

To study at the ERI as a graduate student: Q and A

Q. I want to study as a graduate student at the ERI. Which department should I apply for?

A. Many members of the faculties in the ERI supervise students who belong to Department of Earth and Planetary Science, which is in Graduate School of Science, University of Tokyo. Please apply for the graduate course in Department of Earth and Planetary Science.

Q. Which degree can I receive?

A. You can receive master's degree and/or doctor's degree.

Q. What is usual length of study for the degrees?

A. Common period of study is two years for Master's and additional three years for Doctor's degree.

Q. Is there any admission specially for international students?

A. Yes. International students usually apply for "special selection for international applicants" which accepts applications twice a year. Please refer to the following web page for more and detailed information:

<http://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/admission/graduate.html>

Also, there is a course called GSGC, Global Science Graduate Course, that provide you a scholarship.

Q. What is GSGC?

A. GSGC is a course for competitive international students run by the school of science. Subjected students are the one starting his/her graduate study and pursue for a PhD degree. This is a five-year-course starting from the Master's level. Also, a scholarship is provided for the student in the course for five years. (No extension of the scholarship is supposed after five years.)

You may also refer to the following web page for more information on GSGC:

<http://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/GSGC/>

Q. I already have a master's degree. Can I start my doctoral study immediately after I enter the graduate school?

A. Generally, yes. However, the department or graduate school of science might require you to start from masters depending on the structure of education system in your country. Please ask the department of Earth Sciences to make sure you can enroll as a PhD student.

Q. What are the requirements for application?

A. When you apply, you are required to submit

- Application documents (your info, essay, and so on)
- GRE subject test score (physics, math, chemistry or biology)
- TOEFL score

If you apply for PhD course, you need to submit your master's thesis, too, when you apply.

Q. When can I start my study?

A. The semester starts in April and September at the University of Tokyo. You can start your study either in April or September. (Note that GSGC students start their study in September.)

Q. When do I apply for admission?

A. The application period depends on the time you enroll the graduate school, and whether

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you apply for a scholarship or not.

If you do NOT apply for a scholarship, the schedule is the following.

To enroll in April: application period: October of the previous year,
oral exam: November or December

To enroll in September: application period: April of the same year,
oral exam: May or June

(Please refer to the web page for more and detailed information:

<http://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/admission/graduate.html>

Section 4, Application Period.)

If you apply for GSGC, projected application period is October of the previous year, and oral exam is in November or December. (Timing might change largely, and please check the information earlier.)

Q. Do I have to visit Tokyo to take the oral examination?

A. It is recommended to visit Tokyo to take the examination. However, special arrangement might be made for you, such as examination on SKYPE. Please ask the Department of the Earth and Planetary Sciences about the availability of remote exam.

Q. Do I have to be fluent in Japanese to study at the ERI?

A. No. The graduate classes can be given in English, if any students in the class wish it. Also, discussions in research can be made in English. Note that you can take undergraduate classes and they can be counted as credit for your graduate study. However, these classes will be provided only in Japanese.

Q. How much will it cost to live and study in Tokyo?

A. Tuition is JPY 535,800 / year (@2017). Average living expense for a student is about JPY 135,000/month. In total, approximately, JPY 2.2 M/year or JPY 180,000 /month. Please add JPY 282,000 more for the first year, which is the enrollment fee for the University of Tokyo.

Q. Any recommendations?

A. We highly recommend a potential graduate student to contact a potential supervisor in the ERI (or other members of the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences) to discuss which topic you can study and also if he/she can actually supervise you during the course of your study. Please check the faculty list in the following website.

<https://secure.eps.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/member/index.php>

Q. More information?

A. About the ERI, please write an email message to

gradstudy@eri.u-tokyo.ac.jp

For more information in admission to the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, please check the following websites.

<http://www.eps.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/admission/info-en.html>

<http://www.s.u-tokyo.ac.jp/en/admission/>

For general information to study in Japan, visit

<http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/>