



Welcome to OIST!

Graduate School Information Session

6/2/2024





Let's Go to Miro Board





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Academic Affairs Section

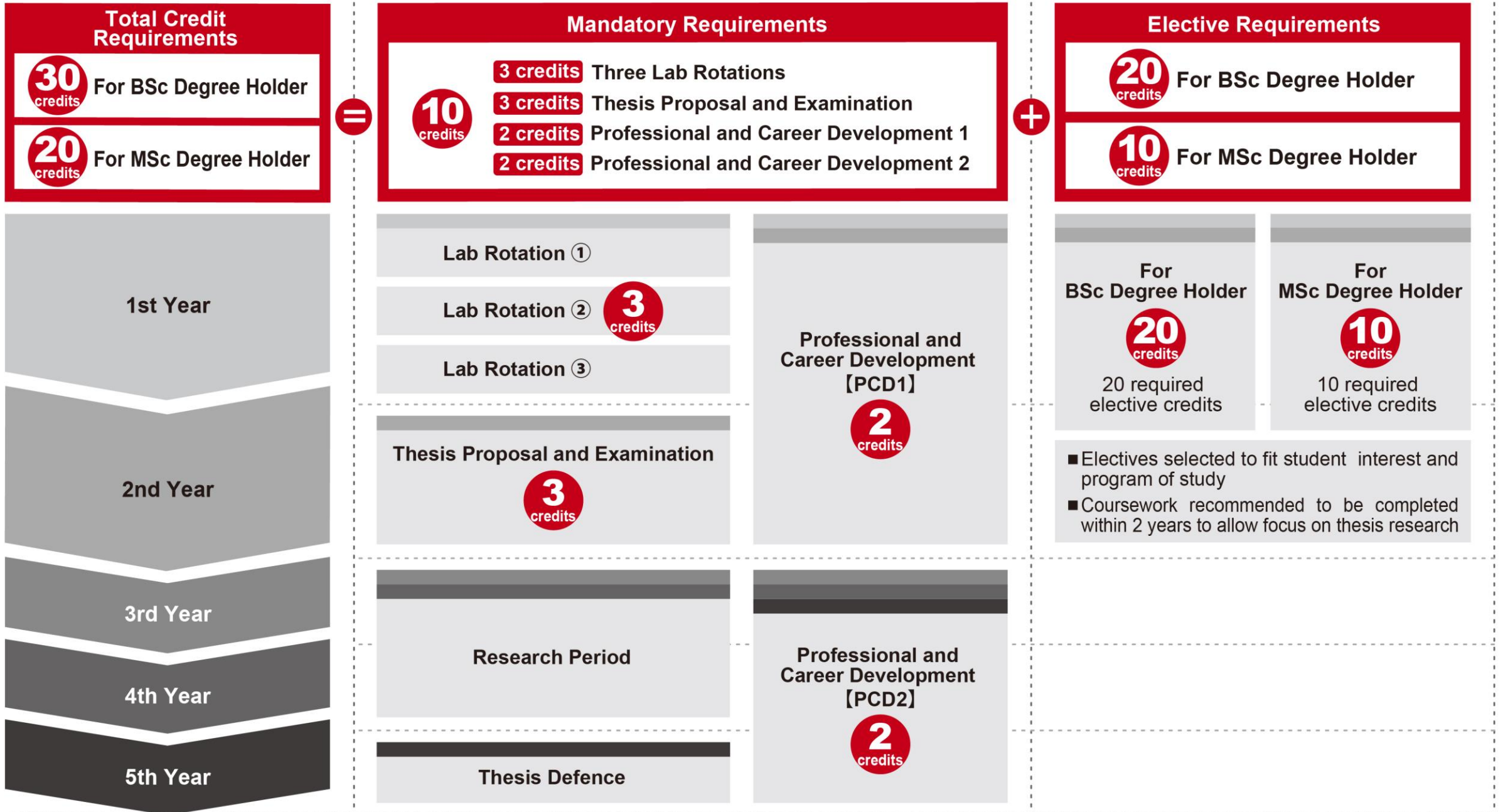


Overview

- Your PhD project will be your own to develop and take charge of.
- High-trust funding gives faculty the freedom to conduct their research (and you, too).
- Our numbers are few, which gives you more direct access and guidance from world-class faculty.
- We are highly diverse, including approximately 40% female students, with 80% of our students coming from overseas (and in fact, from across the globe).
- We don't want you to leave with just a PhD, but rather with a broader skill set that will help in any future career.



