



Your Gateway to a Ph.D. at Kyoto University

Kyoto University Short-Term Academic Research Program

Be the STAR for the Shining Future

KU STAR
Program

Why Participate in KU-STAR?

- Top-Tier Research
- Global Network & Connections
- Industry Exposure & Cultural Experience
- Poster Presentation



80+
Talented Alumni
Joined since 2024!

Key Features

- Target: Open to Undergraduate or Master's students enrolled in a university in the target countries. (Eligibility Applies)
- Location: Kyoto, Japan
- Duration: 1.5–2 Months
- Cost: No Tuition & Participation Fees, Accommodation Provided
- Language: Conducted Entirely in English



KYOTO UNIVERSITY



Kyoto University
Division of Graduate Studies
京都大学大学院教育支援機構

Check our webpage for application & details!

India Program

Around May to July

Webpage:
<https://www.kugd.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/ku-star-program/>



Australia Program

Around December/January to February

Webpage:
<https://www.kugd.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/ku-star-program-aus>



For Inquiries, KU-STAR Program Office

✉ Email: kustardesk@mail.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

VIVIAN'S JOURNEY

FROM KU-STAR INTERN TO KU MASTER'S STUDENT

Vivian Francis Joseph, M1, Graduate School of Biostudies at Kyoto University
(KU-STAR Program for India 2024 Alumnus from IIT Guwahati)
(Recipient of the Kyoto University Graduate School Scholarship for Participants of the International Research Internship Program)

For many students, an international research internship is just a summer experience. For Vivian Francis Joseph from IIT Guwahati, however, it was the definitive starting point of his academic future.

After completing the KU-STAR Program 2024, Vivian made the successful leap to graduate student, enrolling in the Master's program at the Graduate School of Biostudies at Kyoto University in October 2025.



Q1 Why did KU-STAR lead to your Master's application?

My participation in the KU-STAR program gave me an idea of what it is like to stay in Kyoto and work in a lab here. Kyoto is a wonderful city and staying here for 2 months made me realize that I want to come back here for my graduate studies. On top of that, I found the perfect lab to join. The research topic aligned perfectly with what I want to do in the future, the lab environment was conducive to fruitful discussions, and my supervisor, Prof. Yoshimura, was very supportive. All these factors combined led me to apply for the Master's Program in the Graduate School of Biostudies.

Q2 What is your current research focus?

My current research focus is an extension of the work I did during my internship. During my internship, I identified a few potential anti-HIV-1 host factors. Now I am checking whether these proteins actually show anti-viral activity or not. Additionally, I am working on a novel protein delivery method using virus like particles (VLPs).



"The KU-STAR Program offers a firsthand experience of living in Kyoto and conducting research at Kyoto University."

Q3 What is your professional goal?

I want to pursue a Ph.D. and continue to do research in virology (or other related fields such as vaccine development).



Q4 Your advice for applicants?

The KU-STAR program is an excellent opportunity for anyone considering Kyoto University for their graduate studies, as it offers a firsthand experience of living in Kyoto and conducting research at KU. In addition to doing cutting-edge research, you get the chance to explore one of the most culturally rich nations in the world.

For the full interview and details, visit our blog: <https://www.kugd.k.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/blog/kustar-ind-24-vivian/> 

Master's & Doctoral Programs at Kyoto University

English-taught degree programs

M= Master's degree D= Doctoral degree

Letters	M		Energy Science	M, D		Informatics	M, D
Economics	M, D		Biostudies	M, D		- Intelligence Science & Technology - Social Informatics - Communications & Computer Engineering	
Management	M		Agriculture	M, D		Engineering	
Global Environmental Studies	M, D		Science (Primateology & Wildlife)	M, D		- Management of Civil Infrastructure - Urban & Regional Development - Human Security Engineering	M, D*

* Human Security Engineering program only

Graduate Schools without official "English-taught degree programs"

Students may also have opportunities to study in English at these graduate schools (study areas) depending on the supervisor, especially at the doctoral level.

Engineering (Other than English-taught programs)		Medicine		Education		Asian and African Area Studies	
Informatics (Other than English-taught programs)		Pharmaceutical Sciences		Law		Advanced Integrated Studies in Human Survivability	
Science (Other than English-taught program)		Human and Environmental Studies		Government (no doctoral programs)			

For details, please visit the Graduate School's website.

1. Graduate Schools: <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/graduateschools>
2. English-taught degree programs: <https://u.kyoto-u.jp/english-taught-degree-programs>

General inquiries on graduate programs: Admissions Assistance Office (AAO)

✉ Email: aao-ku@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

1. Graduate Schools



2. English-taught degree programs:

