



NITOBE SCHOOL

Guidelines for Applicants The Nitobe School Basic Program The 2017 Academic Year

In 2015, Hokkaido University launched Nitobe School, formally known as Nitobe Program for Graduate Students, designed to develop the students' knowledge and abilities essential to survive and thrive in face of rapid globalization.

The Nitobe School has created a learning environment, which is truly a “microcosm of international society” where graduate students in different fields of study and with diverse values and ethnic backgrounds collaborate to create a shared knowledge and solution to urgent global issues through intensive group discussion in English. In so doing, the students develop their critical thinking, communication skills, and problem-finding and -solving skills, essential to address the problems that emerge in this era of rapid globalization.

Be the Architect of Your Own Future!

1. Features of the Nitobe School

(1) Nitobe School: A “Microcosm of the International Society”

Hokkaido University is a research-oriented, comprehensive university (twenty-one Graduate Schools and fifty-five professional courses) with acclaimed scholars and motivated students of diverse national, cultural, and ethnic origins. Nitobe School values and makes use of Hokkaido University's diversity to offer a distinctive learning environment, which is really quite a “microcosm of international society,” where students gain a high level of communication skills along with a keen awareness of cultural diversity.

(2) Supporting Systems

● “Mentors”

As Nitobe School “Mentors,” selected Hokkaido University graduates draw their practical experience and network to support student's learning experience and career planning. In 2017, the annual “mentor meeting” is scheduled to be held in late November in order for students to get valuable advice from mentors and expand their networks for lifetime career building.

● “Advisors”

Nitobe School “Advisors,” usually professors in the student's field of study at Hokkaido University, assist them in constructing complementary relationships between their graduate research and Nitobe School course work.

● NITOBE Portfolio (NPF)

NPF is an online log system that allows students to self-evaluate their learning level and thereby map out their future study plan. In this comprehensive network system, students can record the progress of their graduate research and outcomes from their learning at Nitobe School, while their research supervisors can use the record to offer them valuable and concrete advice.

● Scholarship

Nitobe School yearly offers a scholarship of JPY300,000 based on a careful consideration of their educational performance and engagement to the School's activities. As for the 2017 Academic Year, approximately five (5) students shall receive the Scholarship.

2. Eligibility

The Nitobe School Basic Program welcomes applications from all highly-motivated, graduate students at all levels, who are enrolled at Hokkaido University as of April 2017—although it is mainly intended for master's students, first-semester doctoral students, and students in professional degree programs.¹

3. Enrollment

Approx. 120 students

4. Course Schedule and Registration

- The Basic Program is designed to be completed within one academic year by fulfilling the completion requirements as described in Table 1.
- In such cases where students study abroad, they may take leave of absence as well as re-enroll in Nitobe School during their enrollment periods of Graduate Schools of Hokkaido University.
- All the courses offered by the Nitobe School (both Nitobe School Core Courses and Nitobe School English) are Inter-Graduate-School courses.

Core Courses: Nitobe Program for Graduate Students (Nitobe School)

Nitobe School I, II, III, and IV are held in the fifth and sixth periods weekly on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Students are advised to register for and attend at one of the classes per course. As for class schedule, see Table 2 for the Spring and Summer Terms, and Table 3 for the Fall and Winter Terms.

Support Courses: Nitobe Academic English Skills for Graduate Students (Nitobe School English)

- The Support Courses, Nitobe Academic English Skills for Graduate Students (hereinafter, Nitobe School English), adopt a track system. Students are advised to register for and participate in a class at the level appropriate to your English proficiency and attainment target.
- As for Nitobe School English I, II, III, and IV, students are allowed to register for a maximum of three (3) courses. They are encouraged to register for both Nitobe School English I and Nitobe School English II. For the class schedule, see Table 2 below.
- Please note that Nitobe School English I begins Friday, April 7 --- before the announcement of selection results. Students wishing to register for this course are advised to carefully read the syllabus, attend the first class, and follow the instructions (Tables 2 & 3).

Table 1 : Nitobe School Basic Program Courses and Completion Requirementsⁱⁱ

| | Courses | Credits | Term (Academic 2017) | Requirements for completion |
|------------------------|---|---------|-----------------------------------|---|
| Core Courses | Nitobe School I, Basics of Team-based Learning | 2 | Spring Term (May 8–June 17) | Earning of two (2) credits Earning of more than six (6) credits, including at least four (4) credits for Nitobe School Core Courses (II, III, and IV). |
| | Nitobe School II, Practice of Team-based Learning | 2 | Summer Term (June 17–August 7) | |
| | Nitobe School III, Problem-solving | 2 | Fall Term (Sep. 28–Nov. 25) | |
| | Nitobe School IV, Problem-finding | 2 | Winter Term (Nov. 27–Feb. 2) | |
| Support Courses | Nitobe School English I | 1 | Spring Term (April 7–June 9) | |
| | Nitobe School English II | 1 | Summer Term (June 5–August 4) | |
| | Nitobe School English III | 1 | Fall Term (Sep. 27–Nov. 27) | |
| | Nitobe School English IV | 1 | Winter Term (Nov. 22–Feb. 5) | |

