

AY 2027

Application Guidelines
for the Doctoral Program

General Entrance Examination
Admission Examination for Adults
Admission Examination for International
Students

International Media-Communication/Tourism Creation Major

Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies (IMCTS)

Hokkaido University

● Objectives

Our doctoral program aims to make our students acquire the following abilities:

- Ability to consider and investigate effective ways of public relations, organization construction, and linguistic communication in this highly information-oriented society
- Ability to construct methods of contributing to creation of local communities in the context of active mobility of humans and cultures
- Ability to discover and manage the values of local resources, and create ways to make them public and realized in a global scale

● Admissions Policy

This doctoral program is open to students who are enthusiastic about developing their knowledge and intellect regarding media-communication and tourism for the purpose of helping to solve challenges of contemporary society in which the advancement of information technologies is in progress and intercultural interactions have become everyday events with the increasing movements of people. Diverse students, including adults and international students, are actively accepted. This doctoral program is specifically open to the following students.

- Students who have the focused intention of autonomously conducting research on the basis of advanced technical knowledge about tourism and media-communication. Thus, the students must be able to accurately analyze actual issues that beset the contemporary world toward developing cutting-edge models that will help to solve these issues.
- Students who are eager to engage in the development of networks and organizations that are useful for encouraging diverse actors from the academic, business, governmental, and private sectors to collaborate with each other. Thus, the students must be able to creatively conceptualize

systems for facilitating external and internal communication and exchanges for the purpose of helping local people to live with pride in, and attachment to, their communities.

Students, with the above intentions, are expected to have acquired the knowledge/skills, thinking/judging/expressing abilities, and the attitude to learn in collaboration with various people to conduct research activities, through daily studies, work and social life.

[Basic policy for student selection]

<Doctoral Program>

Oral examinations based on submitted research plans and master's thesis comprehensively evaluate communication skills, knowledge, thinking skills, expressive skills, and attitudes towards cooperating with diverse people, which are necessary to examine highly specialized research topics and to present results of studies.

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I. Examinations for General Admission, Admission for Adults, and Admission for International Students

1. Number of Students to be Admitted

Major	Number of Students to be Admitted
International Media-Communication/Tourism Creation Major	12

Note: The number includes adult and international students.

2. Eligibility for Application

General admission	<u>The applicant satisfies any of the eligibility requirements (1) ~ (8) below.</u>
Admission for adults	<u>The applicant satisfies any of the eligibility requirements (1) ~ (8) below, plus either (a) or (b) described below.</u> (a) The applicant is currently serving in public office or is working for a company, an association or a school and aims to complete the doctoral program during his/her tenure of office. (b) The applicant has at least 2 years of work experience or will have earned a degree at least 3 years before the time of enrollment.
Admission for international students	<u>The applicant does not possess Japanese citizenship but does satisfy any of the eligibility requirements (1) ~ (8) below.</u>

- (1) The applicant has completed, or is expected to have completed by March 31, 2027, a Master's or Professional degree.
- (2) The applicant has completed, or is expected to have completed by March 31, 2027, a degree equivalent to a Master's or a Professional degree at a university in a country other than Japan.
- (3) The applicant has completed, or is expected to have completed by March 31, 2027 a degree equivalent to a Master's or a Professional degree after finishing a correspondence program provided by a school in a country other than Japan while residing in Japan.
- (4) The applicant has completed, or is expected to have completed, a graduate program of an educational institution in Japan that has been certified by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology and which provides courses for a foreign graduate school within the school education system of that foreign country, and the applicant consequently has been or is expected to be conferred with a degree equivalent to a Master's or a Professional degree by March 31, 2027.
- (5) The applicant has completed or is expected to have completed a program at the United Nations University that was established in accordance with the United Nations General Assembly resolution of December 11, 1972, as set forth in Paragraph 2, Article 1 of 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" (Act No. 72 of 1976), and the applicant has been conferred or is expected to be conferred with a degree equivalent to that of a Master's degree by March 31, 2027.
- (6) The applicant has followed a curriculum at a school abroad, an educational institution specified in eligibility item (4) above, or the United Nations University, has passed examinations and screening equivalent to those specified in Article 16 of the Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools, and has been recognized as having academic ability at least equivalent to those who have a Master's degree, or the applicant is expected to be recognized as such by March 31, 2027.
- (7) The applicant falls under either of the categories 1) and 2) below that were specified by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in ministerial notification

No.55 of 2001. (*1), *2))

- *1) The applicant has graduated from a university, has engaged in research at a university, a research institute or other institution for at least 2 years, and has been recognized by the Graduate School of IMCTS as having academic ability at least equivalent to those who have a Master's degree in light of the results of said research.
 - *2) The applicant has completed at least 16 years of school education overseas or has completed at least 16 years of a correspondence program provided by a school in a country other than Japan while residing in Japan, has engaged in research at a university, a research institute or other institution for at least 2 years, and has been recognized by the Graduate School of IMCTS as having academic ability at least equivalent to those who have a Master's degree in light of the results of said research.
- (8) The applicant has been recognized by the Graduate School of IMCTS as having academic ability at least equivalent to those who have a Master's or Professional degree on the basis of an individual admission qualification screening, and the applicant will have reached the age of twenty-four (24) by March 31, 2027.