OIST PhD Program Overview



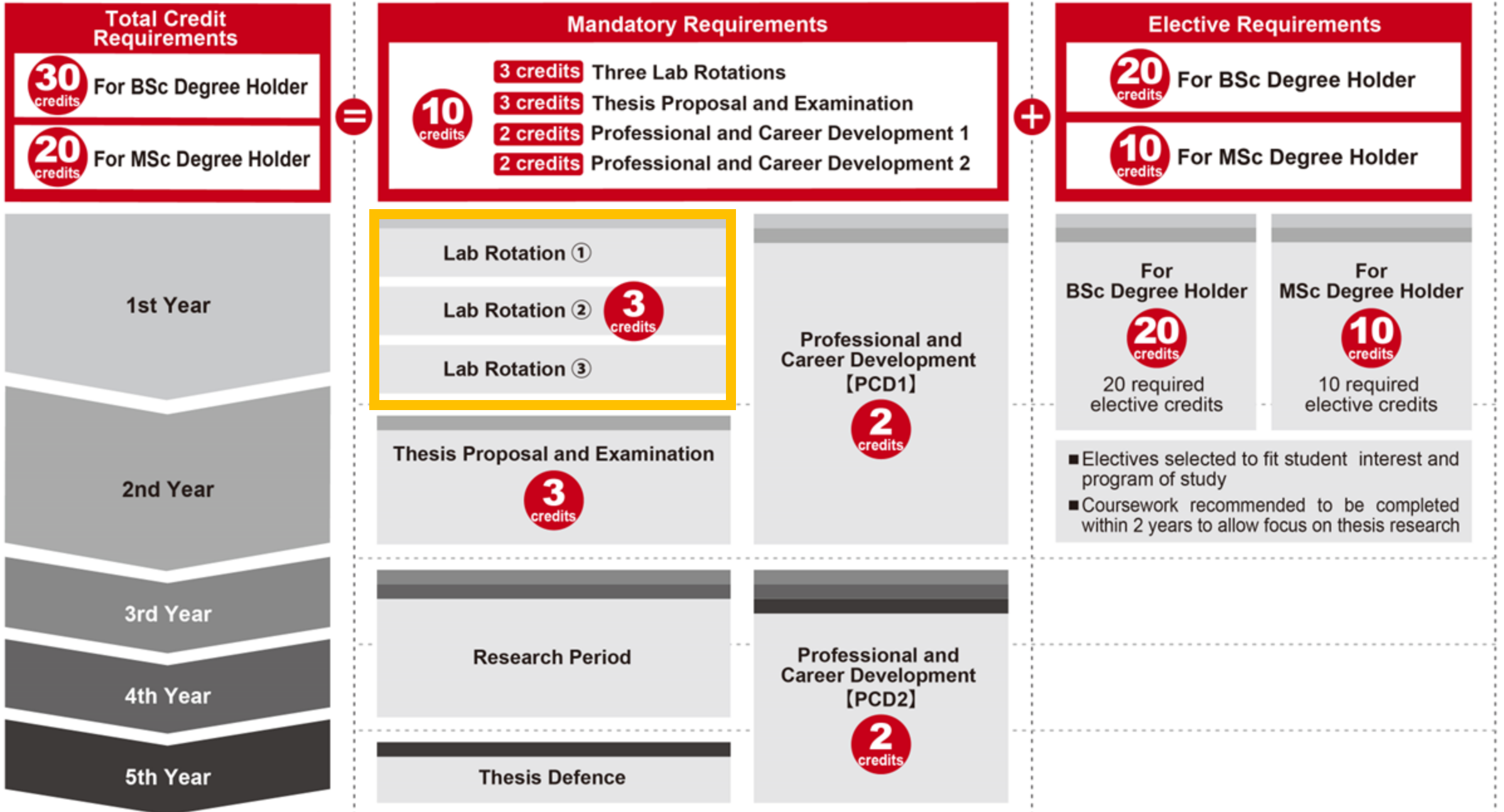


Mentor

- You will be assigned a Mentor from members of faculty prior to arrival
- Your Mentor will be responsible for your academic development and general welfare throughout PhD at OIST
- We will ask you to meet with your Mentor at least once per term to discuss your progress and future aspirations
- Your Mentor will ultimately serve as one of 3 members of your thesis committee
- You may wish to join your Mentor's unit, at which point you will find another Mentor



