

Studying and/or Researching Law and Politics at Kanazawa University

Introduction

Kanazawa University has over 150 years of history, and offers an excellent environment for academic study to more than 10,000 students including hundreds of international students. Kanazawa University has many colleges and graduate schools in the fields of various social and natural sciences, and University Hospital and other institutes. The students majoring in Law and Politics at Kanazawa University are selected through the entrance examinations in admission, and the students are offered abundant opportunities to pursue their academic study as well as the 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. We hope many more international students will join this exciting academic life in our beautiful city of Kanazawa.

We Support Students Studying and Researching Law and Politics

The members of the Faculty of Law are eminent scholars each in a particular discipline conducting researches and also contributing to society through their legal professions, and we teach and advise the undergraduate students in the Bachelor's Program, as well as the graduate students in the Master's Program, Doctoral Program, and Law School. 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).

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.

Program for Exchange Students from Sister Universities of Kanazawa University

Kanazawa University has more than 100 sister universities. With many of them, Kanazawa University 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 Kanazawa University 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, Kanazawa University offers a variety of Japanese language courses, which can be taken not only by degree students but also by non-degree students.

Fees and Scholarships

Admission and tuition Fees are subject to change. Therefore, please refer to the Kanazawa University 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 Kanazawa University.

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

Division of Law and Politics, Graduate School of Law (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 study and understanding of Law and Politics through seminars and conduct researches under the advice of the members of the Faculty of Law. In April 2006, under the plan to organize and strengthen the Doctoral Courses, the Graduate School of Law (Master's Course) was incorporated into the Graduate School of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies as the Division of Law and Politics. In April 2020, the Graduate School of Law was re-organized, and the new Graduate School of Law is composed of the Division of Law and Politics (Master's Course) and the Law School. We offer various opportunities to students eager to learn and research law and politics for his/her future career of various choices in the fields of law and politics.

Program

Overview

The Division of Law and Politics of the Graduate School of Law consists of 2 courses. Research Course and Professional Course. The degree that can be obtained in both courses is Master of Law or Master of Politics.

Research Course is for the future academic researchers specialized in the field of law and politics, and it consists of 4 programs: Basic Science of Law Program, Public and Social Law Program, Private Law Program, and Politics Program. The study of basic law has the role of building a foundation of positive law through research on the concepts of law, history, foreign laws, and so on. The study of public and social law is for understanding interpretations of the law as related to the nation, local governments, and civic life. The study of civil law has the task of understanding interpretation of law that discipline human environments, and various law between civilians such as business law and family law. In politics, students look at both the ideal and the reality of politics making full use of scientific examinations along with

Division	Course	Program	Master degree that can be obtained
Division of Law and Politics	Research Course	Basic Science of Law Program Public and Social Law Program Private Law Program	Master of Law
		Politics Program	Master of Politics
	Professional Course		Master of Law Master of Politics

an understanding of the history of politics, philosophy, and the functions of media. Kanazawa University is home to professors of various fields mentioned above. With the advice from the supervising professors, graduate students can enjoy the opportunity to conduct their own creative studies to widen their horizons and challenge the status quo within the academic community and actual practice.

Professional Course is suitable for those students seeking a future career of legal and political professionals in practice, such as a legal assistant, staff of the legal division in corporations, public administrator, etc. In the Professional Course, students can study the practical legal questions and policy making in order to enrich his/her knowledge for solving actual legal and political problems in society. We offer many lectures and seminars relating to law and politics that are useful in actual practice.

We offer courses and various programs to support the students wishing to pursue their dream for various career and interests. 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 that is best in pursuit of his/her particular research goals. Altogether, 30 credits (one course in a semester: 2 credits) are required. Students may also choose to take few 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 (for those students in Research Course) or research paper (for those students in Professional Course) written under the guidance of a faculty member.

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. The students graduated from the universities in Taiwan that have special cooperative relation with the Kanazawa University, and from the Center of Japanese Law Study and Research may take the special entrance examinations that conducts the oral examination online.

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 postgraduate 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. In 2020, the Law School renewed its institution and incorporated the Division of Law and Politics and organized as the Graduate School of Law (Master's Course).

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.

Contact Information

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Website of Kanazawa Law:
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