• **Special Educational Methods Pursuant to Article 14 of the Standards for the Establishment of Graduate Schools**

The Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies has a system that provides “Special Educational Methods Pursuant to Article 14 of the Standards for the Establishment of Graduate Schools” to students who have a job or who need a special educational method. By taking advantage of this system, students can learn flexibly with the approval of and under the supervision of a doctoral supervisor on the basis of the curriculum specified in the rules and regulations of the Graduate School of IMCTS.

Cf. The Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools (Education Ministry Ordinance No. 28 of 1974)

Article 14 (Excerpt)

When a special need is acknowledged from an educational viewpoint in a graduate program, education may be provided by appropriate means, for example by giving classes and research guidance during evening hours, at other specific hours, or at a certain time of year.

3. Need for Preliminary Review of Applicant Eligibility

Applicants who fall under categories (3), (4), (6), (7), or (8) in “**2. Eligibility for Application**” above are subject to a preliminary review of their eligibility prior to a period during which application forms are accepted.

*The registration website (English version) does not support the preliminary review.

<Document submission period - preliminary review>

Thursday, November 5, 2026 from 10:00 through Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 17:00/5 p.m.

(Application documents, etc., sent either by post or submitted in person, must arrive no later than 17:00/5 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2026.)

Applicants who are subject to a preliminary review shall not make payment of the examination fee until they are notified of the preliminary review results. A notice of preliminary review results will be sent by email to each applicant concerned. Applicants that

qualify for the entrance examination shall apply for the Graduate School of IMCTS, following the instructions in “4. Application Procedure, etc.” Applications will not be accepted from applicants who fail to make payment of the examination fee within the specified period of time.

4. Application Procedure, etc.

Applicants who apply for the Graduate School of IMCTS must follow all the steps ① through ③ within the specified period. Applications will be rejected if the applicants fail to complete all of the steps within the specified period of time.

①Registration for online application

URL: <https://e-apply.jp/n/hokudai-imc-eng>

②Payment of examination fee

After the applicants register for the online application for the Graduate School of IMCTS, they are required to pay an examination fee (30,000 yen) and a transaction fee (500 yen). Postal and bank payments are not permitted. Applicants are required to pay the fees using one of the approved methods listed below. Reconfirm the payment details on the online application site.

- credit card
- internet banking
- convenience stores
- bank ATMs with Pay-easy transaction services
- UnionPay Online Payment

* Applicants who are expected to complete a Master’s or Professional Degree Program at the Graduate School of IMCTS (or at another Graduate School of Hokkaido University) and government- or university-sponsored international students are exempt from the examination fee. After registering for the online application on the website, those students should skip the second step (② Payment of examination fee) and complete the online registration procedure. The applicant is expected to notify the Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, IMCTS, by email at nyuushi@imc.hokudai.ac.jp upon completion of the online application registration. The email must include the applicant’s name, academic affiliation, and student ID number.

[Refund of examination fees]

Examination fees will only be refunded as set forth in the following cases: ① An applicant paid the examination fee, but the applicant did not apply for the Graduate School of IMCTS. This usually means the applicant did not submit the application documents or the application was rejected. ② The applicant mistakenly paid the examination fee more than once.

* Even if the examination fees are paid, applications will not be accepted from applicants who fail to submit the application documents within the specified period of time.

Address inquiries regarding the refund of examination fees to:

Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies (IMCTS), Hokkaido University
email: nyuushi@imc.hokudai.ac.jp

③Submission of application documents

After the applicants pay the examination fees, they are required to download PDF files of the application form, resume, and examination admission card. Complete these files, combine them with “8. Application Documents, etc.” into one PDF file, and email it to the Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, IMCTS, at the following address: nyuushi@imc.hokudai.ac.jp within the period specified in “(1) Period for online registration ...”.

* Applicants will not be permitted to download application forms or other documents until they pay the examination fees.

* Applications will be rejected if the applicants fail to email the application documents PDF file within the specified period of time.

* When submitting the PDF file of your application documents, please use a scanner or similar device to convert the original copies of the following documents into PDF files: the Certificate of Graduation (or Expected Graduation), Academic Transcript, document certifying foreign nationality, and a copy of the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) score report (for the Admission Examination for International Students only).

After these documents have been emailed, print them in color. Submit them with “8. Application Documents, etc.” within the period specified in “(2) Period for accepting application forms” to “(3) Where to submit application documents” either by post or in person.

(1) Period for online registration, PDF file submission by email, and examination fee payment.

Thursday, December 17, 2026 from 10:00 to Wednesday, December 23, 2026 at 17:00/5 p.m.

