

**International Graduate Program in Language Sciences**  
**The Graduate School of International Cultural Studies**  
**Application for Doctoral Program (3-year course)**  
**For the Academic Year 2021**  
**(Beginning in October 2021)**

### **I. Aim**

The aim of this program is to promote interdisciplinary education and research concerning human language from multiple perspectives of linguistics, psychology, brain science and information science. Based on recent development in linguistics and other relevant disciplines, the program seeks comprehensive understanding of issues associated with linguistic communication, language acquisition and loss, language and brain, and natural language processing. The program will be conducted in collaboration with the Research Center for Language, Brain and Cognition, which is affiliated with the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies (GSICS).

Degree offered     Doctor of Philosophy (International Cultural Studies)

### **II. Curriculum**

All courses in the International Graduate Program in Language Sciences are conducted in English. A minimum of 12 units of course work and completion of a Doctoral thesis are required for the Doctoral degree.

- Seminar [Independent study] (compulsory): 8 units
- Lecture (compulsory): 4 units

### **III. Application**

**1. Positions available:**     2

**2. Application Requirements**

Applicants for the 3-year Doctoral Program should meet one of the following criteria:

- (1) Those who have received, or will receive a Master's degree or professional degree by September 2021.
- (2) Those who have received, or will receive a Master's degree or professional degree, or an equivalent degree from a graduate school in a foreign country by September 2021.
- (3) Those who have completed, or will complete a correspondence course administrated in Japan by an

educational institution of a foreign country, and have received, or will receive a Master's degree or professional degree, or an equivalent degree from that course by September 2021.

- (4) Those who have received, or will receive a Master's degree or professional degree, or an equivalent degree by September 2021 from a graduate school of a foreign university in Japan. The graduate school should be one that has been approved by the educational system of that country and the Japanese Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (hereafter, 'the Minister').
- (5) Those who have completed, or will complete a curriculum at the United Nations University established under the United Nations resolution of December 11, 1972 as specified in Article 1 Item 2 of the special measures law that accompanied the conclusion of an agreement between the United Nations University and the nation of Japan, and have received, or will receive a Master's degree, or an equivalent degree by September 2021.
- (6) Those who have been designated by the Minister. (No. 118 of Notification from the Ministry of Education, 1989)
  - ① Those who have engaged themselves in research activities for 2 years or more in universities or research institutes, etc., after graduating from a university, and who are judged, according to the GSICS's individual examination of applicants' research activities, to have reached a standard of achievement equivalent to or above the status of a Master's or professional degree.
  - ② Those who have engaged themselves in research activities for 2 years or more in universities or research institutes, etc., after completing 16 years of education in a foreign country, or after completing 16 years of education by finishing a correspondence course of a foreign university in Japan, and who are judged, according to GSICS's individual examination of applicants' research activities, to have reached a standard of achievement equivalent to or above the status of a Master's or professional degree.
- (7) Those whose academic abilities are judged by GSICS to be equal to or greater than those of a person with a Master's degree or professional degree, and who are 24 years of age or older at the end of September 2021.

Notes1: Applicants who will receive a Master's degree from a graduate school of Tohoku University (including GSICS) shall fall under the qualification (1) above, and are exempt from the fees for application and admission.

Note2: Applicants that fall under qualification (6) or (7) must undergo a pre-qualification examination and are required to submit the designated documents for this purpose to the GSICS Office of Academic Affairs by March 1, 2021 in order to fulfill the requirement for October 2021 admissions.

Please contact the GSICS Office of Academic Affairs for inquiries regarding application qualifications.  
See page 5 for contact information.

### **3. Application Procedures**

#### **(1) Application items**

- a) **Application Form:** Use the prescribed form.
- b) **Photograph:** Use the prescribed form.
- c) **Certificate of Graduation (or Expected Graduation)**
- d) **Academic Transcript:** An official transcript issued from the graduate school where your Master's

- degree was conferred. The transcript must bear the graduate school's formal seal on it.
- e) **Statement of Research Plan:** Describe your research plan in English in a full paper in size A4 in less than 2,000 words.
  - f) **A Sample Research Paper written in English**
  - g) **Master's Thesis** (If it is written in a language other than English, a summary in English with a length of approximately 10 pages in A4 sheet should be attached to the thesis.) or **Statement of Master's Thesis Plan** (The Statement should be written in a full paper within 10 pages (around 300 words per page) in size A4. The Master's thesis will be returned after the examination).
  - h) **A Photocopy of Formal Certificate of TOEFL® test score, TOEIC® test score or IELTS™ band score**
  - i) **A Letter of Reference:** The letter should be written by one of your academic advisors who can accurately evaluate your research ability.
  - j) **Statement of Financial Security**
  - k) **Certificate of Residence:** For applicants who are foreign residents of Japan at the time of application, and who have lived in Japan for more than 90 days; to be issued by the head of the local municipality.
  - l) **Application Fee ¥30,000:** If you live in Japan, the fee should be sent by a Postal Money Order; Do not write your name as the payee on the money order. You can make a cash payment when you submit application forms directly to the GSICS Office of Academic Affairs. If you live outside of Japan, contact the Office of Academic Affairs at [int-kkdk@grp.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:int-kkdk@grp.tohoku.ac.jp) well in advance to discuss the payment method.
  - m) **A Letter of Approval for Entrance:** If you want to enroll in the program while working a fulltime job, you are required to submit a Letter of Approval for Entrance issued by your employer.

**Note :** For item h), we will not accept MyBest™ scores of TOEFL iBT®.

**Attention:** For current GSICS students who wish to apply to this doctoral program, the application documents f), h), i) and l) are not required.

## (2) Submitting Application Items

The application documents must be received during the period shown below:

- a) The application documents must be received between March 1, 2021 and April 16, 2021.
- b) The item number (e.g., a, b... etc.) should be clearly marked in the upper right corner of each document.
- c) The application documents can be sent by registered mail, with the direction "Application Documents Enclosed" written in red on the envelope, to the following address:

Office of Academic Affairs  
Tohoku University Graduate School of International Cultural Studies  
41 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-8576, Japan

If any part of the application is found to contain fraudulent information, the application will be automatically rejected.

#### 4. Screening Method

Applicants are screened on the basis of comprehensive evaluation of Application Documents (including Academic Transcript and Statement of Research Plan), English proficiency (TOEFL<sup>®</sup>, TOEIC<sup>®</sup> test score or IELTS<sup>™</sup> band score result), and an interview conducted on-location, or via Skype video call / teleconferencing system, by Tohoku University staff (applicants will be notified of details (such as time) about the interview later on).

#### 5. Announcement of Acceptance and Enrollment

- (a) The results of the screening will be posted on our website at 5pm JST on June 16, 2021.  
([http://www.intcul.tohoku.ac.jp/english/admission/successful\\_applicants.html](http://www.intcul.tohoku.ac.jp/english/admission/successful_applicants.html))
- (b) Documents needed for enrollment will be sent to successful applicants. Enrolling procedures should be completed by late September 2021.
- (c) Successful applicants are requested to pay the following fees at the time of registration:
  - ① Admission Fee: ¥282,000
  - ② Tuition Fee: ¥ 267,900 (half of the annual tuition fee ¥535,800)
  - ③ There is a ¥3,620 fee for Gakkensai and Gakkenbai insurance and a ¥33,370 fee for Foreign Student insurance (each insurance policy covers a three-year period). In addition, there is a ¥8,000 fee for joining the Tohoku University Alumni Association (¥6,000 for those who completed their undergraduate at Tohoku University). Further details will be provided in the admission documents. All fees are current as of April 1, 2021.

Note 1: In the case that tuition fee is revised during your period of study, you will be charged the revised tuition fee from the date of revision.

Note 2: Information on exemption for admission fees or tuition fees is included in the enrollment documents.

