Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology, Master's Course: Diploma Policy

The master's degree is awarded to those who have acquired the basic skills to become independent researchers or advanced engineers. In other words, the master's degree is awarded to those who have acquired advanced academic knowledge in their specialized fields, a broad perspective based on interdisciplinary and comprehensiveness, the ability to apply basic knowledge and skills acquired in related fields. The master's thesis, which summarizes the results of their own research on issues related to their specialized fields, should contain academic novelty.

Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology, Master's Course: Curriculum Policy

In the Master's Course of the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology, there are seven divisions for developing personnel with the basic ability as an independent researcher and advanced engineer as listed in our Diploma Policy. The divisions are Mathematics and Physics, Molecular Sciences, Biological Sciences, Earth Science, Mechanical and Systems Engineering, Electronic and Information System Engineering, and Applied Chemistry. We offer systematic and sequential education according to the fields of specialization.

In addition, in order to enhance and improve graduate school education, we are continuously working to improve our educational methods, such as the enhancement lesson plans and FD activities mainly by the Academic Affairs Committee.

【Acquisition of a broad perspective based on interdisciplinary and comprehensiveness】

In the first year after entering the university, students are given introductory courses in order not only to connect undergraduate and graduate education, but also to learn the relationship between research conducted in the graduate school/division and cutting-edge science and advanced technology.

【Acquisition of advanced academic knowledge in specialized fields】

We offer coursework which students systematically learn basic knowledge and skills in related fields along with their positioning, in addition to advanced academic knowledge in the fields of natural science and industrial technology in which they specialized. Taking lectures and courses according to the course method determined for each divisions and courses, , students are expected to acquire a broad perspective to gain a bird's eye view of the natural sciences including interdisciplinary fields, and to acquire advanced knowledge and skills in their specialized fields.

【Acquisition of the ability to conduct research and summarize research results by oneself】

In order to develop problem-seeking and problem-solving ability to solve current issues by applying the acquired academic knowledge and skills, students will conduct research work consisting of seminars or exercises and special research. Students are expected to acquire the ability to think and implement their own research plan and summarize the research results.

In addition, the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology has established a system of cross-school study and advanced study (Cross-School Flex BMD Course) in order to respond to various demands of study and is working to provide credits for practical study such as internships and conference presentations.

Credit for each course is awarded strictly based on a combination of various factors, including examinations, research reports, presentations and reports, attendance, and class attitude. In addition to earning the required credits for coursework and research work determined for each division or course, students are judged to have passed also by the examinations of their theses and final examinations.

Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology, Master's Course: Admissions Policy

Basic Policy for Selection of Applicants

We accept students who have basic academic skills in their field of specialization, flexible ideas, logical thinking, good judgment, and the ability to cooperate, as well as the desire to learn advanced academic knowledge in their field of specialization. Moreover, we are also looking for those who have interest in acquiring knowledge and skills in fields other than their field of specialization, and take on the challenge of solving new problems in their field of specialization or in interdisciplinary fields. There are four types of entrance examination which includes Entrance Examination by Recommendation, General Entrance Examination, Entrance Examinations for Adults, and Entrance Examinations for International Students. By written examinations of specialized subjects, document screening, and oral examinations, each division and course evaluate applicant basic academic skills, thinking ability, judgment ability, expressive ability, and motivation in accordance with the criteria and importance for each selection. We accept a wide variety of students regardless of the faculty they graduate from.

What we are looking for

Based on the objective of Okayama University, which is "constructing a new paradigm for the sustainable evolution of human society (constructing new paradigm as a fountainhead of knowledge) ", we are seeking students with the following awareness and motivation;

1. Having an interest in the relationship between humans and nature, and a strong desire to contribute to local and international society
2. Are capable of mastering the fundamentals of their major field of study and having a strong sense of purpose to take on the challenge of advanced research fields
3. Having a strong desire to learn and who can think and act independently.
4. Are capable of demonstrating leadership in research and having a strong desire to play an active role internationally.
5. Having an interest in fields other than their area of specialization and a desire to acquire a

broad range of knowledge and perspectives.

Entrance Examination

The Master's Course of the Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology conducts the following entrance examinations to accept a diverse range of students.

(1) Entrance Examination by Recommendation

It is the entrance examination for the students who strongly desire to enter graduate school, and consists of a document screening and an oral examination. In the document screening, multiple faculty members check from various perspectives of the expertise and career plans acquired by the time of application. In the oral examination, multiple faculty members evaluate the applicant's knowledge and understanding of specialized subjects and career plans.

(2) General Entrance Examination

It is an entrance examination for students who wish to enter graduate school, and consists of a document screening and an academic examination (written and oral). In the document screening, multiple faculty members check the expertise acquired by the time of application from various perspectives. In the academic examination, knowledge and understanding of specialized subjects are comprehensively evaluated.

(3) Entrance Examination for Adults

It consists of a document screening and an oral examination. In the document screening, multiple faculty members will check the expertise and career plans acquired by the time of application from various perspectives. In the oral examination, knowledge and understanding of specialized subjects will be comprehensively evaluated.

(4) Entrance Examination for International Students

It consists of a document screening and an academic examination [written and oral (or interview)]. In the document screening and interview, multiple faculty members will check from various perspectives such as the expertise acquired by the time of application, career plans, and cross-cultural adaptation and financial status that are a prerequisite for school attendance. In the written academic examination, knowledge and understanding of specialized subjects will be comprehensively evaluated. In the oral academic examination (or interview), the applicant's expertise acquired by the time of application, career plan, and cross-cultural adaptation and financial status that are a prerequisite for school attendance will be evaluated.

(5) Overseas Selection for International Students

It consists of a document screening. In the document screening, multiple faculty members will check from multiple perspectives the expertise acquired by the time of application, career plans, and cross-cultural adaptation and financial status that are a prerequisite for school attendance.

Table of the three components of academic ability

Entrance examination classification	Knowledge and skills		Ability to think, judge, and express oneself		Attitude to learn by taking initiative and working with diverse people	
Entrance Examination by Recommendation	☆	Document Screening Oral Examination	☆	Oral Examination	◎	Oral Examination
General Entrance Examination	◎	Document Screening Written Examination Oral Examination	☆	Oral Examination	○	Oral Examination
Entrance Examination for Adults	☆	Document Screening Academic Examination （ Essay and Oral Examination）	◎	Academic Examination （Essay and Oral Examination）	○	Academic Examination （Oral Examination）
Entrance Examination for International Students	☆	Document Screening Academic Examination （ Written Examination and Oral Examination）	◎	Academic Examination （ Written Examination and Oral Examination (or interview)）	○	Academic Examination （Oral Examination (or interview)）
Overseas Selection for International Students	☆	Document Screening	◎	Document Screening	○	Document Screening

(Note) ◎, ○, ☆ denote factors of special importance, importance, and overall judgment, respectively.