OIST PhD Program Overview



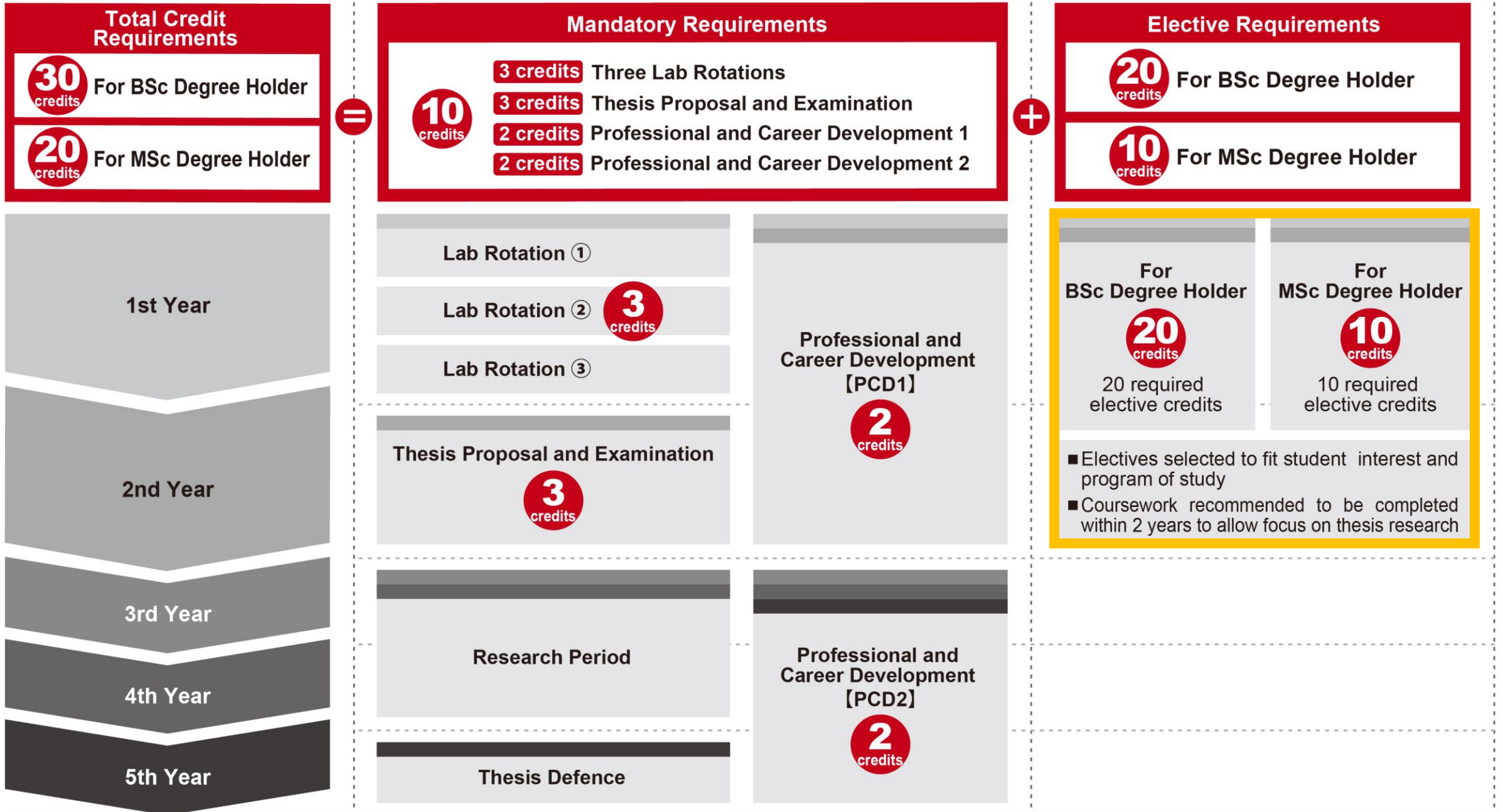


Lab Rotations

- Your first year will comprise three laboratory rotations, including **one out-of-field** rotation in line with OIST's interdisciplinary approach
- Lab rotations serve as an excellent stepping-stone into longer term research, especially for those coming from undergraduate degrees
- Comprised of a proposal and project, developed in conjunction with the unit faculty member, followed by a presentation of results
- Lab rotations provide an opportunity to learn the environment of the unit, including those who you might in future be working with



OIST PhD Program Overview





Preliminary Thesis Supervisor

- OIST is looking for the best, of the best, of the best (of the best).
- What this means for you is, if successfully accepted to the program, you will be in a position to choose your supervisor
- Faculty at OIST are world class (as are the facilities – which will in fact be available to you).
- Supervision is long-term, so we ask you and your proposed supervisor to speak not only about research interests, but also supervision style, learning style, preferred communications, etc. before joining a lab
- Finally, after securing primary supervision, co-supervision is encouraged (both from within and externally to OIST)



OIST PhD Program Overview

Total Credit Requirements

30 credits For BSc Degree Holder

20 credits For MSc Degree Holder

=

Mandatory Requirements

10 credits

- 3 credits** Three Lab Rotations
- 3 credits** Thesis Proposal and Examination
- 2 credits** Professional and Career Development 1
- 2 credits** Professional and Career Development 2

+

Elective Requirements

20 credits For BSc Degree Holder

10 credits For MSc Degree Holder

1st Year

Lab Rotation ①

Lab Rotation ② **3 credits**

Lab Rotation ③

Professional and Career Development [PCD1]

2 credits

For BSc Degree Holder

20 credits

20 required elective credits

For MSc Degree Holder

10 credits

10 required elective credits

2nd Year

Thesis Proposal and Examination

3 credits

- Electives selected to fit student interest and program of study
- Coursework recommended to be completed within 2 years to allow focus on thesis research

3rd Year

Research Period

Professional and Career Development [PCD2]

2 credits

4th Year

Thesis Defence

5th Year



Research Progress Tracking

- Mentor Reports for the first two years – just to see how you're going.
- Research Progress Reports – more traditional in the sense that we do need to see progress – but take the opportunity to practice your presentation skills, get feedback, make plans for holidays, etc.



