

2026

Graduate School of Tourism

Wakayama University

Doctoral Program

Application Guidelines for International Students



Purpose for the Doctoral Program

Tourism has been developing dramatically in both quantity and quality in the 21st century and is recognized as central to Japan's national strategic plan. In this context, the Doctor Program at the Graduate School of Tourism aims to foster academic innovators who are equipped with 'generic skills,' highly accomplished specialization and 'interdisciplinary' scholarship, and can contribute to furthering tourism research in Japan to the highest international standard.

Admission Policy

The Graduate School of Tourism doctoral program seeks students who have acquired the following knowledge and abilities:

1. The specialized knowledge for scientifically conducting research with an international and interdisciplinary perspective, and an understanding of research trends regarding specialized fields related to their field of research and other peripheral fields
2. The fundamental comprehensive ability to solve problems and the research capability required to independently address problems by applying their advanced understanding of tourism's place in society
3. High level of ethics to conduct academic and research activities

Expectations after Admissions

After admissions, students are required to acquire advanced specialization and comprehensive problem-solving ability, as well as the ability to conduct international standard research activities culminating in the research outcomes as a doctoral with the abilities and skills s possessed at the time of admissions.

Basic Policy for Admissions

1. General admissions and admissions for international students
Applicants' specialized and interdisciplinary knowledge regarding the field of research, research capability and motivation and initiative for solving problems, and research ethics are comprehensively assessed via oral examinations based on the content of their research plan, master's thesis, or other research thesis.,
2. Admissions for mature students
Applicants' research preparation, specialized and interdisciplinary knowledge of the research field, research capability, motivation and initiatives for solving problems, and research ethics are comprehensively assessed via oral examinations based on the content of their research plan, master's thesis, or other research thesis.

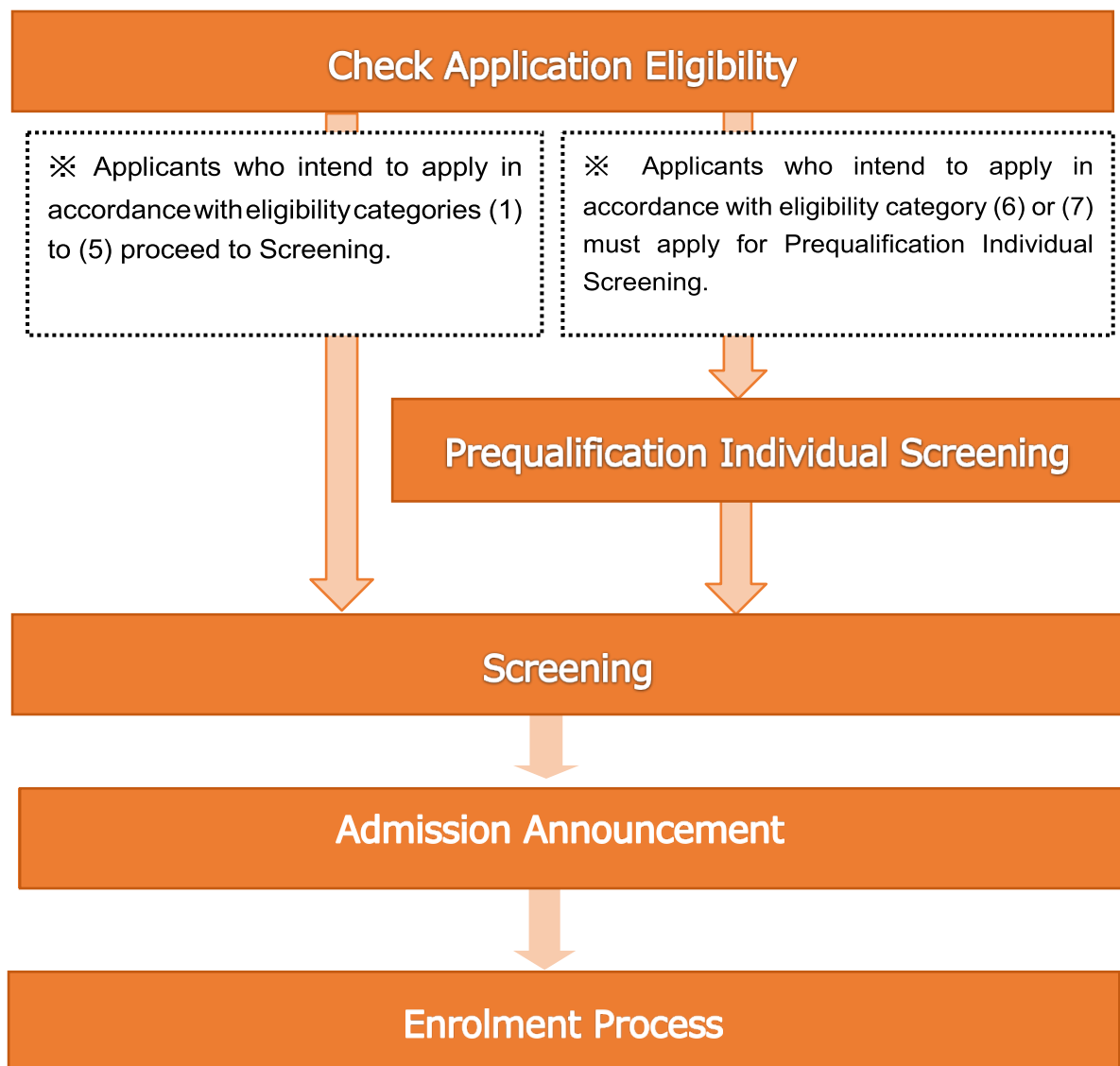
Important Notice: Before You Apply

Please contact the professor under whom you wish to study for a consultation regarding the compatibility between your research content area and that of the professor's before applying for the entrance exam. There is a limited number of classes that are held in English and professors who supervise in English although it is possible to complete the Doctoral program with English as your medium of instruction.

https://www.wakayama-u.ac.jp/tourism/en/Researcher_Profiles/doctor.html

Please note that the prior consultation with professors should not be regarding the result of the entrance exam.

Admission Flow



	Application		Examination		Result		Enrolment
1 R	August 19-21, 2025		September 21, 2025		October 17, 2025		by March 15, 2026
2 R	January 5-7, 2026	→	February 8, 2026		March 6, 2026	→	

I. Eligibility

Requirements

1. International applicants are those who do not have a Japanese nationality or permanent/settled residency status in Japan. Their status of residence is “Student”, as described in the Japanese Immigration Control and Refugees Recognition Act, or they are expected to obtain this status upon receiving the offer letter from the university.

International applicants who live outside Japan at the time of application and are expected to obtain the status of residence as "Student", as described in Japanese Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, upon receiving the offer letter from the Graduate School of Tourism, can only apply **for the first round** of the admission examination. Those applicants cannot apply for the second round of the admission examination.

2. Educational qualification: International applicants must meet one of the following requirements:
 - (1) Applicant holds a master's degree or professional degree from a Japanese university or is expected to obtain the same by March 31, 2026.
 - (2) Applicant has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree outside of Japan or is scheduled to be granted it by March 31, 2026.
 - (3) Applicant has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree by pursuing class subjects that are conducted by foreign schools through correspondence education in Japan or is scheduled to be granted the same by March 31, 2026.
 - (4) Applicant has completed curricula designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan by pursuing class subjects in Japan, which are conducted by a foreign educational facility positioned as a facility that has the curriculum of a graduate school under said foreign country's school education system and has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree or is scheduled to be granted the same by March 31, 2026.
 - (5) Applicant has completed courses from the United Nations University and has been granted a degree equivalent to a master's degree or is scheduled to be granted the same by March 31, 2026.

The United Nations University was established by the U.N. General Assembly resolution on December 11, 1972, in accordance with the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the “Agreement

between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University” (Article 1, Section2)

- (6) Applicant has been designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Ministry of Education Public Notification No.118 of 1989)

Applicants who meet either of the following conditions and have engaged in studies at a university or research institute for more than two years and who are recognized as persons with scholastic ability equivalent or superior to a master’s degree or professional degree holders by the Graduate School of Tourism of Wakayama University

(A) Applicant has graduated from university

(B) Applicant has completed a 16-year school education curriculum outside of Japan

(C) Applicant has completed a 16-year school education curriculum by pursuing subject classes which are conducted by foreign schools through correspondence education in Japan

- (7) Applicant who is 24 years of age or older by March 31, 2026 and is recognized as a person having scholastic abilities equivalent or superior to university graduates in the prequalification individual screening of the Graduate School of Tourism, Wakayama University

If you have any questions regarding eligibility, please contact us at tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp

Prequalification Individual Screening

Applicants who intend to apply in accordance with the eligibility category (6) or (7) must apply for Prequalification Individual Screening.

Application documents will be examined.

1. Application period

The application must reach us no later than the stated closing date.

Application Period	
First round	July 1-July 3, 2025
Second round	November 26- November 28, 2025

*NOTE: Reception time: 9AM - 4PM (Excluding 12–1PM on weekdays, and Saturdays and Sundays)

2. Address to submit application documents

TO Wakayama University, Kankogakubu-kakari
Address: 930 Sakaedani, Wakayama City, Wakayama, Japan 640-8510

Application documents must arrive at the Registration Office (Kankogakubu-kakari) of Graduate School of Tourism, Wakayama University by the last day of the application period.

Applicants must state “Application Documents for Doctoral Program enclosed” on the front side of the envelope.

Applicants must send an email to tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp with details of the date and posting location after the documents are posted.

3. Application documents for Prequalification Individual Screening

(1) Application form for Prequalification Individual Screening	Form (No. 1D) Please download the files from our website.
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(2) Explanation of Research Situation	Form (No. 2D) Please download the file from our website. For verification, please submit required documents, such as the certificate(s) of qualification and research career.
(3) Copy of research thesis or final dissertation, where applicable (three copies)	Please write the title and your full name on the cover and attach three copies.
(4) Summary of research thesis or final dissertation, where applicable (three copies)	Please summarize the thesis in approximately two A4-size sheets and submit three copies.
(5) Research Paper (optional, three copies)	Please submit a maximum of three published research papers, if there are any.
(6) List of Research Achievements (optional)	Please submit all research records, if there are any, with the following details: title of achievement, title of research thesis, information on whether it is the work of a sole author or a collaboration, dates of publication, title of conference where the research was presented. Please use an A4 sheet with style free.
(7) Official academic transcript	Original documents are required. If not issued in Japanese or English, please attach a certified translation in Japanese or English. Those who graduated from Chinese educational institutions should apply for the verification report in English of academic transcript issued by China Higher-education Information and Student Information: "CHSI" and have it sent directly from CHSI to "tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp; the Registration Office of Graduate School of Tourism (Student Center) of Wakayama University by 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the application period.
(8) Graduation certificate or certificate of expected graduation and a copy of degree certificate	Original documents are required. If not issued in Japanese or English, please attach a certified translation in Japanese or English. Those who graduated from Chinese educational institutions should apply for the verification report in English of Academic Credentials (Diploma, Degree Certificate) issued by China Higher-education Information and Student Information: "CHSI" and have it sent directly from CHSI to

	tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp; the Registration Office of Graduate School of Tourism (Student Center) of Wakayama University by 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the application period.
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Please visit our website at the following URL:

https://www.wakayama-u.ac.jp/tourism/en/Entrance_Examination/index.html

4. Result notification

Result Notification	
First round	No later than July 31, 2025
Second round	No later than December 18, 2025

Examination for International Students

外国人留学生選抜

III. Number of Students Accepted

The total number of students who are admitted may consist of candidates from the general, working, and international categories.

Major	Number of Admitted Students	
	First round	Second round
Doctor of Tourism	a few	TBD

NOTICE: Depending on the number of applicants in the first round, the second round may not be held. The second round of recruitment and the number of applicants will be announced on the website of the Graduate School after the announcement of the successful applicants for the first round of recruitment.

IV. Screening Schedule

1. Application period

Application documents must reach us no later than the stated application dates.

Application Period	
First round	August 19, 2025 - August 21, 2025
Second round	January 5, 2026 - January 7, 2026

2. Address to submit application documents

TO Wakayama University, Kankogakubu-kakari Address: 930 Sakaedani, Wakayama City, Wakayama, Japan 640-8510

Application documents must arrive at the Registration Office (Kankogakubu-kakari) of the Graduate School of Tourism, Wakayama University by the last day of each application period.

On the front side of the envelope, the applicants must state "Application Documents for Doctoral Program enclosed".

Applicants must send an e-mail to tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp with details of the date and posting location after the documents are posted.

3. Prior consultation for applicants who need scholastic consideration

Applicants needing any scholastic consideration are advised to contact the Registration Office (Kankogakubu-kakari) one month before the first day of the application period.

Please notify us immediately in case of needing any consideration in taking examination or studying due to an unexpected accident after applying.

Please note that we may not be able to meet your request regarding examination considerations.

