

International Graduate Program in Language Sciences
The Graduate School of International Cultural Studies
Application for Master’s Program (2-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 Master of International Cultural Studies

II. Curriculum

All courses in the International Graduate Program in Language Sciences are conducted in English. A minimum of 30 units of course work and completion of a Master’s thesis are required for the Master’s degree.

- (a) Basic subjects (compulsory): 6units
- (b) Core subjects (selective): 18 units
- (c) Seminar [Independent study] (compulsory): 6 units
- (d) Master’s thesis

Category	Subjects	Instructor	Unit
Basic Subjects (6units)	Introduction to Language Science	Staff	2
	Research Methods in Linguistics	Staff	2
	Ethics for Academic Research	Staff	2
Core Subjects (18 units)	Generative Syntax	Daiko Takahashi	2
	Lexical Semantics	Naoyuki Ono	2
	Pragmatics	Takeshi Nakamoto	2

	Contrastive Linguistics	Wataru Nakamura	2
	Cognitive Linguistics	Satoshi Uehara	2
	Second Language Acquisition	Peter John Wanner	2
	Language in Society and Culture	Hiroyuki Eto	2
	Psycholinguistics	Mariko Nakayama	2
	History of the Japanese Language	Matthew Zisk	2
	Theoretical Analysis of Japanese	Kensaku Soejima	2
	Neurolinguistics	Hyeonjeong Jeong	2
Seminar (6units)	Seminar in Linguistics	Supervisor	6
30 units			

The courses in the list are subject to change due to inevitable reasons without prior notice.

III. Application

1. Positions available: up to 5

2. Application Requirements

Applicants for the 2-year Master's Program should meet one of the following criteria:

- (1) Those who have graduated or will graduate from a university by September 2021.
- (2) Those who have been granted or will be granted a Bachelor's degree under the conditions established by Paragraph 4, Article 104 of the Japanese School Education Law (Law 26 of 1947, henceforth 'the Law') by September 2021.
- (3) Those who have completed or will complete 16 years of education in a foreign country by September 2021.
- (4) Those who have completed or will complete 16 years of education by finishing a correspondent course of a foreign university in Japan by September 2021.
- (5) Those who have completed or will complete 16 years of education by finishing a course of a foreign university in Japan by September 2021. The course of the university 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').
- (6) Those who have been conferred or will be conferred a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree upon completion of a curriculum that has a course term of 3 years or longer at a university or other school in a foreign country (limited to schools whose overall educational and research activities have been evaluated by the relevant country's government or a government-approved individual, or are designated separately as having met this requirement by the Minister). This includes cases in which the student completed the curriculum by taking subjects conducted by the said school via distance learning while residing Japan and cases in which the student completed a curriculum at an educational facility that is positioned within the relevant country's educational system as per the previous item) by September 2021.
- (7) Those who have graduated or will graduate from a specialty course of a professional school after the date fixed by the Minister by September 2021. They should have completed or will complete 4 years or more of education in the said course by September 2021 and have satisfied any other standards fixed

by the Minister . The course should be one that has been approved by the Minister .

- (8) Those who have been designated by the Minister (refer to the 5th Bulletin of 1953 from the Ministry of Education).
- (9) Those who have entered a graduate school of another university according to Paragraph 2 of Article 102 of the Law and are judged by GSICS to have attained a sufficient standard of achievement to study in GSICS.
- (10) Those whose academic abilities are judged by GSICS to be equal to or greater than those of a university graduate and who are 22 years of age or older at the end of September 2021.

Note 1: Applicants who wish to apply under qualification (6) must contact the GSICS Office of Academic Affairs by March 1 2021.

Note 2: Applicants that fall under qualification (9) or (10) 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 requirements for the October 2021 admissions.

Note 3:The Graduate School of International Cultural Studies does not accept applications made in accordance with Article 102, item (2) of the School Education Act, or Article 11, item (9) of Tohoku University's General Rules about Graduate Schools.

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 university where your undergraduate degree was conferred. The transcript must bear the university'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) **A Photocopy of Formal Certificate of TOEFL® test score, TOEIC® test score or IELTS™ band score**
- h) **A Letter of Reference:** The letter should be written by one of your academic advisors who can accurately evaluate your research ability.
- i) **Statement of Financial Security**
- j) **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.
- k) **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 well in advance to discuss the payment method.
- l) **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 1: Applicants who have completed or will complete one of the Global 30 Future Global Leadership programs at Tohoku University or another university do not need to submit the item g).

Note 2: For item g), we will not accept MyBest™ scores of TOEFL iBT®.

(2) Submission of Application Documents

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 should be sent by registered mail, with the instructions “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 a comprehensive evaluation of application documents (including their Academic Transcript and Statement of Research Plan), English proficiency (TOEFL®, TOEIC® test score or IELTS™ band score result), and an interview conducted on-location or via Skype video call / teleconferencing by Tohoku University staff (applicants will be notified of the details of the interview such as time and date after the initial screening).

5. Announcement of Acceptance and Enrollment

- (a) The results of the screening will be posted on the GSICS website at 5pm JST on June 16, 2021. (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 Insurance and other expenses: There is a ¥2,430 fee for Gakkensai and Gakkenbai insurance and a ¥23,340 fee for Foreign Student insurance (each insurance policy covers a two-year period). In addition, there is a ¥6,000 fee for joining the Tohoku University Alumni Association (¥4,000 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.

(d) Date of Entrance: Admission to the Master's 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 2 years due to concurrent employment, housework, caregiving and so on. Though the Master's Program normally lasts 2 years, it can be extended to 4 years. Those who wish to acquire the Master's Degree by extending the normal 2-year completion limit can be admitted as Long-Term Course Students. Note that the maximum period of residency for the Master's Program is 4 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 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 (2-years) of study is divided by the extended term (4-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.

9. 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

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 _____

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).