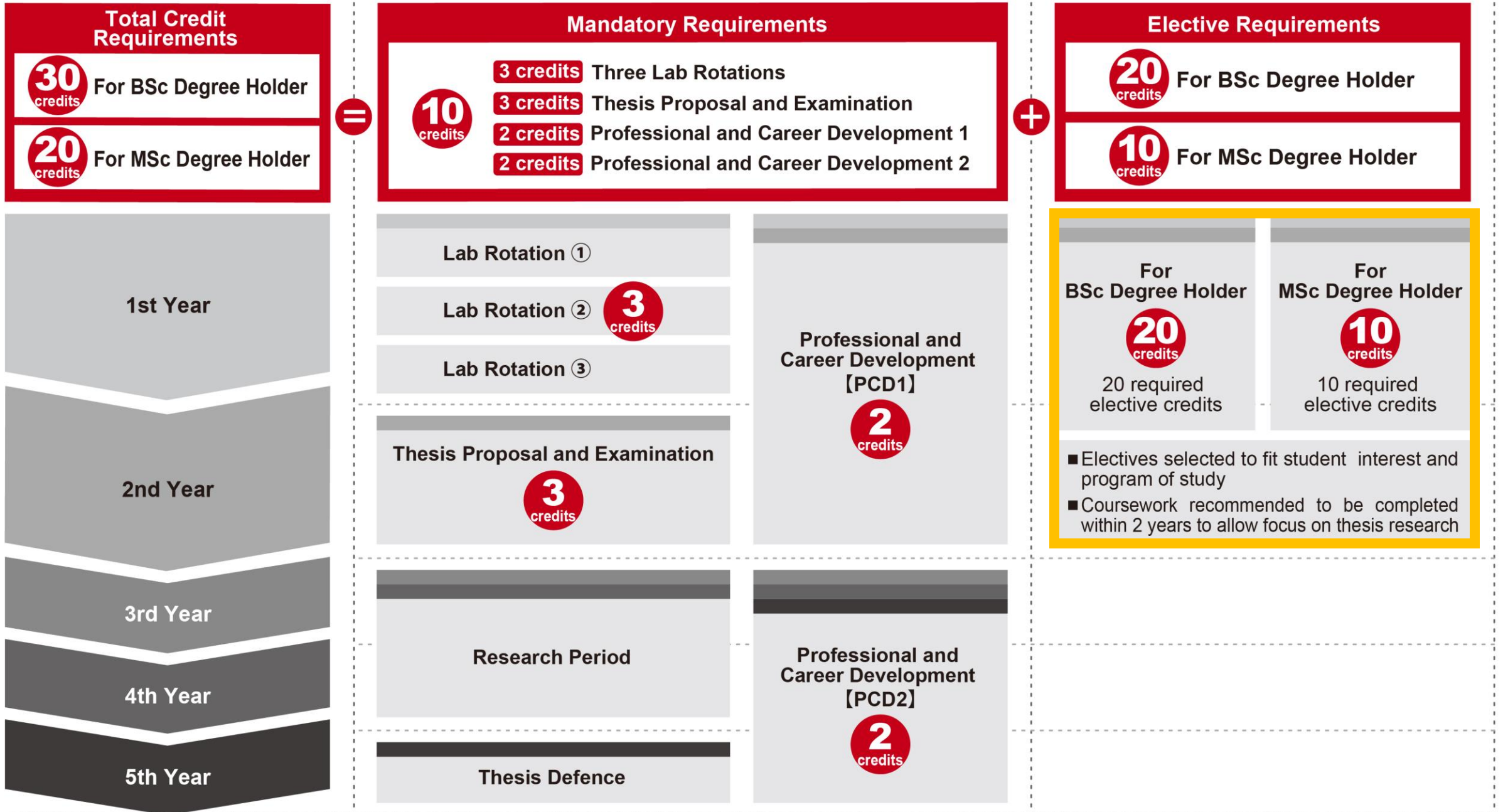


2024/06/02

Curriculum and Programs Section

Taught Courses & Career Development

OIST PhD Program Overview





Elective Courses

Elective credit requirement:

Minimum 20 credits if you have BSc; 10 credits if you have MSc

Elective courses (elective courses usually 2 credits each, 40 hours)

- 3 terms of 15 weeks: September, January, and May
- Course catalog at <https://groups.oist.jp/grad/courses-term-0>

Other ways to learn and get credit

- Directed Independent Study work with OIST faculty (1 credit)
- International Workshop/Summer School Participation (1 credit)
- Special Topics occasional courses given by invited scientists (1 credit)



Non-Credit Learning

Mini-Courses:

- Extracurricular short courses taught by OIST volunteers or Visiting Scientists
- Teaching opportunity for students