(2) Period for accepting application forms

From Friday, December 18, 2026 through Tuesday, January 5, 2027

* Applicants who submit the forms in person must arrive at the counter of the Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, IMCTS, before 17:00/5 p. m. Delivery by post must be received at the office no later than Tuesday, January 5, 2027.

* Applications are accepted from 8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.. and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

(3) Where to submit application documents

Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies (IMCTS), Hokkaido University

Kita 17-Jo Nishi 8-chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0817 Japan (TEL 011-706-5116)

Note: When sending application documents by post, be sure to write “Application for admission to the doctoral program” in red on the front of the envelope. Send these documents by registered mail or other types of mail that use a tracking system.

5. Selection Process and Examination Schedule

General entrance examination, admission examination for adults, and admission examination for international students

Applicants will be selected on the basis of the following: submitted documents, including their academic transcript; Master’s thesis or equivalent research achievements (or performance report in the case of applicants for admission for adults (submission can be on a voluntary basis)); research plan; and oral examination.

Examination date: **Monday, February 15, 2027**

Examination site: Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies, Hokkaido University
Kita 17-Jo Nishi 8 -chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0817 Japan

Examination content: The oral examination will be based on the Master's thesis (or equivalent research achievement) and the research plan of the applicant.

The oral examination will be given in Japanese, in principle. When deemed necessary for the applicant's research, the applicant's competence in another language(s) might be tested.

In the admission examination for adults, the applicant's professional expertise related to the applicant's career might be tested.

6. Announcement of Successful Applicants

For every successful applicant, the examinee's number will be posted on IMCTS's website on the date shown below. All applicants will be informed of their examination results in writing. (Telephone and e-mail inquiries will not be accepted.)

Date for the announcement of successful applicants:

approx. 16:00 (tentatively scheduled), Wednesday, February 24, 2027

7. Admission Procedures

Documents necessary for admission procedures will be sent to successful applicants at the time of the announcement of acceptance. The period for admission procedures is currently scheduled to Mid- March, 2027.

8. Application Documents, etc.

The application documents necessary are listed in the chart below.

All application documents shall be written in Japanese or English.

Note: Use of ink that disappears after being rubbed by a rubber eraser (such as the ink of FriXion erasable pens) is not allowed. Be sure to use a permanent ballpoint pen to fill out the forms.

When the original certificates are written in a language other than Japanese or English, then a Japanese or English translation of these certificates shall be certified by a public agency of the applicant's home country and shall be attached to the certificates concerned.

Note: A "public agency" means an embassy or other government agency, or a university or other educational institution.

Application Documents, etc.	Additional Information
1. Application form, resume, examination admission card	Download the PDF file of the application form from the online application website, print it in color on A4-size paper and submit it as instructed.
2. A photo for the application form (1MB ≤ file size ≤ 3MB)	Use a frontal, upper-body, hatless photo taken within three months of the application submission. Upload the photo file to the online application website. (No need to mail)
3. Certificate of (expected) completion	Submit a certificate of completion or expected completion issued by the president or a dean of the university at which

	the applicant has completed or will complete a graduate program. Submission of a certificate of (expected) completion is not required of applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a graduate program at the Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies or the Graduate School of International Media and Communication of Hokkaido University. ◎Applicants from China (except Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao) must submit the following document(s) as well. • those who have completed a graduate program: a. Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (教育部学历证书电子注册备案表) b. master's degree certificate 【original copy】 * If not available, submit the original copy of 学位证书 • those who will complete a graduate program: a. Online Verification Report of Student Record (教育部学籍在线验证报告) Among above, you can obtain document (a) through the Chinese Education Certificate System (中国高等教育学历证书查询https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp). Note also that the Web certificates you obtained must be valid more than 30 days after the date of your application.
4. Academic transcript	Submit a academic transcript issued by the president or a dean of the university at which the applicant has completed or will complete a graduate program. Submission of a certificate of (expected) completion is not required of applicants who have completed or are expected to complete a graduate program at the Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies or the Graduate School of International Media and Communication of Hokkaido University.
5. A copy of the Master's thesis or a document equivalent to the Master's thesis	Each applicant is allowed to submit up to two published research articles in addition to the Master's thesis (or an alternative to the Master's thesis). One copy of each shall be submitted. Make copies (both sides) on A4-size or letter-size paper. Clip the sheets of paper together. Applicants who have more than two research articles shall attach a list of these articles.
6. Abstract of the Master's thesis (or an alternative to the Master's thesis)	Condense the Master's thesis (or an alternative to the Master's thesis) in Japanese or English on about two pages of A4-size or letter-size paper. Note: The abstract shall be printed single-sided.
7. Research plan	Use the applicant's research topic as the title. Summarize the background, aim, content, features and expected outcome of the research, relationships with previous research activities, preparations for the research, etc. in Japanese (5,000-8000 characters) or in English (2,200-3,500 words), which should be accompanied by references. The entire research plan must not exceed 5 pages of A4-size or 8.5 x 11 letter-size paper. References should not be included in the character or the word count, but should be included in the page count. The applicant must indicate the character or word count in the

