

2025 Enrollment AO Admissions (English Basis)

College of Global Liberal Arts

1. Number of Applicants, Successful Applicants, etc.

No. of applicants	No. of successful applicants
512	160

2. Target of this Admissions Method

The College of Global Liberal Arts provides students with the comprehensive liberal arts education in English required for our globalized times. We strive to produce graduates who can put knowledge into practice to take the initiative in identifying and solving problems and can keep learning throughout their lives in a globalized society. We are looking for students who are eager to collaborate with others in a multi-cultural environment through dual-degree courses offered in Japan and Australia, and are strongly motivated to take on leadership roles contributing not only to Japan and Asia, but to the entire international community.

The dual undergraduate degree program is offered jointly by GLA at Ritsumeikan University and the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at the Australian National University (ANU). The two undergraduate degree programs together form an extensive, coherent system of learning, in which students aim to earn two degrees, one from each university. They study at both campuses, taking courses with the aim of generating synergies between the two degrees.

This admission method is designed to admit students with the academic aptitude, skills and interests stated in the GLA admission policy. Decisions to admit students are made based on academic records and two essays.

3. Content of Screening

The application documents were reviewed holistically.

The topics of the essays were as follows:

The purpose of the following two essays is for you to reflect on what you have done from the time you entered high school until now and to identify your reasons and plans for studying at the College of Global Liberal Arts. Please write the essays based on this purpose.

#1 Select one thing you have focused on the most from the time you entered high school until now. Then, describe specifically how this has helped you grow, giving details of actual events that contributed to your growth and what you gained from the process.

*This essay must be titled. (within 200 words)

#2 Describe what your interests are and how you would like to explore those interests through your study at the College of Global Liberal Arts. (within 200 words)

4. Intent of Essay Topics

The intent of Essay 1 was to evaluate applicants' achievements after they entered high school, for the purpose of identifying applicants who have the personal qualities to succeed at GLA.

The screening evaluates what applicants have learned from their experiences, how they confronted difficulties in achieving their goals, how they interacted with their peers or others in the process, and how they reflected upon their achievements and set new goals.

The intent of Essay 2 was to evaluate applicants' interests and motivations, for the purpose of identifying applicants who have the qualities specified in our admission policy and in "Target of this Admission Method". The screening evaluates how applicants would like to explore their interests at GLA and how committed they are to learning in this dual undergraduate degree program.

In both Essay 1 and Essay 2, we also assessed applicants' writing skills and abilities in English.

5. Key Points of Evaluation

In Essay 1, the evaluation focused not only on whether applicants described the details of their achievements, but also clearly stated what they learned from the experience, including reflections on what efforts they made, what difficulties they confronted, what relationships and interactions they had with peers or others, and so on. We also took into account whether the essay was titled appropriately.

In Essay 2, the evaluation focused on whether applicants clearly explained what they would like to learn at both GLA and the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at ANU and why.

Applicants who connected these interests with the experiences they discussed in Essay 1 tended to receive higher marks.

In both Essay 1 and Essay 2, applicants' writing skills and abilities in English were evaluated. For example, we assessed whether each essay included the required contents and was composed and structured well within the prescribed word limit.

6. Summary of Screening Results

Many applicants were able to discuss the required contents, but with varying levels of success. In Essay 1, applicants who received lower marks tended to describe what they did rather than discuss what they learned from their experiences. In Essay 2, higher-scoring applicants were able to explain how they would like to explore their interests and achieve their ambitions through this dual undergraduate degree program based on what they discussed in Essay 1. Applicants who were able to draw connections between Essay 1 and Essay 2 tended to show a more positive attitude toward learning, which bodes well for their future success at GLA.

7. Advice for Next Year's Applicants

This is a dual undergraduate degree program offered jointly by GLA at Ritsumeikan University and the Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs at ANU, allowing students to earn two degrees. Essay 2 must clearly and specifically address not only what and how you wish to study at GLA, but also what you wish to study at the Bell School.

At GLA, as well as at the Bell School, students are expected to understand social diversity and to develop practical and creative abilities to address various issues in today's globalized society. In order to develop the abilities to identify and address global issues, it is necessary to foster diverse perspectives, flexible attitudes, and a willingness to collaborate with others.

Applicants are encouraged to look at various social issues on a daily basis and reflect on them from multiple perspectives. It is also important to be able to form opinions by collecting and analyzing relevant information in an appropriate manner. Both critical thinking abilities and English-language abilities demand daily effort. Applicants are encouraged to set their own goals and work hard to achieve them.