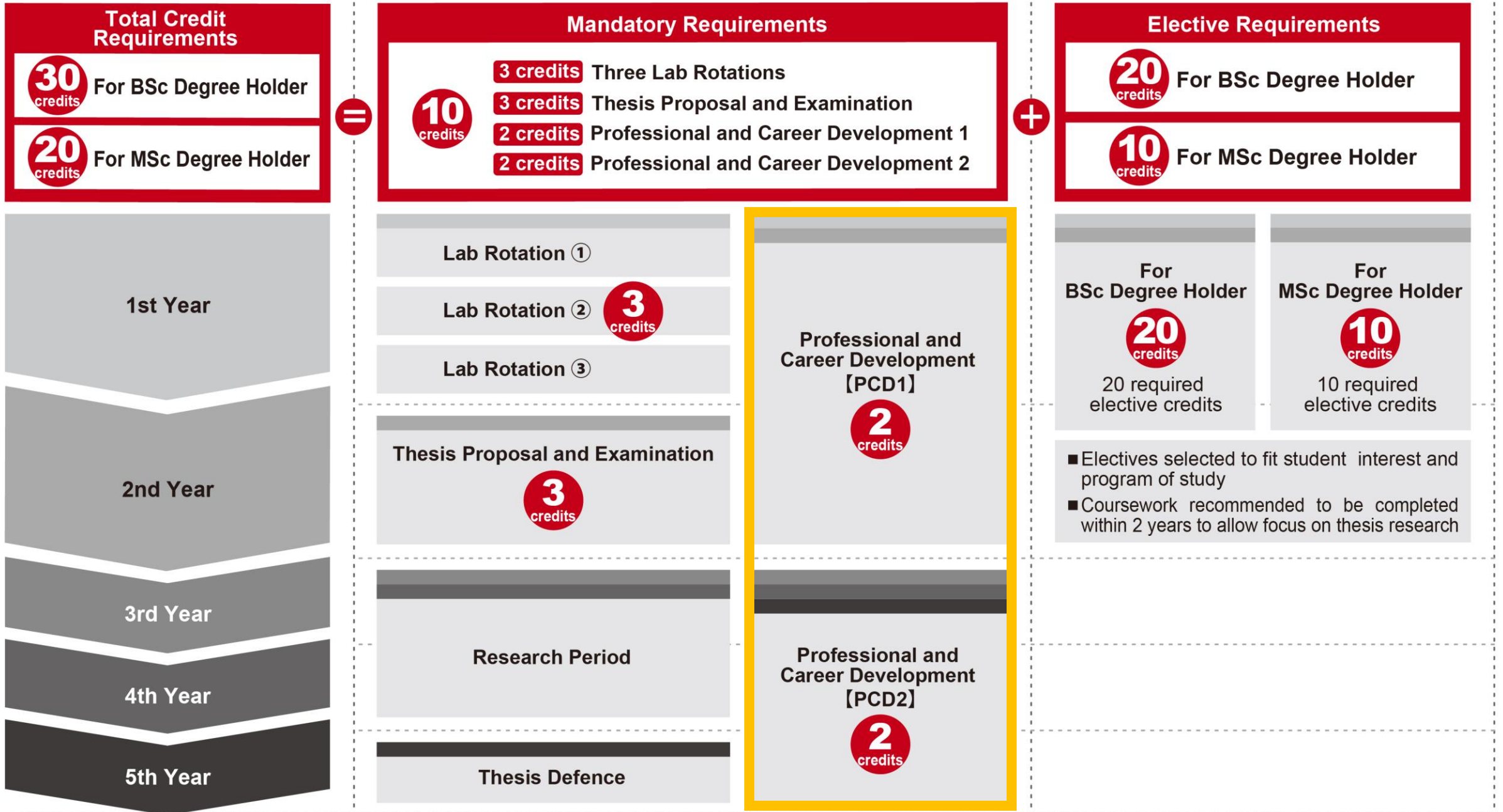
External Online Resources:

- LinkedIn Learning – Free for OIST members
- Datacamp - with OIST account
- EdX, Coursera, DeepAI
- Nature Masterclass series

Language Courses

- Free Japanese classes: Beginners to Intermediate
- Free English classes: language and writing

OIST PhD Program Overview





OIST Professional & Career Development (PCD) Program

Professional Development: Enhance skills as a scientist and develop transferrable skills

Career Development: Develop ways to explore career path

- Two 2 credit-courses: PCD1 (Year 1, 2) = 2 credits, PCD2 (Year 3, 4, 5) = 2 credits
- **Part of your graduation requirements**

Program Outcomes



Collaborative
Project



Responsible
Conduct in
Research



Scientific
Computing



Science
Communication



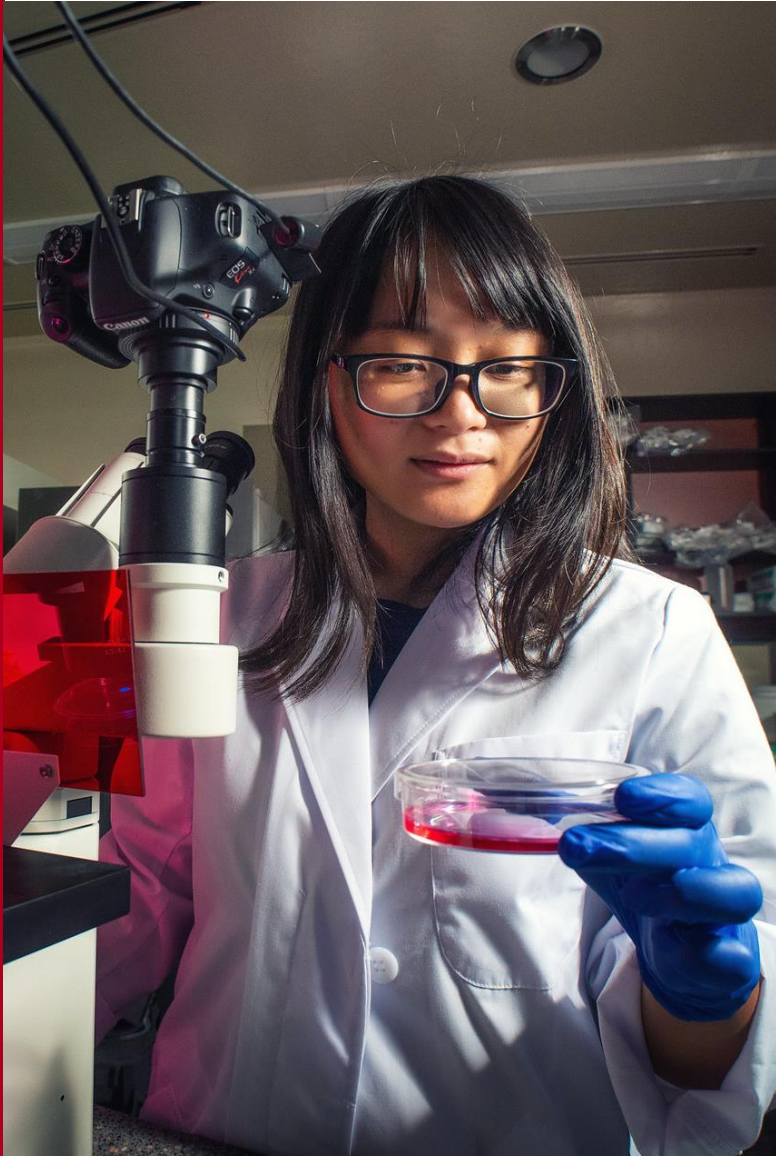
Career
Development



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Student Affairs at OIST

Internationally Competitive Student Support



All OIST PhD students receive the following support:

- Research Assistantship
- Housing at student rate
- Relocation support
- Personal computer loaned free of charge
- Injury and liability insurances during research activities
- Annual health check free of charge
- Clinic, Wellbeing Center, gym
- Shuttle bus services around OIST