	research plan, excluding the title and references, just before the references. Failure to comply with the character/word or page limit or to specify character/word count of the research plan may disqualify the applicant. Note 1: The converted PDF file must retain text data. Note 2: The research plan must be printed single-sided (two-sided and two-column formatting are not allowed) and held with a paper clip. Do not staple. Note 3: The applicant is required to seek advice from the prospective supervisor before submitting the research plan. Note 4: The use of ChatGPT or other generative AI is not allowed. Any improper use will result in disqualification.
8. Performance report Note: <u>Applicable only to those who will take an admission examination for adults;</u> Submission on a voluntary basis	Applicants who have a job or work experience can submit a performance report in any format that shows the achievements or other results of their work or other activities. Performance reports shall be condensed into up to two pages in Japanese on A4-size or letter-size paper. Note: The report shall be printed single-sided, and held with a paper clip.
9. Document for proving foreign citizenship Note: <u>Applicable only to those who will take an admission examination for international students</u>	Submit a copy of the applicant's passport or the residence card. In the case that the applicant is staying in Japan, a copy of the page showing the status and duration of the applicant's residence is also necessary.
10. Copy of the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test score sheet Note: <u>Applicable only to those who will take an admission examination for international students;</u> Submission on a voluntary basis	Applicants who have taken the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test jointly organized by the Japan Foundation and Japan Educational Exchanges and Services may choose to submit their test scores.

Notes

1. Be sure to ask for advice from the applicant's prospective supervisor before creating a research plan.
2. Write the name of the applicant's prospective supervisor in the specified space on the application form after gaining the consent of the supervisor.
Applications submitted without obtaining prior approval from the applicant's prospective supervisor will not be accepted.
3. Refer to "IX. List of Supervisors" and the following website for the names of faculty members and their research.
https://www.imc.hokudai.ac.jp/english/academics/faculty_profiles/

9. Documents for Submission by Applicants Who Need Preliminary Review of Applicant Eligibility

Applicants who fall under categories (3), (4), (6), (7), or (8) in "2. Eligibility for Application"

above shall submit the documents described below in addition to the documents specified in “8. Application Documents, etc.” Submit all of the following documents within the application period as instructed in “3. Need for Preliminary Review of Applicant Eligibility.”

Applicant Eligibility	Documents for Submission
(3)	○ Application form for preliminary review of applicant eligibility ○ Certificate of degree conferral ○ Letter of recommendation by the applicant’s supervisor at the most recent school in the applicant’s educational background (in any format)
(4)	○ Application form for preliminary review of applicant eligibility ○ Certificate of degree conferral ○ Letter of recommendation by the applicant’s supervisor at the most recent school in the applicant’s educational background (in any format)
(6)	○ Application form for preliminary review of applicant eligibility ○ Letter of recommendation by the applicant’s supervisor at the most recent school in the applicant’s educational background (in any format)
(7)	○ Application form for preliminary review of applicant eligibility ○ List of research results, and copies of major research papers (in any format) ○ Certificate certifying the research history of the applicant in terms of research subjects and of research institutes that was issued by the applicant’s direct supervisor at the research institute to which the applicant belongs or belonged (in any format) ○ Certificate of graduation
(8)	○ Application form for preliminary review of applicant eligibility ○ List of research results, and copies of major research papers (in any format) ○ Certificate certifying the research history of the applicant in terms of research subjects and of research institutes that was issued by the applicant’s direct supervisor at the research institute to which the applicant belongs or belonged (in any format) ○ Certificate of graduation from the most recent school in the applicant’s educational background ○ Academic transcript issued by the most recent school in the applicant’s educational background

II. Admission Fee and Tuition

- (1) Admission fee: 282,000 yen
- (2) Tuition: 535,800 yen (estimated amount): Half of this amount shall be paid in the first semester and the balance in the second semester

Notes: 1) When the tuition and fees are revised at or after the student's admission to the Graduate School of IMCTS, revised tuition and fees shall be applied from then on.

- 2) Failure to pay the admission fee within the designated period of admission procedures shall be deemed as admission cancellation.
- 3) The tuition shall be paid in each semester.

III. Important Reminder

- (1) The examination admission card will be sent by email on Tuesday, January 19, 2027. The applicant must print this card and bring it on the day of the examination.
- (2) When it is found that the submitted documents contain false statements, the admission may be cancelled.
- (3) Those applicants who are planning to apply for long-term course enrollment are advised to send their inquiries to Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, IMCTS, at nyuushi@imc.hokudai.ac.jp.

