



AY2025

Kyushu University Stakeholder Surveys: Student Survey

Student Satisfaction with KIKAN Education

A survey was conducted in 2025 targeting current students at Kyushu University. This triangular POP is based on the findings, with a focus on “KIKAN Education at Kyushu University.”

The Student Team of the Kyushu University Stakeholder Survey (KU-SHS)

The Student Team of the Kyushu University Stakeholder Survey (KU-SHS), appointed by the University President, is responsible for analyzing, reporting, and publicizing the results of the Kyushu University Stakeholder Survey. This “Triangular Pop” is based on the content of the survey report published by the university, but is published with the aim of sharing the perspectives of the Student Team with university stakeholders.



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Goals of KIKAN Education

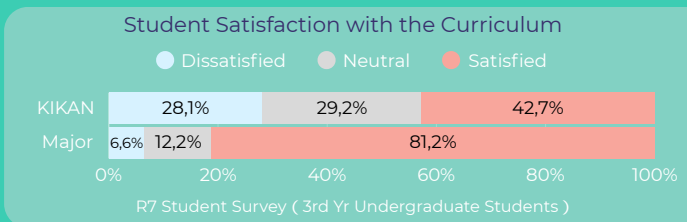
KIKAN Education is a program aimed at developing students who can learn independently and act proactively. Its main objectives are as follows.

- Develop knowledge and skills that lead to deep expertise and broad learning.
- Engage in independent learning to identify problems and examine them creatively and critically.
- Build empathy and communication skills to exchange diverse perspectives and respect differences.

Source: https://www.artsci.kyushu-u.ac.jp/campus_life/pdf/2025youkou.pdf

Kyushu University Students' Perspectives on KIKAN Education

According to the **R7 student survey**, students felt they had developed skills targeted by KIKAN Education, such as “knowledge of a wide range of academic disciplines” and “ability to collaborate with others”. However, satisfaction with KIKAN Education was lower than with major education courses.



The KU-SHS Student Team's Ideas on the Reasons for Low Satisfaction

The aim of KIKAN education is compelling. KIKAN education also offers unique benefits such as the opportunity to interact with students from other departments, as well as a variety of interactive and hands-on classes. Despite this, why is satisfaction so low? We examined the open-ended comments to consider the reasons behind this.

① The Gap between Student Expectations and the Philosophy of KIKAN education

Students tend to see university as a place to gain specialized knowledge, while KIKAN Education focuses on fostering broad interdisciplinary learning and the ability to identify problems. A second-year student points out this gap. “There are times when I lose sight of what learning at university is all about. I think it would be good to have a place where we can share our thoughts on what learning at university means”

② Students want Autonomy and Freedom of Choice in Course Taking

The foundational KIKAN courses are often required courses, even though they do not necessarily cover topics of student interest. This lack of freedom of choice may be undermining students' “motivation to learn” and leading to course-taking behavior driven solely by the desire to “earn credits” as pointed out by a third-year student.

③ Students want more Practical Learning Opportunities

Students tend to appreciate learning opportunities where they can apply their knowledge in practical ways. For example, a fourth-year student pointed out dissatisfaction with his/her English courses. “I wish there had been more opportunities in KIKAN education to read and write academic-level English and engage in discussion”.

The KU-SHS Student Team's Proposals for KIKAN Education

What can we do to ensure that students appreciate the value of KIKAN education? The following are some of our suggestions.

① Helping Students Recognize the Value of KIKAN Education

Courses such as KIKAN Education Seminars, Problem-Identification Courses, and Academic Approach Courses embody the aims of KIKAN Education. By offering these courses at an early stage of the curriculum, we believe more students will be able to appreciate the value of KIKAN education.

② Expanding Access to Academics

Many KIKAN interdisciplinary courses encourage students to engage in active, self-directed learning by focusing on practical topics that help us understand our connection to society. Allowing students to take these interdisciplinary courses in lieu of the required foundational discipline-based courses would provide students attractive alternatives to accessing academics. Student choice in course taking could also be expanded by granting course requirement waivers. For example, credits for foreign language courses can be granted or waived if a student can demonstrate equivalent competency based on well-established qualification exams for graduate school admissions or job hunting. We believe such freedom of choice is important to encourage proactive learning.

③ Increase Opportunities for Practical Learning

Many KIKAN interdisciplinary courses that focus on practical issues are highly popular and operate on a lottery basis. This leads to some students being unsuccessful in the lottery. It is important not only to increase opportunities for practical learning, but also to develop a system that encourages students to continue engagement in fields of interest, such as a system that delivers alternative learning materials to students that did not get to take the course.

If you have more ideas on how to improve KIKAN Education, we'd love to hear them through the stakeholder survey!

What is a Stakeholder survey?

Kyushu University conducts stakeholder surveys, including the **Student Survey**, to track changes in students' learning and development. The results are compiled into an official report, along with a newsletter presenting the findings from a student perspective.

The response rate is below 5%!

These surveys help improve education at Kyushu University, and your participation directly contributes to making the university better. However, the current response rate is below 5%. **Your voice matters** so please take part in the survey!

There are useful insights for students

The stakeholder surveys include not only current students, but also alumni in their 3rd and 10th years after graduation, as well as companies that employ Kyushu University graduates. They may offer valuable data and insights for considering student life and career paths. Why not take a look?

Kyushu University Stakeholder Survey

If you have any thoughts and suggestions, please contact: Kyushu University POFC (Promoting Organization for Future Creators) innovation@ueii.kyushu-u.ac.jp