4. Application documents

1. Application form for the Doctoral Program	Form (No. 3D). Please download the files from our website. Please attach a photograph directly to the application form in the provided space.
2. Research proposal / Study plan	Form (No. 4D). Please download the files from our website. Interview questions are provided based on your proposal/study plan. English language options are available. No restriction on the volume.
3. Copy of master's dissertation or research thesis or where applicable, final dissertation (three copies)	Please write the title and your full name on the cover and attach three copies. If you have applied for prequalification individual screening, you do not need this. Prospective master's degree candidates must submit a master's thesis proposal and materials showing the progress of the research. (three copies)
4. Summary of master's thesis or the research thesis, or where applicable, final dissertation (three copies)	Please summarize the thesis in two A4-sized sheets and submit three copies. If you have applied for prequalification individual screening, you do not need this. Prospective master's degree candidates must submit a master's thesis proposal and materials showing the progress of the research. (three copies)
5. Research paper (optional, three copies)	Please submit a maximum of three published research papers, if there are any. If you have applied for prequalification individual screening, you do not need this.

<p>6. List of research achievements (optional)</p>	<p>Please submit all research records, if there are any, with the following details: the name of achievement, title of achievement, title of research thesis, information on whether it is the work of a sole author or a collaboration, dates of publication, title of conference where the research was presented. Please use an A4 sheet with style free. If you have applied for prequalification individual screening, you do not need this.</p>
<p>7. Official academic transcript</p>	<p>Original documents are required. If not issued in Japanese or English, please attach a certified translation in Japanese or English. Those who graduated from Chinese educational institutions should apply for the verification report in English of academic transcript issued by China Higher-education Information and Student Information: "CHSI" and have it sent directly from CHSI to "tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp"; the Registration Office of Graduate School of Tourism (Student Center) of Wakayama University by 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the application period. In addition, those who are expected to obtain a master's degree should take the necessary procedure to ensure that the above report is sent promptly after completion of the program and obtaining the degree.</p>
<p>8. Graduation certificate or certificate of expected graduation and a copy of degree certificate</p>	<p>Original documents are required. If not issued in Japanese or English, please attach a certified translation in Japanese or English. Those who graduated from Chinese educational institutions should apply for the verification report in English of Academic Credentials (Diploma, Degree Certificate) issued by China Higher-education Information and Student Information: "CHSI" and have it sent directly from CHSI to tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp; the Registration Office of Graduate School of Tourism (Student Center) of Wakayama University by 4:00 p.m. on the last day of the application period. In addition, those who are expected to obtain a master's degree should take the necessary procedure to ensure that the above report is sent promptly after completion of the program and obtaining the degree.</p>
<p>9. Copy of identification (either Residence Card or passport)</p>	<p>If you have a Residence Card, please attach copies of both the sides of the card. If you do not have a Residence Card, please attach copies of the pages of your passport that show your nationality, name, and duration of stay.</p>

10. Examination Admission Ticket	Form (No. 5D). Please download the files from our website. Attach a photograph of yourself taken in the past three months.
11. Proof of payment for entrance examination fee	Entrance examination fee: 30,000 JPY Flywire payment option available. This payment can only be used when applying from outside Japan. Please contact tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp *Please let us know if you are a MEXT scholarship student.

Please visit our website at the following URL:

https://www.wakayama-u.ac.jp/tourism/en/Entrance_Examination/index.html

5. Important notes on application

- (1) Please contact the professor under whom you wish to study for a consultation relating to the compatibility between your research content area and that of the professor's before applying for the entrance exam.
- (2) Please refer to Admission Policy and prepare your application documents based on your own thoughts and own words.
- (3) As a general rule, if in the requisite documents have not been submitted, the application will not be accepted.
- (4) Applicants will not be allowed to change any information after submission.
- (5) The entrance examination fee and application documents will not be returned once accepted.
- (6) If there are false statements on the application documents, admission can be revoked even after enrolment has been confirmed.
- (7) Applicants need to inform us in advance by email if applying from outside of Japan.

6. Sending of the Examination Admission Ticket

After receiving confirmation of the complete submission of all application documents, we will send a copy of the Examination Admission Ticket and the details of the examination schedule by email.

A copy of the Examination Admission Ticket will be sent by e-mail at least one week before the examination date. Please print it out and bring it with you at the time of the examination. If you do not receive it within the stipulated time, please contact

tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp

V. Screening

1. Examination procedure

Screening submitted materials and taking oral examination. During oral examination, test examiners refer to submitted materials. Please bring a copy of the research proposal and master's dissertation / research thesis.