Table 2: Timetable: Spring & Summer

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| 1st Period (8:45-) | | | Nitobe School English: Intermediate | Nitobe School English: Advanced | |
| 2nd Period (10:30-) | | | | | |
| 3rd Period (13:00-) | | | | | |
| 4th Period (14:45-) | Nitobe School English: Intermediate | Nitobe School English: Pre-Intermediate | | Nitobe School English: Intermediate | Nitobe School English: Pre-Intermediate |
| 5th Period (16:30-) | Nitobe School I (Spring) & II (Summer) | Nitobe School I (Spring) & II (Summer) | Nitobe School English: Advanced | Nitobe School I (Spring) & II (Summer) | Nitobe School I (Spring) & II (Summer) |
| 6th Period (18:15-) | | | | | |

Table 3: Timetable: Fall & Winter

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|---|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 1st Period (8:45-) | | | | | |
| 2nd Period (10:30-) | | | | | |
| 3rd Period (13:00-) | | | | | |
| 4th Period (14:45-) | Nitobe School English: Intermediate | Nitobe School English: Pre-Intermediate | | Nitobe School English: Intermediate | Nitobe School English: Advanced |
| 5th Period (16:30-) | Nitobe School III (Fall) & IV (Winter) | Nitobe School III (Fall) & IV (Winter) | Nitobe School English: Advanced | Nitobe School III (Fall) & IV (Winter) | Nitobe School III (Fall) & IV (Winter) |
| 6th Period (18:15-) | | | | | |

5. Requirements for Program Completion

Requirements for the completion of the program are:

- (1) Earning of at least eight (8) credits for the Nitobe School courses, including two credits for “Basics of Team-based Learning,” a required course which is offered in the Spring Term (See Appendix 1); and
- (2) Certification of the Program Completion Examination based on self-assessment reports and other requirements as specified by the School.

6. How to Apply

Please fill and submit online Application Form at: <http://nitobe-school.academic.hokudai.ac.jp/>

7. Application Period

From Wednesday, March 15, 2017 to Friday, April 14, 2017 (5:00 p.m., Japan Standard Time).

8. Screening and Announcement of the Results

- Full and fair consideration will be given to all complete applications that are submitted before the deadline. The decision of successful candidates follows a careful examination of their Application Form describing their motivation for applying for the Program.
- Applicants will be notified of the screening results by e-mail after 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26, 2017. Admitted students will then be informed of further details about the Program.

9. Admission Procedures

Students admitted to the Nitobe School Basic Program are required to submit documents confirming for their enrollment. The documents must be signed by their academic supervisors.

10. Orientations for Prospective Students

| | Date & Time | Language | Venue |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|--|
| 1 | Wed., March 15 / 17 : 00~18 : 30 | English | Frontier Research in Applied Science Building, 1F Seminar Room, Hokkaido University (Sapporo Campus) |
| 2 | Mon., April 3 / 17 : 00~18 : 30 | Japanese | |
| 3 | Mon., April 10 / 17 : 00~18 : 30 | English | |
| 4 | Tue., April 11 / 17 : 00~18 : 30 | Japanese | |

▪ For direction, go to : <https://www.oia.hokudai.ac.jp/about/visitors-access-maps/sapporo-campus-map/>

▪ [A distant lecture system will be arranged for students at Hakodate Campus to participate](#)

11. Important Dates

Program Start Dates

- Nitobe School English I (elective): Friday, April 7, 2017.
- * Applicable only to the students enrolled in the course
- Nitobe School I (required): Monday, May 8, 2017

Opening Ceremony for the Class of 2017

Saturday, May 13, 2017 (Further details will be announced).

Required Placement Testing

Admitted students are required to take either the TOEFL-ITP or TOEIC-IP test from 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 13, 2017 (tentatively scheduled) at the Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education. They are also requested to take the Student Emotional Intelligence Quotient (EQ) test after enrollment. Both tests will be free of charge. More detailed information will be given to the students when admitted.

12. Contact for Inquiries

Nitobe School Office

Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education

Hokkaido University

Address: Kita 17 Nishi 8, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0817

Tell: 011-706-5596

Email: nitobe-school-office@academic.hokudai.ac.jp

ⁱ Students who are enrolled in April 2017 are included.

ⁱⁱ For further information concerning the classes offered by the Nitobe School (e.g. their duration, dates, and places), refer to the Nitobe School Office or check Inter-Graduate School Class Registration Information website (<http://www.hokudai.ac.jp/gakusei/instruction-info/gclass/>) [Available only in Japanese at this moment].