

Diploma Policy

The Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science (PWS) will grant certification to students who have achieved the following three requirements during the 5-year program:

1. Completion of 8 mandatory courses (Master's level) including individual fieldwork, as well as contribution to these courses as experienced students.
2. Conducting long-term internship training (for a minimum of 6 month; in Japan/overseas) designed by students themselves
3. Language acquisition to develop skills in research conduct and information collection/transmission, and as a communication tool.

Achievement levels will be evaluated by presentations and interviews at the PWS Annual Symposium and PWS Interim Symposium, as well as through meetings on a daily basis.

Three requirements to complete the PWS program

1. Completion of 8 mandatory courses

The courses are: "Interdepartmental Exchange (inter-lab)", "Koshima Field Science Course", "Yakushima Field Science Course", "Genome Science Course", "Sasagamine Field Science Course", "Comparative Cognitive Science Course", "Zoo/Museum Course" and "Individual fieldwork (designed by each student)." Students must complete all of the 8 aforementioned courses. Those who have already completed the courses are expected to support other students as tutors. After each course, students are required to submit a research activity report on the prescribed form. By utilizing Kyoto University facilities (Primate Research Institute, Wildlife Research Center, Research Resource Station, Koshima Field Station, Yakushima Field Station, and The Kumamoto Sanctuary) and extramural collaborative facilities (including Japan Monkey Centre, Kyoto City Zoo, Kyoto Aquarium, and Higashiyama Zoo), students will learn human and non-human animal relations through broad perspectives of "Mind, Body, Life, and Genome."

2. Conducting long-term internship training (corresponds to Doctoral course)

Students must design and conduct their own internship trainings, working with one or more of the research bases/collaborative facilities in Japan and overseas. Fieldwork plan should aim at correlating to one or more of the three career-based end goals of the PWS program – "curators", "conservation specialists of international organization(s)", and "outreach workers." In addition to extramural collaborative facilities described above, research bases/collaborative facilities also include overseas research institutions. Over the last 10 years, Kyoto University has engaged in the JSPS Core-to-Core Program, as well as collaborated with research facilities in 6 leading countries (Japan, Germany, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Italy). We have also signed the MOU with major research institutions in habitat countries and own overseas research/education bases (e.g., in Guinea, Congo, Gabon, Tanzania, Uganda, Malaysia, India, and

Brazil) for field research, in addition to the Training agreement with UNESCO. Students are required to conduct the internship training for 6 months or longer through the program and submit a research activity report on the prescribed form.

3. Language acquisition

Students must acquire a foreign language to develop skills in research conduct and information collection/transmission, and also as a communication tool. While PWS will provide a learning environment, such as by organizing seminars/course and supporting self-study paradigms, it is important for students to learn a foreign language practically while they are conducting fieldwork. Students are required to participate in the Asura International Seminar (official language: English) and Buddha Seminar (official language: not specified) organized by PWS unless they are in their field sites. Students are required to become proficient in at least one foreign language in addition to their native language. English is required for all students whose native language is not English. International students whose native language is English are required to master another language of their choice. Students are also strongly recommended to learn a second foreign language. Following a self-study paradigm in the study site, students are required to participate in seminars/courses/symposiums, where English is used as the official language, followed by the submission of the research activity report in English. Students are expected to learn a local language spoken in their study site based on hands-on experience through fieldwork, in addition to practical lectures given by their escorting supervisor(s). PWS will do its best to facilitate self-study, such as by connecting students with international collaborator(s) (IC) whose native language is the same as their respective language choice(s). Achievement level will be evaluated at the end of each academic year mainly by faculty members who are native speakers of the corresponding language. While no specific criteria are set to complete the program, students are required to show progress/improvement in foreign language acquisition at the end of each academic year.

The overall grade shall be assigned to a student who has satisfied the three requirements above. The evaluation will be made by “PWS Research Guidance Committee” consisting of PWS supervisor(s) and supervisor(s) in a section/laboratory where the student belongs to, as well as HQs (core PWS collaborators) as leading members. The overall grade (S, A, B, C) shall be assigned comprehensively based on academic assessment and interview, and students are required to receive a grade of A or above (i.e., only grades S or A are considered passing grades) in order to obtain certification.

(Established on March 14, 2014; revised/approved on January 16, 2015)