2. Examination date

Examination Date		
First round	September 21, 2025 ※Backup Date: September 28, 2025	The time will be informed when sending the examination admission ticket to each applicant.
Second round	February 8, 2026 ※Backup Date: February 15, 2026	

※ In case of schedule change because of natural disasters, it will be informed on the website below:
https://www.wakayama-u.ac.jp/tourism/en/Entrance_Examination/index.html

3. Test center

Building East 1, Wakayama University

4. Understanding when to take the examination

- (1) Reporting time will be announced via e-mail.
- (2) Please make sure you bring a copy of the Examination Admission Ticket with you on the day of examination. It will be sent by the Registration Office (Kankogakubukakari).
- (3) If an applicant does not arrive on time for the examination, he or she will be regarded as having withdrawn from taking the examination.
- (4) Please ensure that you arrive at least 30 minutes before the examination starts.
- (5) In addition, there may be other instructions regarding the examination.

VI. Admission Announcement

- (1) The application ID numbers of successful applicants will be posted on the notice board at the Building West 4.

Result Notification	
First round	October 17, 2025 9:00AM
Second round	March 6, 2026 9:00AM

- (2) The results will also be e-mailed to the applicants.

(3) The results will be uploaded on our website during the following period.

http://www.wakayama-u.ac.jp/tourism/en/Entrance_Examination/index.html

First round	From October 17, 2025, 12:00PM To October 22, 2025, 5:00PM
Second round	From March 6, 2026, 12:00PM To March 11, 2026, 5:00PM

(4) Any other queries on items that are not described above will not be addressed.

VII. Enrolment Process

Information regarding enrolment will be sent to successful applicants. Successful applicants should complete the enrolment process by the prescribed date.

1. Entrance / Commencement date: April, 2026

The first semester starts at the beginning of April and is completed by the end of September. The second semester starts at the beginning of October and is completed by the end of March.

2. Enrolment period: by March 15, 2026

International students may proceed with the admission procedure in the middle of February upon request because obtaining a student visa may take longer.

Further information regarding the procedure will be included in the offer letter.

If a successful applicant does not complete the procedure of the enrolment, then he/she is regarded to have withdrawn his/her enrolment.

3. Enrolment and tuition fees

(1) Enrolment fee: 282,000 JPY

(2) Tuition fee per semester: 267,900 JPY (annual total: 535,800 JPY)

Please be mindful that payment of the enrolment fee should be made before the enrolment process using the supplied transfer request form. Enrolment and tuition fees are subject to change without prior notice. Additional fees may apply.

4. Result disclosure of entrance examination information

Details of the number of total applicants, examinees who passed, and newly registered students will be listed on the University website.

◆ Contact

**Registration Office (Kankogakubu-kakari), Faculty of Tourism,
Wakayama University**

Address: 930 Sakaedani Wakayama City, Wakayama, Japan, 640-8510

TEL: +81-73-457-8542 **FAX:** +81-73-457-8540

E-mail: tgakumu@ml.wakayama-u.ac.jp

HP: <https://www.wakayama-u.ac.jp/tourism/en/>



Easy! Fast! Safe!

Flywire is a reliable international tuition payment service that is used by educational institutions around the world.

With Flywire, you can pay tuition fees in your local currency.

The payment methods available will differ for each country.

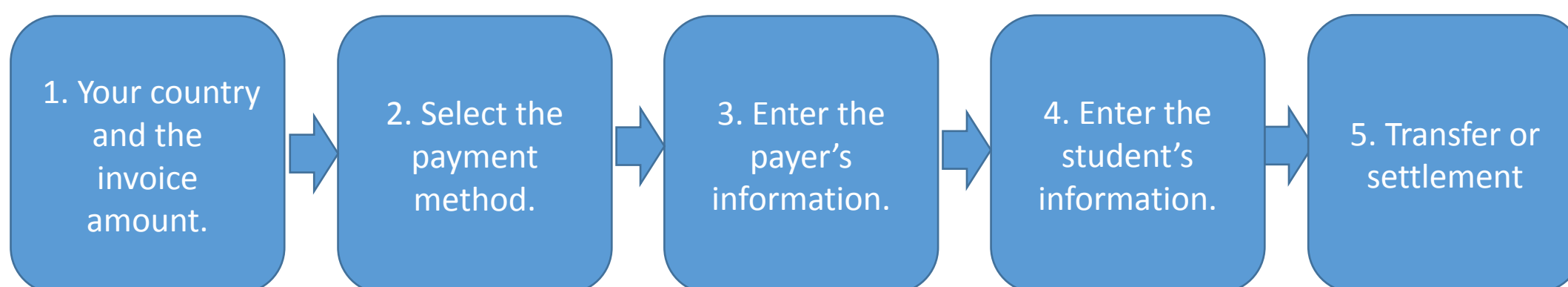
Wakayama University has partnered with Flywire to provide an easy and safe payment method.

