



TOHOKU
UNIVERSITY

**“Human Security and Environment” Program
The Graduate School of Environmental Studies
Tohoku University**

— Guidance for the Entrance Examination on October 2022 —



Application period: December 20, 2021 - January 28, 2022

Examination date: February 11 - 25, 2022

November 2021

Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University

“Human Security and Environment”

———— Guidance for Entrance Examination ————

I. Aim

While human activities have achieved a high degree of social and economic development, at the same time they have altered the global environment and are creating new challenges that cannot be completely solved without interdisciplinary and integrated perspectives from both social and natural sciences. Tohoku University established the “International Joint Educational Program in Human Security” from April 2005 to March 2019. This involved the cooperation of the Graduate School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies and the Graduate School of Environmental Studies. Our institute, the Graduate School of Environmental Studies, took part in this program to educate students from environmental perspectives.

Even though the original Human Security program was terminated in March 2019, the importance of this educational concept has not been extinguished. The Graduate School of Environmental Studies thus built on this predecessor by launching the “Human Security and Environment” program. This aims to give future students in this graduate school the opportunity to take lectures of multiple subjects provided by the International Joint Graduate Program in Resilience and Safety Studies (GP-RSS), which inherited the curriculum style of the Human Security. Like the previous Human Security program, GP-RSS involves collaboration across several graduate schools: the Graduate School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, the Graduate School of Engineering, the Graduate School of International Cultural Studies, and the Graduate School of Environmental Studies.

All students entering the Graduate School of Environmental Studies through the entrance examination procedure of the “Human Security and Environment” program will acquire leadership in the field of human security and gain skills to address multiple global and anthropogenic issues.

II. Curriculum and degree

A. Curriculum

Students applying for the “Human Security and Environment” program through this examination procedure need to belong to either of the departments indicated below:

- Department of Environmental Studies for Advanced Society
- Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment; Eco-materials and Processing
- Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment; Applied Environmental Chemistry
- Department of Frontier Sciences for Advanced Environment; Cultural Environmental Studies

The applicant must indicate the name of department and a possible supervisor in the

application form. Also, students need to complete the requirements of each department, in addition to some lectures provided by GP-RSS.

Master's Course (two-year course):

Interdisciplinary subjects:

Environmental Resilience and Energy Security (Environment)

Energy and Resource Resilience Strategies (Environment)

Transdisciplinary subjects:

Human Security and Global Health (Medicine)

Health and Social Resilience for Large-Scale Disasters (Medicine)

International Development Studies (Agriculture)

Food Economics (Agriculture)

Global Governance and Safety (Culture)

Environmental Resilience and Sustainability (Culture)

Hydro-Environmental Studies (Engineering)

Theory of Disaster Prevention Systems (Engineering)

Doctoral Course (three-year course):

Interdisciplinary development subjects:

Advanced Lecture on Environmental Resilience and Energy Security (Environment)

Advanced Lecture on Energy and Resource Resilience Strategies (Environment)

Transdisciplinary development subjects:

Advanced Lecture on Human Security and Global Health (Medicine),

Advanced Lecture on Health and Social Resilience for Large-Scale Disasters (Medicine)

Advanced Lecture on International Development Studies (Agriculture)

Advanced Lecture on Food Economics (Agriculture)

Advanced Lecture on Global Governance and Safety (Culture)

Advanced Lecture on Environmental Resilience and Sustainability (Culture)

Advanced Lecture on Hydro-Environmental Studies (Engineering)

Advanced Lecture on Theory of Disaster Prevention Systems (Engineering)

B. Degree

Students must acquire the following credits at least to be awarded a degree.

Master's Course (two-year course):

1. Credits required by each department
2. One interdisciplinary subject provided by the Graduate School of Environmental Studies in GP-RSS and two transdisciplinary subjects provided by the other departments (in total three subjects or more)

Doctoral Course (three-year course): at least 16 credits, including the followings:

1. Credits required in each department
2. Two transdisciplinary development subjects provided by GP-RSS. These subjects must be different from those taken in the master's course.

Master's degrees will be conferred with the title of "Master of Interdisciplinary Studies" or

“Master of Environmental Studies”. Doctoral degrees will be conferred with the titles “Doctor of Philosophy (Interdisciplinary Studies)” or “Doctor of Philosophy (Environmental Studies)”.