IV. Other

Applicants who need special consideration due to an illness, injury, or disability in taking the entrance examination and the doctoral course shall inform the Graduate School of IMCTS of that need before applying for admission so that the Graduate School will be able to consider necessary support. (Contact: Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, IMCTS (E-mail: nyuushi@imc.hokudai.ac.jp))

<Inquiries about application for admission and entrance examination>

Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies (IMCTS), Hokkaido University

Kita 17-Jo Nishi 8-chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0817 Japan

E-mail: nyuushi@imc.hokudai.ac.jp

Note: Inquiries shall be made by the applicant him/herself, except in the event of uncontrollable circumstances. Please note that inquiries will only be accepted via email.

V. Scholarship Program of the Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies

The Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies has a scholarship program for applicants who have been accepted to the doctoral program. Applicants who have achieved outstanding results in the entrance examination and have made a commitment to enroll will receive a lump-sum payment equivalent to the admission fee (approx. 282,000 yen) or the half of the admission fee (approx. 141,000 yen) after enrollment.

Scholarship candidates will be informed of their eligibility for the scholarship when they receive an acceptance letter.

VI. Eligibility and Application Procedures for Long-term Course Enrollment

1. Aim of the long-term course enrollment system

Under the long-term course enrollment system, the Graduate School of IMCTS allows students who have applied for the use of the system to spend more years than are typically required for the completion of a graduate program (i.e., 2 years for a Master's program, and 3 years for a Doctoral program.) Eligible applicants are those who have a job or other circumstances that prevent them from securing the study time necessary to earn credits and receive research guidance. These applicants need to submit application documents and a plan for completing the course of study in a specific period of time. The Graduate School of IMCTS processes each application and determines the applicant's eligibility.

2. Eligibility for application

Applicants are eligible for application when 1) they fall under any of the following categories, and 2) they wish to take more years than are typically required to complete a graduate program and to complete their research plan because they cannot concentrate on their studies due to the circumstances stated below.

- (1) The applicant is currently serving in public office or working for a company or other organization (excluding those who are excused from their duties at work and are receiving their pay), is self-employed, or has another kind of full-time job.
- (2) The applicant is working part-time, and the applicant's workload significantly affects the hours available for completing the course of study.
- (3) The applicant is caring for a child or a family member, and the applicant's workload significantly affects hours available for completing the course of study.
- (4) The applicant is physically, visually, hearing, or otherwise impaired, and the impairment significantly affects hours available for completing the course of study over a prolonged period of time.

3. Application procedures

Applicants for the long-term course enrollment system shall include the following documents among their application documents.

- ① Application for long-term course enrollment (Form 1)
- ② Plan for long-term course enrollment (Form 2)
- ③ Documents proving that long-term course enrollment is necessary (e.g. proof of employment, copy of a maternal and child health handbook, etc.)

4. Notification of the screening result

Submitted documents will be examined, and applicants will be notified of the examination results early in March.

5. Term of enrollment

The term of enrollment can be extended in one-year units. In the doctoral program, the total period of enrollment is between 4 and 6 years.

6. Tuition

The annual tuition of a student admitted under the long-term course enrollment system is calculated as follows: [Standard annual tuition] x 3 ÷ [the number of years the student intends to take to complete the course of study]

The annual tuition will be recalculated if the standard annual tuition is revised or if a change to the student's long-term enrollment plan is authorized. There will be no revision to tuitions already paid.

7. Change to the number of years for completing a course of study

Under exceptional circumstances, students can make a one-time application for a shortening or extension of the years for completing a course of study.

(1) Shortening of the period of enrollment

In the doctoral program, the period of enrollment can be shortened to the number of years required for completion of a course of study (= 3 years.)

An application for the shortening of the period of enrollment should be made by the following deadlines:

for a one-year reduction, no later than one year and six months before the end date of the approved extended enrollment period;

for a two-year reduction, no later than two years and six months before the end date of the approved extended enrollment period; and

for a three-year reduction, no later than three years and six months before the end date of the approved extended enrollment period.

(2) Extension of the period of enrollment

Students can apply for an extension of the period of enrollment in any year other than their final academic year.

In the doctoral program, a course of study should be completed in no more than 6 years.

(3) The annual tuition will be recalculated in the event that the period of enrollment is shortened or extended. Any overpayment or underpayment will be adjusted according to the years for completing a course of study, but tuition already paid will not be refunded.

8. Other

You may apply to the Long-Term Course Enrollment at the time of admission, or at the end of the first academic year or the second academic year. In that case, however, the total tuition will be larger than applying at the time of admission. Note also that you may not apply at the end of the last year.

Please make inquiries with the Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office of IMCTS regarding a request for an application form or questions.

VII. Score Disclosure from Entrance Examination

Upon request from the applicant, the Graduate School will disclose the examination results of the entrance examination for the doctoral course in accordance with the following procedures.

1 . Contents of Disclosure

①Score of the oral examination

②Rank of the examinee's score

S = Passing

A = Those within 10 points of the lowest passing score

B = Those within 20 points of the lowest passing score

C = Those within 30 points of the lowest passing score

D = Those whose score exceeds 30 points from the lowest passing score

2 . Disclosure Method

The Graduate School will respond in writing upon request by postal mail from the claimant.