Students and parents: Please start the payment procedure at the following website.

First, go to wakayama-pgtourapp.flywire.com or scan



QR code



Tell us about your payment

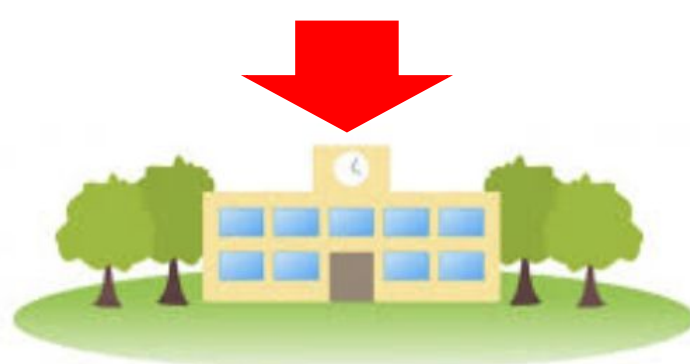
You pay from

Country (*)

Flywire University (JPY) receives

Amount (*)

0



Flywire will take responsibility to pay the tuition fee to the school in Japanese yen.

Benefits of paying through flywire

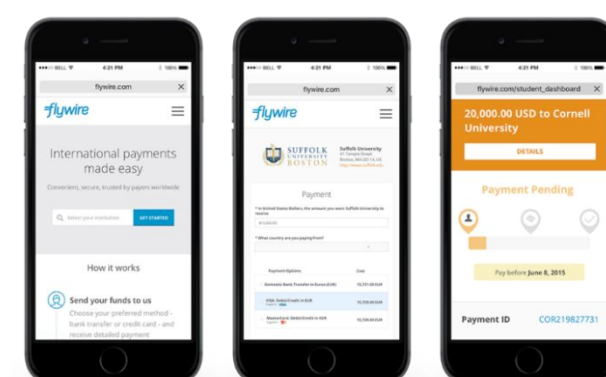
1) Multiple payment methods:

You can pay with local currency through your local bank, credit card, Online payment, etc.



2) Our customer support is open 24/7 via telephone, email and live chat.

3) You can track payments every step of the way via email and text alerts



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VIII. List of Supervisor: Professor Profiles

Prof. Name	Research Fields	Teaching Content
<p>ADACHI Motohiro</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese and English languages.</i></p>	<p>Urban Economy, Land Economy</p>	<p>The economic and social decline of city centers is more evident in Japan compared to European and other developed nations. Multidisciplinary and holistic analysis is necessary to tackle this 'city center' issue considering economics, tourism, sociology, politics, geography, civil engineering and urban planning. Research projects are regarding with city centers 'as a commercial space', 'as a tourist destination', 'as a sustainable urban space' with regard to economics and management perspectives.</p>
<p>CHAKRABORTY Abhik</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese and English languages.</i></p>	<p>Geography, Complex systems, Tourism studies, Ecotourism</p>	<p>I am happy to supervise research students from a variety of angles such as World Heritage management, National park management, natural area tourism, and ecotourism theory/praxis. Students can choose their research topics relatively freely, however, it is strongly advised that they select research problems that have clear academic significance. Students are also required to follow appropriate research methods; as a rule of thumb, qualitative and field-based methods will be prioritized owing to my own familiarity with these lines of inquiry. In addition, research students must show a degree of awareness of the complex interaction pathways between tourism/recreation and natural/social environments. In particular, destinations such as the World Natural Heritage sites, national parks and other types of protected areas contain rare and vulnerable landforms and biota; and the well-being of these elements must also be included while designing tourism or proposing solutions for those areas. My current research sites include several mountain destinations, World Heritage sites of Yakushima, Shiretoko Peninsula, Shirakami Sanchi, and Shirakawa Village—and I am happy to share insights from these case studies.</p>

