

Admission Policy of the Graduate School of Letters, Kyoto University

◆ Master's Program of the Graduate School of Letters

The basic educational principle of the Master's Program of the Kyoto University Graduate School of Letters is to provide training in and have a dialogue in a broad range of humanities disciplines, including behavioral science, through the theoretical analysis of human activities and re-examination of their value. Our educational purpose based on this principle is to develop researchers and advanced professionals in areas demanding a high degree of specialization who possess: (1) basic and advanced specialist knowledge; (2) ability to create new knowledge; (3) high ethical standards and a strong sense of responsibility; and (4) language proficiency sufficient to communicate research findings globally.

In order to achieve this educational purpose, the master's program requires prospective students to possess fundamental academic abilities sufficient to study specialized fields, and a capacity to generate new intellectual value directed to explicating various problems in the humanities, in keeping with Kyoto University's Mission Statement of respect for academic freedom.

In accordance with this educational purpose, we evaluate candidates for admission by reference to the following points.

1. Specialized knowledge in their preferred fields and broad-ranging knowledge across the humanities as a whole.
2. Ability to identify problems in their preferred fields independently, and resolve them based on appropriate analysis of original texts and primary sources.
3. Fundamental proficiency in foreign language(s) sufficient to perform active roles in international settings in the future.

After enrolling, students shall apply the above knowledge and skills as they undergo systematic master's thesis supervision and pursue their studies through special lectures and interactive seminar classes. Students are expected thereby to develop the capacity to pursue unique research and become active internationally, equipped with the sense of responsibility and ethical standards of an expert.

Entrance examinations are designed to assess whether or not candidates possess

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the three types of knowledge and skills stated above in sufficient measure to ensure that their research in the master's program is fruitful. Specifically, a comprehensive evaluation of candidates is conducted using foreign language examinations specified in accordance with candidates' respective fields of specialization, written examinations in their preferred fields of specialization, and oral examinations focused on submitted research papers (see application guidelines for details).

◆ **Division of Kyoto University and Heidelberg University Joint Degree Master of Arts Program in Transcultural Studies, Graduate School of Letters**

The basic educational principle of the Division of Kyoto University and Heidelberg University Joint Degree Master of Arts Program in Transcultural Studies, Graduate School of Letters is to provide training in and have a dialogue regarding a broad range of humanities disciplines, including behavioral science, through the theoretical analysis of human activities and re-examination of their value. Our educational purpose based on this principle is to develop researchers and advanced professionals in areas demanding a high degree of specialization who possess: (1) basic and advanced specialist knowledge; (2) ability to create new knowledge; (3) high ethical standards and a strong sense of responsibility; and (4) language proficiency sufficient to communicate research findings globally.

In order to achieve this educational purpose, the division of Kyoto University and Heidelberg University Joint Degree Master of Arts Program in Transcultural Studies requires prospective students to possess fundamental academic abilities sufficient to study specialized fields, and a capacity to generate new intellectual value in keeping with Kyoto University's Mission Statement of respect for academic freedom and directed to explicating, from a transcultural perspective, various problems relating to (1) Knowledge, Belief, and Religion (KBR), (2) Society, Economy and Governance (SEG), and (3) Visual, Media and Material Culture (VMC).

In accordance with this educational purpose, we evaluate candidates for admission by reference to the following points.

1. Specialized knowledge in their preferred fields and broad-ranging knowledge across the humanities as a whole.
2. Ability to identify problems in their preferred fields independently, and resolve them based on appropriate analysis of original texts and primary sources.

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3. Advanced proficiency in English sufficient to perform active roles in international settings in the future and basic proficiency in at least two other languages (which may include their mother tongue if that language is not English).

After enrolling, students shall apply the above knowledge and skills as they undergo systematic master's thesis supervision and pursue their studies through special lectures and interactive seminar classes. Students are expected thereby to develop the capacity to pursue unique research and become active internationally, equipped with the sense of responsibility and ethical standards of an expert.

Entrance examinations are designed to assess whether or not candidates possess the three types of knowledge and skills stated above in sufficient measure to ensure that their research in the master's program is fruitful.

Candidates enrolling through the Graduate School of Letters: The Graduate School, in collaboration with the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies (HCTS) at Heidelberg University, shall conduct a comprehensive evaluation of candidates who have already applied for and gained admission by the first selection based on certifications of foreign language proficiency, university graduation certificates, academic transcripts, and letter of motivation (including research proposals) and by the second selection by interview specific to this division (see application guidelines for details).

Candidates enrolling through the Heidelberg Centre for Transcultural Studies (HCTS): The Graduate School, in collaboration with HCTS, shall conduct a comprehensive evaluation of candidates who have already been accepted and enrolled in the HCTS master's program, based on candidates' academic performance in the first semester of enrollment at HCTS, and letter of motivation (including research proposals) specific to this division. Successful candidates shall transfer to this program from their second semester.

◆ **Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Letters**

The basic educational principle of the Doctoral Program of the Kyoto University Graduate School of Letters is to establish the advanced disciplines in a broad range of humanities disciplines, including behavioral science, through the theoretical analysis of human activities and re-examination of their value. Our educational purpose based on this mission is to develop researchers and professionals in areas demanding a high degree of specialization who possess: (1) basic and professional specialist knowledge; (2)

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superior ability to create new knowledge; (3) high ethical standards and a strong sense of responsibility; and (4) ability to communicate research findings globally and pursue research through international collaboration.

In order to achieve this educational purpose, the doctoral program requires prospective students to have the motivation to play a fully-fledged role in specialized research, and the ability to generate outstanding knowledge in specific fields of the humanities.

In accordance with this educational purpose, we evaluate candidates for transfer admission by reference to the following points.

1. Profound specialized knowledge in their preferred field and a capacity to contribute to the advancement of scholarship through research in the humanities.
2. Ability to formulate pioneering research projects autonomously in their preferred field, and resolve them based on sophisticated analysis of original texts and primary sources.

After enrolling, students shall apply the above knowledge and skills as they undergo systematic research guidance provided by their supervisors, which is focused on the production of a doctoral dissertation. Students are expected thereby to develop the capacity to pursue highly unique research and become active internationally, equipped with the strong sense of responsibility and high ethical standards of an expert.

Examinations for transfer admission to the doctoral program are designed to assess whether or not candidates possess the two types of knowledge and skills stated above in sufficient measure to ensure that their research in the doctoral program is fruitful. Specifically, a comprehensive evaluation of candidates is conducted using written examinations mainly in subjects specified in accordance with their respective fields of specialization and foreign languages associated therewith, and oral examinations focused on submitted research papers (see application guidelines for details).

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