III. Admission

1. Application procedure

A. Conditions for application

1) Applicants for the Master's Course must be living outside Japan at the time of application and satisfy one of the following conditions:

- (1) Have graduated from a university of Japan.
- (2) Have acquired a Bachelor degree from a higher education institution approved as a National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education of Japan.
- (3) Completed or expect to complete 16 years of education in a foreign education institution by September 2022.
- (4) Have completed 16 years of foreign education in Japan through a correspondent course of a foreign university or school while residing in Japan.
- (5) Have completed 16 years of a foreign education at an educational institution located in Japan.
 - ※ The educational institution shall be one that has been approved by the educational system of that country and designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.
- (6) Be conferred or expect to be conferred a degree equivalent to a bachelor's degree upon completion of a curriculum that has a course term of three years or longer at a university or other school (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 of Education) in a foreign country (including cases in which the student completed the curriculum by taking subjects conducted via distance learning while the student resided in Japan, and cases in which the student has completed a curriculum at an educational facility that is positioned within that country's educational system as per the previous item) by September 2022.
- (7) Have graduated from a specialized course of a professional school designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan, on or after the date fixed by the Minister, or be expecting to graduate.
 - ※ A specialized course shall be more than 4 years and meet other criteria stipulated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.
- (8) Have been designated as eligible by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.
- (9) Have entered a graduate school of another university according to Clause 2 of Article 102 of the School Education Law, and be deemed by the graduate school of Tohoku University to have a sufficient eligibility to study at that graduate school.
- (10) Be 22 years of age or older by the end of September 2022 and, through individual entrance qualification screening, be deemed by the Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University to have achieved an academic standard equivalent to or more than those who have graduated from a university.

*1 Applicants need to consult with a possible supervisor about the intended area of research prior to the application.

*2 Applicants corresponding to (6) need to contact with the administration office by December 10, 2021 to check eligibility.

*3. Applicants corresponding to (9) and (10) need to submit documents for application qualification to the administration office by December 10, 2021. The document format is provided by the administration office.

2) Applicants for the Doctoral Course of the program must be living outside Japan at the time of application and satisfy one of the following conditions:

- (1) Have acquired a Master or Professional degree.
- (2) Have acquired a degree on par with a Master or Professional degree abroad, or expect to acquire one, by September 2022.
- (3) Have acquired a Master or Professional degree abroad through a correspondent course while residing in Japan.
- (4) Have acquired a Master or Professional degree at educational institution located in Japan that is designated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.
- (5) Have completed a course of the United Nations University, and have acquired or expect to acquire the degree equivalent to a Master degree by September 2022.
- (6) Have completed a course at an educational institution which runs courses from a foreign school or graduate school, or completed that of United Nation University, and be admitted to have achieved an academic standard equivalent to or more than those who possess a Master degree by passing the exam and eligibility screening in accordance with Clause 2 of Article 16 of the Graduate School Establishment Standards.
- (7) Be designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan as follows;
 - i. Engaged in research activities in universities or research institutes for more than 2-years after graduation, with an academic ability deemed by the eligibility screening of the Tohoku University to be equivalent to those who obtained a Master or Professional degree.
 - ii. Engaged in research activities in universities or research institutes for more than 2-years after completing a formal 16-year school education abroad or 16-year of foreign education in Japan through a correspondent course of a foreign university or school while residing in Japan, with an academic ability deemed by the eligibility screening of the Tohoku University to be equivalent to those who obtained a Master's or Professional degree.
- (8) Be 24 years of age or older by the end of September 2022 and, through individual entrance qualification screening, be deemed by the Graduate school of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University to have achieved an academic standard equivalent to or more than those who obtained a Master or Professional degree.

*1 Applicants need to consult with a possible supervisor about the research plan in this program prior to the application.

*2 Applicants corresponding to (7) need to contact with the possible supervisor by December 10, 2021 to check eligibility.

*3 Applicants corresponding to (8) need to contact with the administration office by December 10, 2021 to check eligibility.

B. Documents required for application

It is desirable that all university certifications and transcripts are issued in English. If not, they should be attached by an English or Japanese translation officially verified by the institute that the certification issued. If it is difficult to submit an officially verified translation, please consult with the administration office prior to the application.

- We cannot return any documents you submitted.

- We cannot accept any copies, digital files, or printouts from digital files of the certification.

< Two-year Master's Course >

1. An application form and curriculum vitae (using the prescribed format)
2. An official grade transcript issued by the applicant's home university
3. An official graduate certification issued by the applicant's home university
4. A certificate of the applicant's Bachelor degree issued by the applicant's home university
5. A formal certificate of TOEFL test/ TOEIC test score
 - Valid official tests: TOEFL-iBT, TOEFL-PBT, TOEIC (Listening & Reading Test)
 - It is necessary to submit the certificate by 10:00 AM (Japan time) of 28 January 2022. We cannot accept certificates of TOEFL/ TOEIC test scores obtained before 2019.
 - We only accept *TOEFL iBT*[®] scores from a single test date, not *MyBest*[™] scores.
 - We cannot return the certificate of the TOEFL/ TOEIC score. However we will return the Examinee Score Report if requested.
6. A research proposal
7. A letter of reference
 - This should be written by an academic advisor who can evaluate the applicant's research ability through previously conducted academic activities (there are no specific format requirements for this letter).
8. Examination fee of 30,000 Japanese yen

< Three-year Doctoral Course >

1. An application form and curriculum vitae (using the prescribed format)
2. An official grade transcript issued by the applicant's home university
3. An official graduate certification issued by the applicant's home university
4. A certificate of the applicant's Master's degree issued by the applicant's home university
5. A formal certificate of TOEFL test/ TOEIC test score
 - Valid official tests: TOEFL-iBT, TOEFL-PBT, TOEIC (Listening & Reading Test)
 - It is necessary to submit the certificate by 10:00 AM (Japan time) of 28 January 2022. We cannot accept certificates of TOEFL/ TOEIC test scores obtained before 2019.
 - We only accept *TOEFL iBT*[®] scores from a single test date, not *MyBest*[™] scores.
 - We cannot return the certificate of the TOEFL/ TOEIC score. However we will return the Examinee Score Report if requested.
6. A research proposal
7. A letter of reference
 - This should be written by an academic advisor who can evaluate the applicant's research ability through previously conducted academic activities (there are no specific format requirements for this letter).
8. Examination fee 30,000 Japanese yen
9. Thesis or essays published by the applicant
10. Examination fee of 30,000 Japanese yen

The application documents should be sent by registered mail to the following address with "Human Security and Environment Application Documents" written in red on the envelope:

Academic Affairs
 Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University
 Aoba 468-1, Aramaki Aoba-Ku, Sendai, Miyagi 980-8572 Japan

※ TOEFL, TOEFL iBT, TOEFL ITP and TOEIC are registered trademarks of Educational Testing Service (ETS).

2. Entrance Examination

1) The number of students to be admitted:

Quotas for the Master's course and Doctoral course are highly limited. The entrance date will be in October.

2) Application period: Entrance Examination for October 2022.

Applications for the **Master's course** and **Doctoral course** will be accepted **from December 20, 2021 to January 28, 2022**. In the event that posted applications arrive after the deadline they will not be accepted.

3) Examination date and details

The oral entrance examination (i.e. the interview) will take place remotely (via Skype etc.) during the period February 11 to 25, 2022. Precise dates and details of this exam will be informed by the applicant's requested supervisor.

Note: It is necessary for applicants to communicate with prospective supervisors before submitting application documents.

3. Screening

Successful applicants will be decided in accord with the tallied scores from the oral examination (i.e. the interview), language ability and submitted documents. During the interview, applicants must make a 20-minute presentation of their previous and intended research. This will then be followed by 40-minutes of Q&A in order to gauge the research ability of applicants.

IV. Selection and Announcement of Results

Results of the entrance examination will be posted on the website (www.kankyo.tohoku.ac.jp) of the Graduate School of Environmental Studies at approximately 17:00 (Japan time) on March 11, 2022. The acceptance letter will also be mailed to successful applicants two days after the online announcement. Please note that we do not accept any phone calls or e-mails for inquiries regarding results.

V. Fee

1) Entrance Fee and Tuition Fee (in 2022)

Entrance fee	282,000 Japanese yen
Tuition fees	535,800 Japanese yen per year (267,900 for each 1 st and 2 nd semester)
Others	Fees for student insurance and texts

2) Exemption and postponement of the entrance fee and tuition fee

Students facing financial difficulties or suffering from illness, an accident or special circumstances may apply for exemption or postponement of the entrance fee and tuition fee. Students applying for these waivers must submit the prescribed application forms during the period of acceptance. Please ask the administration office about the details of this scheme.

VI. Administration Office

The Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University

Address: Aoba 468-1, Aramaki Aoba-Ku, Sendai, Miyagi 980-8572 Japan

E-mail: kankyo.kyomu@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

Please refer to the following websites for further information about this program.

- www.kankyo.tohoku.ac.jp
- www2.kankyo.tohoku.ac.jp/human-security

2022

“Human Security and Environment”
Graduate School of Environmental Studies, Tohoku University
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Please type or neatly print in English
Please Use CAPITAL LETTERS

Examinee's seat number (for official use)					Photograph 4×3cm (1.6"×1.2") Write your LAST name on the back side
<input type="checkbox"/> Master's course	<input type="checkbox"/> Admission for October/2022				
<input type="checkbox"/> Doctoral course					
Name in English					
In Chinese Characters (if applicable)					
Date of Birth	Year	Month	Day	Nationality	
Gender		<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female			
Present Status (with 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 _____				
Expected Laboratory					
Expected Supervisor					

2022

“Human Security and Environment”

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RECOMMENDATION LETTER(to be filled out **by a faculty member** familiar with applicant's aptitude)

Name of applicant	Family name	First name	Middle name

I. How long and how well have you known the applicant and in what capacity?

II. Please evaluate the applicant's previous accomplishments, intellectual independence, capacity for analytical thinking, and state reasons for you're supporting this application. (Please do not hesitate, if necessary, to use a separate sheet).

Faculty Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Affiliation: _____

Contact information (E-mail/ Telephone)

* This is only used for the applicants living in Japan.

2022

**“Human Security and Environment”
ADMISSION TICKET TO EXAMINATION**

Examinee’s seat number (for official use)	
Name	

* This is only used for the applicants living in Japan.

2022

“Human Security and Environment”

PHOTO ID

Photograph 4cm×3cm Write your LAST name on the back side .
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Examinee’s seat number (for official use)	
Name	