<p>DOERING Adam</p> <p><i>Supervision available in English languages.</i></p>	<p>Critical Tourism Studies, Philosophy & Ethics, Lifestyle Sports (Surfing), Tourism & Environment</p>	<p>Supervision will generally be provided for studies relating to three overlapping research projects. Research students wishing to study tourism in Japan using English, but not listed in the details below are also welcome.</p> <p>Critical Tourism Studies: Philosophy & Ethics.</p> <p>This ongoing project is an expressive outlet for philosophical and ethics-related research within the field of tourism studies. Inspired by thinkers like Deleuze, Derrida, and Jean-Luc Nancy, amongst others, I have examined themes of freedom and belonging, creation and praxis, hospitality, relational ethics, socializing tourism and post-disciplinarity. The aim of this research project is to help inspire a new generation of tourism scholars to engage with tourism philosophically at a time increasingly characterized by various modes of neo-pragmatism.</p> <p>Lifestyle Sports: Surf Studies Japan.</p> <p>Apart from a few sporadic contributions little has been written about Japan's diverse surfing histories, cultures, destinations, and transnational networks. The broad aim of this research project is contribute to efforts to decolonize and decenter surfing and surf research in two ways. First is contextual, highlighting the importance of the culturally and site-specific character of how global surf cultures are being assembled within in the current Japanese context. Secondly, research aims to offer insight into the specific histories, gender relations, cultural politics, and transnational mobilities informing contemporary surfing and place-making in rural coastal Japan.</p> <p>Tourism-Environment Relations (Coastal Environments).</p> <p>This research area focuses on tourism-environment relations in coastal environments. Here we explore coastal tourism development, Japanese and global beach cultures, and ocean-based relations through the lens of lifestyle sports and tourism. In this context students research the history, politics, tourism development, and political ecology of coastal</p>
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		development in Japan. Current research is dedicated to examining the role of surfing and surf tourism in Fukushima Prefecture's post-disaster resurgence.
<p>HORITA Yumiko</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese and English languages.</i></p>	<p>Urban Planning, Urban Policy</p>	<p>I supervise a range of researches related to the relationship between people's everyday life and tourism, particularly focusing on the co-creation of the place for local people and visitors. I put weight on how people are spontaneously involved in making their place, how its involvements make place and relationship among people changed, and how tourism influences on there.</p> <p>Through critical literature review, PhD candidate learns fundamental theories and makes a theoretical framework of his/her empirical research to analyze various phenomena and process like tourism development in urban areas. The candidate can learn lessons and implications from case studies of urban regeneration and local revitalization activities in cities and towns in Japan and other countries. Each empirical research result should be published on academic journals. The candidate systematically integrates all findings from the researches into the doctoral thesis finally.</p> <p>The examples of prospective research theme are below; sustainable city and tourism development, townscape formation process and tourism development, urban tourism and urban planning.</p>
<p>KIGAWA Tsuyoshi</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese and English languages.</i></p>	<p>Urban Morphology, Theory of Tourism Films, Media Design in Tourism</p>	<p>We believe that cities are cultural products that have been formed over many years of human activity, and our laboratory aims to advance human understanding by studying them. Tourism can also be thought of as an action in which people leave their familiar space and experience the space of others. In order to understand them, a wide range of knowledge and methods research from cultural studies to spatial analysis is required, and these research guidance is fundamental. However, the content will be adapted to the students' research interests.</p> <p>Possible research topics include "Research on the transformation of castle towns by tourism since the modern era" and "Promotion methods by digital transformation using tourism images in the future".</p>

<p>KISHIGAMI Mitsuyoshi</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese language.</i></p>	<p>Urban-rural exchange, Agricultural Economics, Regional Economics</p>	<p>Focused on the regional development in farming, mountain and fishing villages through urban-rural exchange, research topics should be mainly circulation-type regional development as well as rural-urban interaction in local resources management that are guided by agriculture economics and regional economics perspectively.</p> <p>Research topics will include sustainable tourism and natural resources management, the state of rural tourism, the regional development in farming through farmers' market and farm stays, etc.</p>
<p>KITAMURA Motonari</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese language.</i></p>	<p>Graphic Design, Brand Design, Sign</p>	<p>Design is connected to tourism on multiple fronts. While tourism has many aspects, it also has a comprehensive connection to overall planning and design. The design for each setting must be attractive and appropriate, from specialty products and local products, specialty souvenirs, to advertising and publicity, the information uploaded on the Internet, the streets, and touristic facilities. Providing overall control of these is branding that is based on research and analysis of regional identity. Such branding makes design play an important role in tourism.</p> <p>Research topics may include 'Designing of regional identity', 'Universal Design in Tourism', 'Tourism and regional branding'.</p>
<p>NAGASE Setsuji</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese language.</i></p>	<p>City planning, Urban design, Conservation of historic environment</p>	<p>I supervise the researches on the planning techniques of sustainable urban space established in harmonious coexistence between the lives of local people and tourism, based on comprehensive understanding on the historical context of local areas as well as the present issues of local communities. The PhD candidates are also encouraged to acquire background knowledge about the developing process of the city planning system, practical approaches of urban design and community-based planning. Possible research topics may be in the areas of public space management based on public-private partnerships, regional revitalization through the practical process of conservation and utilization of cultural heritages, historical development of spatial planning techniques supporting tourism.</p>

