

2026 Enrollment AO Admissions (English Basis)

Global Studies Major, Department of International Relations, College of International Relations

1. Number of Applicants, Successful Applicants, etc.

No. of applicants	No. of successful applicants
687	145

2. Target of this Admission Method

The Global Studies Major within the College of International Relations aims to allow students to acquire an advanced understanding of international relations through specialized courses delivered in English. Students in the GS Major have the opportunity to discuss and study issues currently faced by the international community as part of a diverse student body. It is expected that students will have a strong desire to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by studying in English together with students of different backgrounds and that they will develop their abilities within this diverse academic community.

The College of International Relations seeks students who will actively participate in all aspects of their academic lives. It is looking to attract students who wish to make use of their knowledge of international relations and their experiences at the college to take on jobs in which they can form a bridge between their home countries, Japan, and the rest of the world as "globally minded leaders" working beyond borders.

3. Content of Screening

An overall assessment was made based on a document screening alone, or a document screening and interview. An interview was conducted for invited applicants.

(1) Document screening

The application documents were reviewed holistically.

The topic of the essay was as follows:

Please describe the subject or field you wish to study at the College of International Relations, together with your reasons and experiences. (within 500 words)
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(2) Interview

An online interview was conducted.

4. Intent of the Essay Topic, Interview Questions, etc.

(1) Document screening

The two following points explain the intent of the above essay:

- 1) To determine whether applicants truly have the desire to major in Global Studies, as well as whether they understand the goals and curriculum of the major.
- 2) To ascertain whether applicants are concerned about the many problems facing our global society, possess basic academic skills to study at the university level, think logically, and assess whether they have adequate English writing ability.

(2) Interview

The intent of the interview was to assess whether applicants 1) are competent enough in English to complete the course of study and whether their English ability (primarily conversational) is of sufficient level to acquire a high level of understanding in the field of International Relations; 2) have the basic academic skills to orally explain and discuss their essay in a logical manner; and 3) are capable of learning with other students in a multicultural environment while also possessing the ability to grasp multifaceted ideas concerning the many issues facing a global society.

5. Key Points of Evaluation

(1) Document screening

The essay was judged primarily on the following:

- 1) whether the motivation for applying was clear and concrete
- 2) whether personal experiences and motivations were discussed in connection with the topic of university studies
- 3) how the problems facing our modern-day global society were understood, and if that understanding was multilateral
- 4) whether the applicant was capable of constructing logical compositions in English

(2) Interview

The five main points judged in the interview were the following:

- 1) whether the motivation for applying was clear
- 2) if the applicant was competent enough in English to complete this specialized course of study
- 3) whether the applicant accurately understood the interviewers' questions and was able to logically discuss their opinions
- 4) whether the applicant possessed the basic academic skills necessary to study at the university level
- 5) if the applicant had the potential to become an effective player in our global society in the future

6. Summary of Screening Results

(1) Document screening

Evaluation of the essay's content focused on interest in and knowledge of International Relations, in addition to the capacity to reference literature while citing evidence and maintaining a multifaceted, objective perspective, as opposed to presenting personal opinions and assertions. That was where we saw a gap emerge among applicant evaluations.

(2) Interview

By researching the curriculum and course content of the College of International Relations ahead of time, applicants were generally able to draw a connection between their own interests and career aspirations and learning within the College. However, we saw cases where applicants were not able to expand on what they had written or where their answers contradicted what was written in their essays. Some applicants lacked sufficient English proficiency, which made it difficult for them to express their thoughts logically. As a result, the applicants who were able to show additional knowledge and expand on the theme of their essays were given higher marks.

7. Advice for Next Year's Applicants

Make a habit of following the news via newspapers, television, and the internet, keeping abreast of international issues, and giving thought to those topics. Today, most countries publish news in English, making it possible to keep up-to-date via smartphones and tablets. For matters that pique your interest, it is especially important to be aware not only of the news presented in your country but also how that news is being covered by the media in the relevant and related countries as well. This will enable you to gain a broader perspective of the issue.

Also, visualize where you see yourself after graduation. This will help you determine what you need to study within the College of International Relations, as well as gain a clearer picture of what role your studies within the College of International Relations will play in the grand scheme of your life.