HOSEI UNIVERSITY GIS STUDENT COMMON ROOM

HOORAY! THE 2025 FALL SEMESTER HAS BEGUN!

WELCOME BACK TO CAMPUS!
HOW WAS YOUR SUMMER VACATION?

What did you do during your summer holidays? Did you travel around Japan? Did you go overseas? Did you do volunteer work? Maybe you found a new part-time job? Or did you complete an internship? You most likely spent time with your family and went out with friends? Did you visit your grandparents during O-Bon? Possibly, you got your driver's license. Did you read some good books? Come to the GIS Student Common Room and tell us how you spent your summer.

During the summer break, some of your classmates came to the GIS Student Common Room every week to further develop their English language skills with our Native English Speaker in preparation for their IELTS exams.

While many of you were working at your internships and part-time jobs, several of your classmates left Tokyo for Sussex in the UK and for San Jose in the USA to participate in the GIS Overseas Academic Study (OAS) Program. As you start to attend your new autumn classes at Ichigaya campus in Tokyo, these classmates are now taking their courses at the University of Sussex and at San Jose State University.

A few of your other classmates have begun working on their applications for admission to graduate study programs in the UK, the USA, Canada and Australia.

To further support all GIS Students in the development of your writing skills and specifically in completing your *Personal Statements* as part of your graduate study applications, the GIS Graduate School Application Support (GSAS) is holding a

workshop on **How to Write and Polish your Personal Statement** on <u>Monday 6th October</u> <u>from 11:00AM to 12:00PM in the Fujimizaka</u> <u>Building, room F306.</u>

Many universities in the USA, the UK, Canada and some graduate programs in Australia require students to write and submit Personal Statements, also known as Statements of Purpose or Application Essays, in addition to your academic transcripts, Curriculum Vitae (CV) and proof of your English language proficiency when you apply to these graduate programs.

Personal Statements are your opportunity to present a compelling narrative to the university admissions committee to showcase your qualifications, experience, motivation, and why you are an ideal candidate for your chosen graduate study program.

GSAS will help you compose and polish your Personal Statement during the workshop on October 6th, 2025. Make the most of this opportunity and attend the GSAS Personal Statement Workshop to fully grasp the intricacies of Personal Statements, understand how they are structured, and to know what they need to contain to enable you to formulate your own successful Personal Statement. Whether you think you will be applying for graduate school or not, this writing exercise is valuable. We look forward to seeing many of you at this workshop.

Now, as the autumn foliage begins to fall and to cover the streets of Tokyo in shades of **yellow**, **orange**, **red and brown**, **in**

Australia it is the beginning of springtime. Can you imagine? It's Springtime in Australia Now! The



streets of Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane



are blanketed in the color of the purple jacaranda flowers. Entire cities and university campuses glow in gorgeous shades of the violet jacarandas throughout the months of spring flave you ever seen the jacaranda trees in full bloom at different Australian university campuses?

You might like to consider completing your graduate studies in Australia after your graduation from the GIS faculty at Hosei University? The GIS Graduate School Application Support (GSAS) is holding an information session about GRADUATE STUDIES IN AUSTRALIA on TUESDAY 21st OCTOBER 2025 from 3:00PM to 4:00PM in the Boissonade Tower, room BT0903.

Australia information session to hear our Native English Speaker from Australia speak about graduate study programs that are currently being offered in Oz! Be sure to attend the session so that you can explore how to maximize the value of your Liberal Arts degree and ask questions about the experience of completing undergraduate and graduate studies at various universities in Australia!

In Australia, most high school and university students would have read the political satire **Animal Farm** by **George Orwell.** Did you read this novel during the summer vacation? If you did and would like to discuss the storyline and the characters,

be sure to come by the GIS Student Common Room and chat to Trang about it!
There are also reading comprehension activities you could do with Trang. It's fun to discover different authors,

great novels and new writing, don't you think?

What about the novel **The Alchemist** by **Paulo Coelho?** Did you read this tale about the young Andalusian shepherd named Santiago? In the novel, Santiago goes on a journey to find a hidden treasure, but the quest ultimately becomes a path of self-discovery. The novel explores themes of destiny, personal legends, and the interconnectedness of all living things.



Reading books like these and making time to discuss their themes and storylines in English is a great way to

experience the English language and to practice for tests like the IELTS and TOEFL, in addition to enjoying good literature!

As you begin the new fall semester, remember that the GIS Student Common Room is available for all GIS students to use. It's a place for you to undertake individual study or read an English text or novel. It's also a place where you can sit with friends and maybe chat with other classmates. It also functions as a CONDENT ACADEMIC SUPPORT SPACE where ou can receive support with your academic work. Here, you can: (1) revise your assignments (2) review and edit your essays (3) get help formulating and framing up your research project for your seminar thesis (4) discuss the books you are reading (5) edit your Personal Statements for your graduate school applications (6) rehearse your presentations and (7) practice for your English language tests among other activities. We look forward to seeing you! We wish all our GIS Students in Tokyo, San Jose, Sussex... a rewarding and successful autumn semester. Hip Hip Hooray!