

SOKENDAI Freshman Course (Second Semester 2019)

The Freshman Course is an intensive course (4 days camp) for newly-enrolled students of the Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI. This course has two objectives: (1) To acquire basic knowledge and skills required for all researchers; and, (2) To understand the SOKENDAI's broad range of intellectual fields, and create a network beyond your research field. This course consists of three sections: "Exploring Diversity in Academia (EDA)," "Researchers and Society," and, "Communication Skills for Researchers."

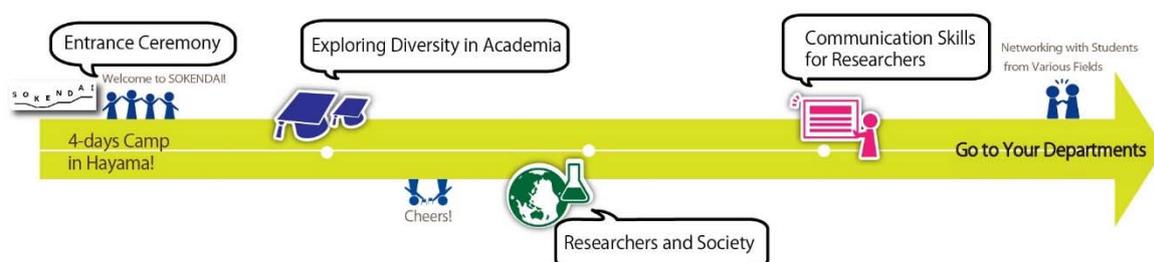
DATE: Tuesday, October 8th to Friday, October 11th, 2019

VENUE: SOKENDAI Hayama Campus

ELIGIBILITY: New and Current Students (three- and five- years Ph.D. programs)
(Compulsory for the students of both five- and three- years programs, at School of Physical Sciences, of Multidisciplinary Sciences (except students of three-year doctoral program of the department of Statistical Science), of Life Science, and of Advanced Sciences)

LANGUAGE: English

CREDIT: 2 credits (Must attend all the sessions throughout the 4-day course, and complete all assignments)



Exploring Diversity in Academia (EDA)

Presentations given by current students and a panel discussion by professors, that helps you learn about a wide range of as well as common aspects of research activities in SOKENDAI, envision your research career, and build a new network with other students and professors coming from various research fields and backgrounds.

Researcher and Society

Learn and discuss social responsibility of researchers through workshop and lectures.

Communication Skills for Researchers

Lecture and exercises to practice writing and presentation skills for researchers.

SCHEDULE

Sessions for Freshman Course (FC) are indicated as [FC]

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8th

Timetable	Program/FC Sessions	Venue
12:00 - 13:00	Registration	Main Building Lobby (1 st floor)
13:00 - 13:20	Orientation	Auditorium(2 st floor)
13:20 - 13:50	Lecture on IT Literacy	
13:50 - 14:35	Lecture on Mental Health	
14:50 - 15:30	Entrance Ceremony	
15:30 -	Moving to 1st floor of Annex	--
15:45 - 15:50	FC Opening Address [FC]	Annex (1 st floor)
15:50 - 18:30	Exploring Diversity in Academia (EDA) I [FC]	
18:30 - 20:00	Reception (Dinner)	
20:00 -	Going to the Hotel (Lofos Shonan)/Check-in	Lofos Shonan

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9th

Timetable	Program/FC Sessions	Venue
7:00 - 8:30	Breakfast	Lofos Shonan Restaurant ACTY
8:45 - 9:00	Registration	Annex (1 st floor)
9:00 - 12:00	Exploring Diversity in Academia (EDA) II [FC]	
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 - 17:50	Researchers and Society I [FC]	
18:00 - 20:00	Dinner	Lofos Shonan Restaurant ACTY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th

Timetable	Program/FC Sessions	Venue
7:00 - 8:30	Breakfast	Lofos Shonan Restaurant ACTY
8:45 - 9:00	Registration	Annex (1 st floor)
9:00 - 12:10	Researchers and Society II [FC]	
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 - 17:50	Researchers and Society III [FC]	
18:00 - 20:00	Dinner	Lofos Shonan Restaurant ACTY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11th