Note3: Successful applicants who are currently enrolled in GSICS are not required to pay the admission fee.

Date of Entrance: Admission to the Doctoral Program takes place in October 2021.

#### 6. Long-Term Course Program

We have adopted a Long-Term Course Program for students who have difficulty completing the course in the normal 3 years due to concurrent employment, housework, caregiving. Though the Doctoral Program normally lasts 3 years, it can be extended to 6 years. Those who wish to acquire the Doctoral Degree by extending the normal 3-year completion limit can be admitted as Long-Term Course Students. Note that the maximum period of residency for the Doctoral Program is 3 years. Those who wish to do so must follow the instructions in the notification of acceptance, which will be delivered by mail after the announcement of acceptance, and submit the prescribed documents at the time when conducting the other entrance procedures.

Coursework for students who are deemed eligible for Long-Term Course Program is provided in accordance with the curriculum and time schedule for regular students.

The annual tuition fee for long-term course students is calculated as follows: The total amount of tuition fees for the standard term (3-years) of study is divided by the extended term (6-years) of study. For details, please contact the GSICS Office of Academic Affairs.

## **7. Handling of Personal Information**

- (1) All personal information submitted by applicants for the admission procedures will be used solely for educational purposes, such as the selecting applicants, enrollment procedures, post-enrollment student support and academic advising.
- (2) Personal information used to screen applicants will be handled with care as per Tohoku University's regulations on personal information protection and it will not be disclosed to any third party without the applicant's consent.
- (3) Please note that all applicants are assumed to agree with the terms above.

## **8. Others**

- (1) Please note that incomplete applications will not be accepted. After receipt of the application documents, no correction is permitted, and the application fees are not refundable.
- (2) Disclosure of the examination results is available at the request of applicants during the fiscal year of the examination.
- (3) We shall give proper attention to physically handicapped applicants. Please contact the GSICS Office of Academic Affairs at your earliest convenience.

## **8. Contact Information**

If you have any questions, please contact:

Office of Academic Affairs  
Tohoku University Graduate School of International Cultural Studies  
41 Kawauchi, Aoba-ku, Sendai 980-8576, Japan  
Fax: +81-22-795-7583  
E-mail: [int-kkdk@grp.tohoku.ac.jp](mailto:int-kkdk@grp.tohoku.ac.jp)

**International Graduate Program in Language Sciences**  
Graduate School of International Cultural Studies  
Tohoku University

**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

**Name**

\_\_\_\_\_

(Family name)

(Middle name)

(First name)

**Date of birth year**

\_\_\_\_\_

Month Day , Year

**Nationality**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please check the course which you would like to belong to.**

<input type="checkbox"/> Master's Degree ( 2years )	<input type="checkbox"/> Doctor's Degree ( 3years )
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**Present status** (Position, Name and Address of University or Employer)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Present mailing address**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Permanent address** (if different from above)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Academic record					
	Name of Institution	Official number of years	Entrance and Graduation (Year / Month)		Registered number of years
Elementary			from	to	
Lower Secondary			from	to	
Upper Secondary			from	to	
Undergraduate			from	to	
Post Graduate			from	to	
Total years of academic education					
Research activities record					
Name of Institution		Position	from (year/ month/ day) to		Number of years
Career record					
Name of Employer		Position	from (year/ month/ day) to		Number of years
Date: _____ Signature: _____					

(For foreign students)

<b>Name</b>	Family name															
	First name															
	Middle name															
<b>Degree</b>	Type of name	Acquired date				Name of institution										

# Photograph

Examinee's number *		Attach photograph here. 5cm×4cm Write your name on the back of the photo. Attach firmly.
Name		
Date of Birth	(DD/MM/YYYY)	
Sex (Age)	Male Female ( )	

\*Do not fill " Examinee number \*"box. For office use only.

- Photo must have been taken within the last three months.
- Photo must be clear and taken with plain background.
- No hat (headwear such as turbans/hijabs etc. worn due to your religion is permitted, as long as your face is clear).