks and colleges. In this community, extra emphasis has been placed on education, and the cultural level of the citizenry is high. Students take classes at the Kakuma Campus located in the suburbs of Kanazawa. After class, they can enjoy the nightlife of the Morinosato district, just in front of the campus, or Korinbo, in the city.

Kanazawa is an ideal city for international students to get the most out of their time in Japan.

Contact Information

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

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Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies (doctoral program):

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Fax: +81-76-264-5468
e-Mail: n-gakind@adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp

Website of Kanazawa Law:

<http://www.law.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/>

Admission

Entrance Examination in English

The Division of Law and Politics offers an entrance examination prepared in English for international students applying to our master's degree program in July. By offering an examination in English, we hope to recruit talented and diligent students committed to pursuing a post-graduate degree at a Japanese university but whose level of Japanese proficiency remains insufficient to pass the regular Japanese language entrance exam. The examination consists of a written examination on the academic major chosen by the examinee and an oral examination. The applicants who successfully pass this entrance examination enter the Graduate School in October of the same year or April the following year.

Entrance Examination in Japanese

The Division of Law and Politics offers an entrance examination in Japanese for all students applying to our master's programs twice yearly in July and February. The examination is conducted in Japanese. It consists of a written examination on the major subject chosen by the examinee and an oral examination. Successful applicants applying in July enter the Graduate School in April the following year and those applying in February enter in April of the same year.

Quota of Enrolled Students

8 students per year



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 a variety of 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, and those applying in February enter in April of the same year.

Quota 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 established 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 "Juris 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 School of Law at 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 Taipei, Taiwan. Exchange students

stay at KU as non-degree students. Japanese ability is not necessary for exchange students of Law 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 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 (about 30%) 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, please refer to the KU website for the most current information. Degree students with financial difficulties who are enrolled in the undergraduate or graduate courses are eligible to apply 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