<p>OURA Yumi</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese language.</i></p>	<p>Forest Economics, Regional Economics, Forest Policy</p>	<p>Focused on the changes of social demands and understanding to forest resources, research topics should be mainly concerned with nature-based tourism and regional revitalization as well as rural-urban interaction in local resources management that are guided by forest economics and regional economics perspectives.</p> <p>Research topics will include sustainable tourism and natural resources management, tourism and forest socialization, the social significance of volunteer tourism in local resources management, etc.</p>
<p>SANO Kaede</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese and English languages.</i></p>	<p>Tourism Marketing</p>	<p>Dr. Sano principally supervises content in the following areas: 1) how business companies and destination management organizations (DMOs) in the tourism industry attract customers through social media and use social media to enhance their (destination) reputation management and (destination) brand management in the era of Tourism 2.0; and 2) how smart tourism, a strategy for increasing a destination's competitive advantage, can be developed through value co-creation among different stakeholders.</p> <p>Suggested research topics include "The competitive advantages of social media marketing in Tourism 2.0" and "The development of smart tourism destinations through value co-creation."</p>
<p>TSUJIMOTO Katsuhisa</p> <p><i>Supervision available in Japanese language.</i></p>	<p>Transportation Economics, Traffic Engineering, Policy Planning</p>	<p>Tourism can only take place with tourism resources and tourists, and the transport that connects the two. Transport in this sense is one of the three essences of tourism. The research agenda for transport include diverse topics, including demand forecast and analysis on tourism-related transport, supply analysis including standard of transport fare and services, changes in policies and regulation in transport market (e.g., liberalization of airline market) and how these impact on tourism.</p> <p>Other agendas include infrastructure planning, evaluation and funding, policies for sustainable transport based on the environmental, social and economic impact assessment, transport policies and planning and coordination for tourism promotion in different sectors (e.g., rail, bus, road, flight, water transport). The partnership between local community, government, industry and transport operators to</p>

		maintain transport should also be considered. Familiarity with the connection between social demands and research trends in transport research will be the foundation for topics such as 'Partnership between private, government, community and academic sectors for the utilization of local railways', 'Development of high speed transport network and local tourism promotion strategy', 'Evaluation methodology for barrier-free transport in tourism destinations'.
YASHIMA Yuji <i>Supervision available in Japanese language.</i>	Management Accounting, Social Enterprises, Intermediates, Management Control, Destination Management	1. Research guidance: Tourism management from the viewpoint of management accounting. 2. Guidance process for leading the doctoral thesis: (1) Setting of research question, (2) Survey of previous research, (3) Selection of survey method and survey plan, (4) Implementation of survey, (5) Analysis and consideration of collected data 3. Assumed main research subject: Roles and Contributions of Managers in Tourism, Governance and management control in tourism management organization, Regional value re-engineering by DMO(Destination Management Organization) formation, Introduction of management accounting system to realize self-innovation.
YOSHIDA Michiyo <i>Supervision available in Japanese and English languages.</i>	Human Geography, Regional Research, Tourism Studies	My academic experiences and interests are in the field of social and political geography. My expertise in this field would be appropriate for supervising graduates who aspire to study tourism from a sociopolitical perspective. I will support students through the following process: 1) reviewing the literature and setting research questions, 2) selecting research methods and targets, 3) collecting and analyzing data, 4) contributing the paper to journals, and 5) completing and submitting the thesis.

<p>ZAINAL ABIDIN Husna</p> <p><i>Supervision available in English languages.</i></p>	<p>Tourism Management, Tourism & Technology, Service Design in Tourism and Hospitality</p>	<p>Dr Husna Zainal Abidin primarily supervises research around the topics of tourism and technology. Some key research areas include, 1) exploring how digital technologies influence tourism management and tourist behavior for sustainable tourism development, 2) exploring how service design can be integrated to develop meaningful tourism experiences, and a recently developed research area of 3) exploring the development of Muslim-friendly destinations.</p> <p>Dr Husna Zainal Abidin will support students' research journey by facilitating the development of key research skills. This includes fostering critical thinking skills, nurturing resourcefulness, and providing guidance in the development of high-quality academic publications.</p>
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