3 . Claimant

The person who is the successful or unsuccessful applicant

4 . Disclosure request procedures

The claimant should enclose the following documents, write “Request for Disclosure of Scores of the Entrance Examination for the Doctoral Program” on the front of the envelope, and send it to the following address.

① Examination admission ticket

If you have lost your examination admission ticket, please attach a copy of your ID (student ID, driver's license, passport, etc.) to replace it.

② Return envelope

(One standard size envelope [23.5 x 12 cm], clearly marked with the address and a 460 yen stamp (including registered postage) affixed)

5 . Disclosure request Period

Within one month from the date of the Announcement of Successful Applicants

* Notification of disclosure results will be sent after the request period.

6 . Disclosure request address

Academic Affairs Division, Administration Office, International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies (IMCTS), Hokkaido University

Kita 17-Jo Nishi 8 -chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0817 Japan

VIII. Privacy Policy

- (1) Hokkaido University takes all possible measures to ensure the protection of personal information in compliance with the Law for the Protection of Personal Information Retained by Independent Administrative Institutions and EU General Data Protection Regulation (henceforth, GDPR), on the basis of the Hokkaido University Regulations on Personal Information Management.
- (2) Names, addresses, and other personal information that are disclosed in the application process and each entrance examination/interview will be used only for the following purposes: i) the selection of doctoral students (application processes and examinations/interviews); ii) the announcement of successful applicants; iii) admission procedures; iv) research and surveys on applicant selection methods; and v) other business associated with i)~iv).
- (3) For successful applicants, the personal information disclosed for the purpose of application will be used for the following purposes: i) administration procedures (student registration, support on the basis of academic records, etc.); ii) student support (health management, applications for scholarships and/or dormitory admission, welfare supports, etc.); iii) job hunting support, iv) the collection of tuition, v) library admission, vi) IT facility use admission, vii) emergency contact, viii) sending university information.
- (4) The entrance examination records of applicants will be used to improve the selection methods and future entrance examinations.
- (5) Regarding the personal information referred to in (2) above, names and addresses alone might be used for the purpose of correspondence by the Hokkaido University Frontier Foundation and by the following organizations related to Hokkaido University: i) the Hokkaido University Athletic Union; and ii) the alumni association of the Graduate School of International Media-Communication and Tourism Studies.

- (6) Hokkaido University will keep your personal data for five years counting from the subsequent fiscal year (from April to March) after the fiscal year your data was collected.
- (7) Hokkaido University processes your personal data with your consent (GDPR, Article 6, Paragraph 1 (a)).
- (8) You can withdraw your consent at any time. Your withdrawal will not affect the lawfulness of your personal data that has already been processed with your consent prior to the withdrawal.
- (9) You, as data subject (an individual whose personal data is collected, held and processed), have the following rights as stated in GDPR, as well as other related laws and regulations: (1) to access your personal data; (2) to have your inaccurate personal data corrected; (3) to have your personal data deleted where appropriate; (4) to restrict the processing of your personal data; (5) to object the processing of your personal data; and (6) to transfer your personal data to third-party entities.
- (10) If you have provided your personal data within the EEA (European Economic Area) and are not happy with the way Hokkaido University handles your personal data, you have the right to file a complaint to a supervisory authority defined in GDPR (Article 51, Paragraph 1).
- (11) In order to carry out the procedures mentioned in (3) above, Hokkaido University may share your personal data with Sapporo Regional Immigration Services Bureau (Sapporo Third Joint Government Building, 12-chome, Odori West, Chuo-ku, Sapporo City, 0570-003259).
- (12) Hokkaido University is governed by IAA (Incorporated Administrative Agency) Personal Information Protection Act. The European Commission's adequacy decision is not applicable to Hokkaido University.

Inquiries:

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IX. List of Supervisors

Note 1: The list shows the faculty members of the Graduate School of IMCTS as of July 2026.

Note 2: Any changes to the list after April 2026 will be posted on the website of the Graduate School of IMCTS.

Note 3: "Content of research guidance" indicates each supervisor's major teaching content in the context of "Special Research on International Media-Communication/Tourism Creation" that students conduct toward the completion of their doctoral dissertations.

Note 4: Refer to the website of the Graduate School of IMCTS (https://www.imc.hokudai.ac.jp/english/academics/faculty_profiles/) for the e-mail address and the details of research and teaching content of each faculty member.

Professor

Name	Content of research guidance
ABE, Makoto	I supervise students in the field of technology-mediated language learning and second language use.
UEDA, Hirofumi	I supervise students in the field of sustainable regional planning from the viewpoint of landscapes.
EDELHEIM, Johan	I supervise students on topics related to power and politics in tourism and related to hospitality phenomena and attractions, as well as supervising them on learning, teaching, and research in tourism and hospitality higher education.
OKAMOTO, Ryosuke	Towards enabling students to become independent researchers in the field of the sociology of tourism and religion, I supervise students so that they can advance and publish their research in a proper fashion.
KANEYAMA, Jun	Students will acquire the skills needed to develop and publish their research on multi-platform media from the perspective of social theory.
KAMIYAMA, Hiroyuki	I supervise students towards enabling them to become independent researchers who can deal with tourism marketing, tourism strategy, tourism policy, tourism economy and public sector publicity.
KIM, Sungmin	Towards enabling students to become creative researchers in the field of media and cultural studies, I supervise students so that they can carry out interpretive critical research.
COOK, Emma Elizabeth	I supervise students in anthropological research on gender, the body, and health in contemporary Japan.
KLIEN, Susanne	I supervise students on lifestyle migration and issues pertaining to work and precarity. Students will acquire ethnographic skills and methods related to grounded theory.
SAITO, Takuya	Students will have a solid grounding in research on media and society, and in political theory and the history of ideas, and they will receive methodological research training for more advanced study.
SHIROYAMA, Hidemi	Provides research guidance for dissertations that empirically examine contemporary and modern China, Japan, and Sino-Japanese relations through a "dialogue between modernity and history" using historical documents, interview surveys, and media

	materials.
JANG, Kyungjae	I supervise students who examine the relationships among contents tourism, heritage tourism, and media from the perspectives of digital platforms, affect, and place experience, using qualitative and mixed methods.
TAKAHASHI, Aya	I supervise students on international exchanges and communication from a historical perspective.
TANAKA, Eisuke	I will supervise students who wish to explore issues surrounding heritage and tourism using socio-anthropological theories on cultures and societies.
JUNG Hyeseon	Students will learn how to design and implement research in the field of sociolinguistics and contrastive linguistics.
TSUJIMOTO, Atsushi	Students will develop critical thinking on communication phenomena related to organizations and will acquire practical skills for social research.
NAKAGAWA, Satoru	I supervise students towards enabling them to become independent researchers who can deal with marketing strategy, business strategy, global strategy, management, and governance.
HARA, Yurie	I supervise students in the field of theoretical linguistics. Students will acquire the analytical methods they need to construct data-driven theories in conducting (cross-)linguistic research.
PAICHADZE, Svetlana	I supervise students who are interested in the history and present time of the migration of people in East Asia and Russia.
HYUN, Mooam	I supervise students towards enabling them to study the phenomenon of media communication in East Asia from the perspective of political sociology.
HIRATA, Miki	Students will acquire the ability to analyze verbal and non-verbal behaviors in spontaneous interactions between participants, using video and voice data.
YAMAMURA, Takayoshi	Students will acquire the theoretical frameworks and field survey methods they need to analyze and discuss tourism phenomena structurally from the perspective of “contents tourism”.

Associate Professor

Name	Content of research guidance
ASANO, Yuki	Students will learn how to statistically analyze linguistic data and to write English journal papers in the field of psycholinguistics, first/second language acquisition and music acquisition, phonetics and phonology, and language testing theory.
AMADA, Akinori	Students will learn how to apply anthropological theories and methods to their own research topics on tourism.
ISHIGURO, Yusuke	I will supervise students towards enabling them to consider the various aspects of destination management and its organizational solutions, especially from the perspectives of management and policy.

OTOMO, Ruriko	I supervise students in sociolinguistics research particularly in the field of language policy. Students will understand basic assumptions of sociolinguistics and conceptual frameworks to approach the link between language and social issues.
OKADA, Mayumi	I supervise students who are interested in the dynamic interactions between heritage and community within tourism development. Integrating the study of theoretical frameworks and field experiences, students will analyze and discuss the diversity of values concerning heritage and the impact of tourism on communities.
ONG, YI XUAN	I supervise students who are interested in mechanisms of persuasion in the digital/social media space. I welcome research on understanding how consumers process information, change attitudinal and behavioral dispositions from social media and influencer marketing.
KASAI, Amane	Students will develop advanced critical and analytical skills through archival and qualitative research on performing arts and music, as situated within broader socio-political contexts, particularly in relation to cultural representation, postcolonialism, and tourism.
KOIZUMI, Daisuke	I supervise students in the field of destination management and human resource development from the perspective of sustainable regional planning.
KONISHI, Takayuki	Second language acquisition and teaching; speech communication and rhythm
SHIGAKI, Koichiro	I will guide doctoral candidates in the analysis and study of contemporary journalism and media through archival and historical materials. Furthermore, within the realms of media theory and history, I mentor students to critically evaluate existing research, select methodologies that suit their specific themes, and strengthen their ability to pursue independent research.
JANG, Juhyeok	I will supervise a study that quantitatively examines how to effectively respond to customers via online.
TASHIRO, Akiko	I supervise students in the field of Heritage Studies, including on tourism, heritages and international cooperation on monument conservation.
TANABE, Tetsu	I supervise students in the field of multimedia technology.
DU, Chang Jiun	Students will learn about Conversation Analysis, a research approach to qualitative analysis of the order of interaction and will receive guidance and support in analyzing conversational data from everyday conversations, classroom interactions, and multicultural discussions.
TOMINARI, Ayako	Students will acquire the ability to analyse and discuss media discourse in relation to gender and to write papers in a proper fashion.
NOZAWA, Shunsuke	I supervise students interested in linguistic anthropology and social semiotics working on topics such as language ideology and media culture, with emphasis on ethnography of communication.
HARADA, Mami	I supervise students towards enabling them to conduct research on gender representation in the media through their analysis of media content in combination with social context.

