

# IMPORTANT: For GIS Students Applying to Study Abroad Programs (派遣留学)

Hosei University offers study abroad programs at a wide variety of institutions, some with educational systems that may differ slightly from traditional four-year universities in Japan. When considering destinations, please keep the following important points in mind:

- **Credits for classes taken abroad may not always be transferred as expected upon return.** For example, in certain cases a 300-level course at your destination may be counted as a 200-level course on your GIS transcript. See the attached document for further information.
- If you have any questions or concerns about credit transfer, please consult with the OAS advisor **prior to** choosing a destination.

## **Guidelines for Credit Transfer from Study Abroad**

1. Hosei University, including GIS, has signed academic cooperation agreements with a diverse range of higher education institutions overseas for researcher/student exchange, including universities, institutes of technology, and universities of applied sciences, such as *Fachhochschulen* (in Germany) and a *hogeschool* (in the Netherlands). Different types of institutions offer different curricula designed for their own missions and needs. For example, universities are research-driven and adopt academic and theoretical approaches, while universities of applied sciences focus on vocational education and skill training for specific career paths. The minimum age of admission to the latter kind of institutions is one or two years earlier in some countries.
2. Most undergraduate degree (BA and BSc) programs take four years to complete in North America and East Asia, but three years in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand, where students without GCE A Level or equivalent qualifications are required to complete a one-year foundation program prior to the enrolment in the degree courses.
3. Credits earned overseas can be counted towards GIS credits at the same level (100-300) in principle. However, taking into account the aforementioned differences in education systems, credits from a vocational college may be judged to be equivalent to credits at a lower level at GIS.
4. For the features of each institution and its course level, it is a good idea to check with OAS staff and/or professors in the academic fields concerned before you decide on a study abroad destination.