Timetable	Program/FC Sessions	Venue
7:00 - 8:30	Breakfast	Lofos Shonan Restaurant ACTY
8:30 -	Check out	Lofos Shonan
8:45 - 9:00	Registration	Annex (1 st floor)
9:00 - 12:10	Communication Skills for Researchers I [FC]	
12:10 - 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 - 16:00	Communication Skills for Researchers II [FC]	
16:10 - 16:30	Closing Remarks and Group Photo [FC]	

Exploring Diversity in Academia (EDA)

OUTLINE

This course consists of presentations by current students (FC Student Coordinators) and a panel discussion by professors, that helps you learn about a wide range of as well as common aspects of research activities in SOKENDAI, envision your research career, and build a new network with other students and professors coming from various research fields and backgrounds.

CONTENTS

Part I: Icebreaker Activities

FC Student Coordinators facilitate interactive communications among participants.

Part II: Introduction of Research Fields

The Coordinator deliver a presentation on their research fields in a way that participants from different research background would understand and widen their interest.

Part III: Panel Discussion

SOKENDAI professors from several departments give a panel discussion on their own “research cycle,” from designing research, finding a research question to presenting the research result. The Coordinators will facilitate group discussions.

INSTRUCTORS

Rin Asaoka, Associate Professor, the Center for Educational Development (CED)

Satoshi Mayama, Lecturer, CED

Mutsumi Komatsu, Assistant Professor, CED

Machiko Itoh, Assistant Professor, CED

Michiyo Kinoshita, Associate Professor, Department of Evolutionary Studies of Biosystems (ESB)

Hisashi Ohtsuki, Associate Professor, ESB

Researchers and Society

OUTLINE

In contemporary society, researchers are expected to have not only expertise in their specialty but also to fulfill their social responsibility as researchers. This course will offer opportunities to think about the roles of researchers in society through lectures and workshops.

CONTENTS

Part I (270 minutes): Introduction and Research Integrity

As research activities are often supported by society and research results can have huge social impacts, research integrity is an important part of responsible conduct of research. In part I, students will discuss various issues in research integrity, and learn basic rules in research practice.

Part II (180 minutes): Social History of Research

Social roles and responsibilities of researchers have been changing over time. This part will provide a lecture on the process in which social basis of research and relation between researchers and society has come to take the current forms. In particular, it will discuss moral dilemma and social responsibilities that emerged after the two great wars in the 20th century.

Part III (270 minutes): Science Communication

Contemporary research activities are closely intertwined with society and could affect the public in many ways. Thus researchers are expected to explain their activities to various actors in society. Often, different stakeholders frame problems differently, which can make communication between researchers and the public difficult. Part III will consider a controversial case of genetically modified crops as an example to discuss communication difficulties through a lecture and group work.

INSTRUCTORS

Kenji Ito, Associate Professor, ESB

Kaori Iida, Associate Professor, ESB

Nozomi Mizushima, Assistant Professor, ESB

Yukinori Onishi, Assistant Professor, ESB

Communication Skills for Researchers

OUTLINE

The ability to clearly communicate one's ideas, whether in the spoken or written medium, is essential for any researcher. The aim of this course is to develop basic scientific writing and oral presentation skills. Students will learn how to improve the composition of their reports and make effective presentations in order to make their ideas more easily understood by the reader or audience.

CONTENTS

Part I: Scientific writing

Lecture (90 minutes): The lecture will focus on basic strategies for making your writing easier to understand for the reader. We will briefly cover overall paper structure, and focus on the structure of sentences and paragraphs. In addition, strategies for avoiding confusing language and highlighting key information will be discussed. These points will be illustrated using simple, concrete examples.

Workshop (90 minutes): In this workshop, students will have the opportunity to put the techniques they have learned into practice through several short writing exercises.

Part II: Academic presentation (180 minutes)

Academic presentation covers how to orally communicate your research in a limited time with slides or a poster, with the goals of not only disseminating your findings but also eliciting valuable feedback from the audience. In this lecture, you will learn fundamental skills to improve your presentations, including structuring your talk, making effective visual aids, and incorporating the visual materials into your talk.

INSTRUCTORS

Michiyo Kinoshita, Associate professor, ESB

Shohei Takuno, Assistant Professor, ESB

Hideki Innan, Professor, ESB

Todd Gorman, Lecturer, National Institute of Genetics

Jeremiah S. Sechrist, Special-Appointment Lecturer, CED