

Q & A: Examination for the Doctoral Degree Program

1 English Test Score

1.1 Q: Do I have to submit my English test score?

A: The English proficiency test score is not a required document for the entrance examination of the doctoral program. However, we strongly encourage you to submit an English proficiency test score if you intend to write a thesis in English.

2 Recommendation Letter

2.1 Q: To whom should the letter of recommendation be addressed?

A: Submission of a letter of recommendation is voluntary. You can apply without a letter of recommendation. It should be addressed to “The Graduate School of International Development, Nagoya University.” See the final page of the “Application Guidebook” for its postal address.

2.2 Q: Do you have any specific format?

A: No format is specified. However, it is desirable to use a form with letterhead from the institution, such as the university to which the recommender belongs.

2.3 Q: Is it all right to ask the supervisor at the current seminar to write a letter of recommendation? Or it must be the dean or superior of the faculty?

A: It is up to the applicant to decide who to request to write the recommendation letter. It does not have to be a dean. Instead, asking someone familiar with the applicant, mainly your academic advisor, is better.

3 Research Proposal

3.1 Q: Is it correct that the 2000-word limit of the research proposal does not include the number of words in the bibliography?

A: References, footnotes/endnotes, charts, tables, etc., are not included in the number of words. However, the title and subtitle of the research are included.

3.2 Q: Is it possible to exceed the word limit?

A: If you exceed the word limit, certain points will be deducted according to the number of excess words.

3.3 Q: Is the submitted research proposal final and cannot be changed? Or is it possible to change it during the course of research?

A: The research proposal submitted at the time of application is a plan. It is possible to make changes after consulting with your academic advisor. But we would like you to avoid making significant changes after enrollment.

4 Academic Advisor

4.1 Q: Before applying, should I find a professor who can be my academic advisor and discuss my research plan?

A: When applying for the doctoral program, finding a faculty member who will be your academic advisor from the GSID faculty list and obtaining prior consent are strongly recommended. The list is available at

<https://www4.gsid.nagoya-u.ac.jp/general/members> (Japanese) or

<https://www4.gsid.nagoya-u.ac.jp/en/general/members> (English).

You can also get the email address of the GSID faculty members.

5 Other Documents

5.1 Q: Certificates of my university are issued only in an electronic version, and there is no hard copy.

A: In that case, you may submit it directly from your university by email. It is not necessary to submit paper certificates.

6 The Oral Examination (Interview)

6.1 Q: Please tell me about the language of the interview.

A: It will be conducted in Japanese or English. It is basically conducted in Japanese for the examinees who have written a research proposal in Japanese and English for the examinees who have written a research proposal in English.

6.2 Q: Will using the English language during the interview make a better impression than someone using the Japanese language or *vice versa*?

A: We will not discriminate against applicants according to what language is used in the interview.