MASUDA, Noriko	I supervise students in the fields of art history and visual culture studies (film, TV, manga, anime, etc.).
MIYAUCHI, Takuya	I supervise students studying individual languages based on theoretical linguistics and contrastive studies from a typological perspective, which theoretical linguistics makes possible.
WATANABE, Satoko	I supervise policy analysis of parliamentary and government documents for students interested in contemporary political and social participation.

Lecturer

Name	Content of research guidance
ISHINO, Takayoshi	I supervise students in conducting anthropological research on contemporary tourism, mobility, and transnational phenomena, with a focus on perspectives such as politics, power, practice, performance, consumption, and design.
KONDO,Hiromu	Students will acquire the skills to research the values of those involved in Japanese language education abroad and in Japan and the process of constructing values through a narrative approach (mainly the life story research method).
XU, Yu	Using (feminist) film theory as a framework, I guide students in examining representations of gender and sexuality in film, while fostering their ability to critically analyze media culture within its historical and social contexts.
Ding, Yi	I supervise students on topics ranging from traditional artistic media to new forms, as well as on theories of philosophical aesthetics and visual culture. In terms of research methodology, I place emphasis on concepts and schemata.
NAKAYAMA, Chihiro	I supervise research on collaboration and value co-creation in marketing (international business and tourism), using qualitative research methods to develop theoretical and empirical analyses.
BULL, Jonathan Edward	I supervise students who are interested in the history of the collapse of the Japanese empire and the subsequent mass movements of people in East Asia.
MATSUMOTO, Ayaka	Students will develop skills in discussion and academic writing on issues of minority protection and representation in democratic societies.
YOSHIZAWA, Nao	I supervise students in analyzing various phenomena related to tourism and local communities, applying the theoretical and methodological background of tourism geography.

X. Supervisors to be Appointed

The following is the list of professors (and their fields of study) who can supervise doctoral course students **exclusively in English**. The information is as of April 2026.

(The asterisk* indicates that the professor may act as a secondary supervisor for English-only students.)

<International Public Relations Study>

JANG, Juhyeok*: managerial accounting, quality costing, service quality management

KAMIYAMA, Hiroyuki*: tourism strategy, tourism economy, tourism marketing, tourism statistics, public sector publicity

TSUJIMOTO, Atsushi: organization theory, risk management, SNS communication theory

NAKAGAWA, Satoru*: marketing strategy, business strategy, global strategy, management, and governance

<Media and Culture Study>

HARADA, Mami: gender studies, area studies, women's history of New Zealand

TOMINARI, Ayako: discourse analysis (critical discourse analysis), gender and language

<Linguistic Communication>

HARA, Yurie: theoretical linguistics, formal semantics, pragmatics, Japanese linguistics, psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics

OTOMO, Ruriko: (critical) sociolinguistic, applied linguistics (language policy and planning, language ideology, bi/multilingualism)

ABE, Makoto*: technology-mediated language learning, second language pragmatics, second language writing.

NOZAWA, Shunsuke: linguistic anthropology, semiotics, media theory, popular culture, memory

<International Regional Culture Study>

EDELHEIM, Johan: critical tourism research, cultural studies, tourism philosophy, qualitative methodologies (narrative-, discourse-, content- analysis; existential-, linguistic- phenomenology), tourism higher education, Indigenous matters, Identity

KIM, Sungmin: cultural theory and popular culture, cultural studies, media and communication, sociology of tourism, urbanism or music, cultural flows in East Asia

OKAMOTO, Ryosuke*: sociology of tourism and religious culture

PAICHADZE, Svetlana: multiculturalism, migration studies, border studies

TANAKA, Eisuke: critical heritage studies, anthropology of tourism

TASHIRO, Akiko: heritage studies, heritage tourism, and public archaeology

<Tourism Creation and Regional Tourism Management>

ISHIGURO, Yusuke: destination management, DMO, tourism policy, tourism for development

YAMAMURA, Takayoshi: tourism development studies (contents tourism, community-based tourism, heritage tourism)

<Modern Japanese Studies>

BULL, Jonathan: end of the Japanese Empire, decolonization, post-colonial memory,
forced migration narratives, oral history

COOK, Emma: medical anthropology (health and illness), anthropology of food, gender
and sexuality

KLIEN, Susanne: anthropology, Japanese studies, lifestyle migration, mobility studies,
rural revitalization, rural Japan, depopulation, ethnography, disaster anthropology,
ritual studies