



What qualities do we look for in the leaders of today and what will we require of our leaders in the future? The concept for Kyoto University’s Graduate School of Advanced Leadership Studies has its origins in that fundamental question. In a radical departure from conventional education methodologies, the concept entails a collaborative effort by universities, businesses, and the government to cultivate human resources who, driven by their own aspirations, can integrate multidisciplinary expertise to develop practical solutions to problems, regardless of the organization, industry, or country in which they are operating. The Graduate School of Advanced Leadership Studies provides an innovative program designed to produce such pioneering individuals.

Shishukan: A Place for Thought and Practice



President
Hiroshi Matsumoto

“The Graduate School of Advanced Leadership Studies is a new type of graduate school—radically different from the traditional format of educating students through research,” says President Matsumoto. “The curriculum of the new school is rooted in Kyoto University’s culture of academic freedom and frank dialogue. It is designed to instill students with a scholarly spirit of self-reliance and self-respect, with the aim of cultivating leaders who can effectively address the issues confronting contemporary global society. Regarding the curriculum, the program is envisaged as the nutrient-rich ‘soil’ which fills the ‘pot’ of the graduate school itself, providing a fertile environment to cultivate diverse ‘seeds’ which will blossom into capable and multi-talented global leaders.”

“*Shishukan*, the Japanese name of the school literally means ‘a place for thought and practice.’ The name is based on the Buddhist concept of attaining comprehensive wisdom through a combination of deep contemplation and applied practice. Founded on that philosophy, the graduate school aims to provide students with the best possible environment, facilities, and opportunities to excel in their studies and research, and to apply their knowledge in practical experience. Through that process we aim to foster the qualities which will enable them to play leading roles in addressing global-scale problems.”



Curriculum Overview

The Graduate School of Advanced Leadership Studies Program is a five-year residential curriculum, which is tailor-made for each student. The program emphasizes practical training in Japan and overseas, leadership training by respected experts in diverse fields, and guidance by mentors.

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