Research Assistantship

Currency: JPY

Tax info.: As of 2023

1 USD = 154 JPY (As of May 2024)

Category	1st year	pre-proposal	post-proposal	4 th year	5 th year
Research Assistantship	2,520,000	2,820,000	3,300,000	3,600,000	3,600,000
Income Tax	61,560	71,880	89,880	101,040	101,040
Residence Tax	0	133,560	149,460	174,900	190,800
National Pension	0	198,000	198,000	198,000	198,000
Health Insurance	10,000	163,800	183,300	214,500	234,000
Tuition Fee	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000	540,000
Housing rent (shared-> Single room)	180,000	180,000	258,000	258,000	258,000
IN POCKET	1,728,440	1,532,760	1,881,360	2,113,560	2,078,160
IN POCKET approx. (month)	144,000 (933 USD)	127,730 (827 USD)	156,780 (1016 USD)	176,130 (1141 USD)	173,180 (1122 USD)



Health and Wellbeing

Insurance

- Injury and liability insurance during research activities
 - All students must join National Health Insurance (NHI) scheme: 70% of medical costs are covered by NHI
- *NOT covered: pregnancy/childbirth, cosmetic surgery, annual check-ups, vaccines, or orthodontic treatment*

Health Services

- On-campus OIST Health Center
- Hospitals and clinics with English speaking support are available in local area

Counseling Service

- Ganjuu Wellbeing Service
- Free and open to anyone who is part of the OIST community.



Support for Families

Childbirth Accommodation Policy

- The University promotes diversity and supports balance in work and family life.

Child Development Center/School Aged Program

- Full-time care for children from 2 months to 6 years of age.
- Part-time care for children 6 years of age and above.





Transportation around Campus

OIST Rental Car

- “OIST Driver’s License” required.

OIST Shuttle Bus

- Connects to shopping area nearby
- Free of charge with OIST ID card.





Driving in Japan

International Driver's License

If you have valid International Driver's License from Countries listed on the **Geneva Convention of 1949**, you can drive in Japan for **1 year** from your landing date OR your original Driver's License valid period.

Anyone holding a **German, French, Monacan, Belgian, Taiwanese** or **Swiss** driving license:
With an official Japanese translation of the license can drive a vehicle for **1 year** from your landing date OR your original Driver's License valid period.





Converting a non-Japanese driver's license to a Japanese driver's license

Exam-Exempt Countries and Region (29 countries and one region):

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Holland, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Luxembourg, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, designated states in USA, and Taiwan

You must provide proof that you have lived in the country that issued your driver's license for **at least three months after obtaining the license.*

For more details, visit the OIST Resource Center's page:

<https://groups.oist.jp/resource-center/basic-procedures-getting-japanese-drivers-license>





Relocation Process

One-time relocation support to OIST will be available

Visa Procedure

1. Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) application – 3 months prior to enrolment
2. CoE is assessed and issued – 1-8weeks
3. OIST sends CoE to you
4. Apply for Student Visa at Japanese embassy/consulate in your country – 1-2 weeks

Arrival arrangements

1. OIST will arrange flight after confirming your student visa
2. Fly to Okinawa before program starts





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Student Housing

Building and Facility Management Division (BFM)



Facilities/Amenities around On-campus Housing

- Coin Laundry
- Gym
- Vending Machines
- Meeting Rooms
- Community Kitchen
- Convenience Store
- Housing Office





Housing

Shared room apartment is allocated to new students until proposal exam

Room Type	Details	Rent and Furniture/month (Amounts owed by students)
2B / 3B	Shared Room w/ Private Bathroom	Around 15,550yen
2LDK / 3LDK	Shared Room w/ Shared Bathroom	Around 18,500yen

- One-bedroom and off-campus housing options are available after thesis proposal exam.
- Each room will receive a 3,000 JPY discount during the pre-proposal period. The discount will end after the proposal is approved and some rooms may incur common fees.
- A security deposit fee, furniture fees, utilities, etc. will apply in addition to rent fee.



Housing

- All rooms are fully furnished.
- Students with families can sign up for 2-bedroom apartments if there is availability, but student rate rent is applied to only one of the bedrooms.
- Special consideration may be given if there are individual circumstances that must be taken into account.





Reminder and Timeline

MAY 31 (10am-12pm JST): 2nd Graduate School information session

JUNE 3-7: Faculty interviews

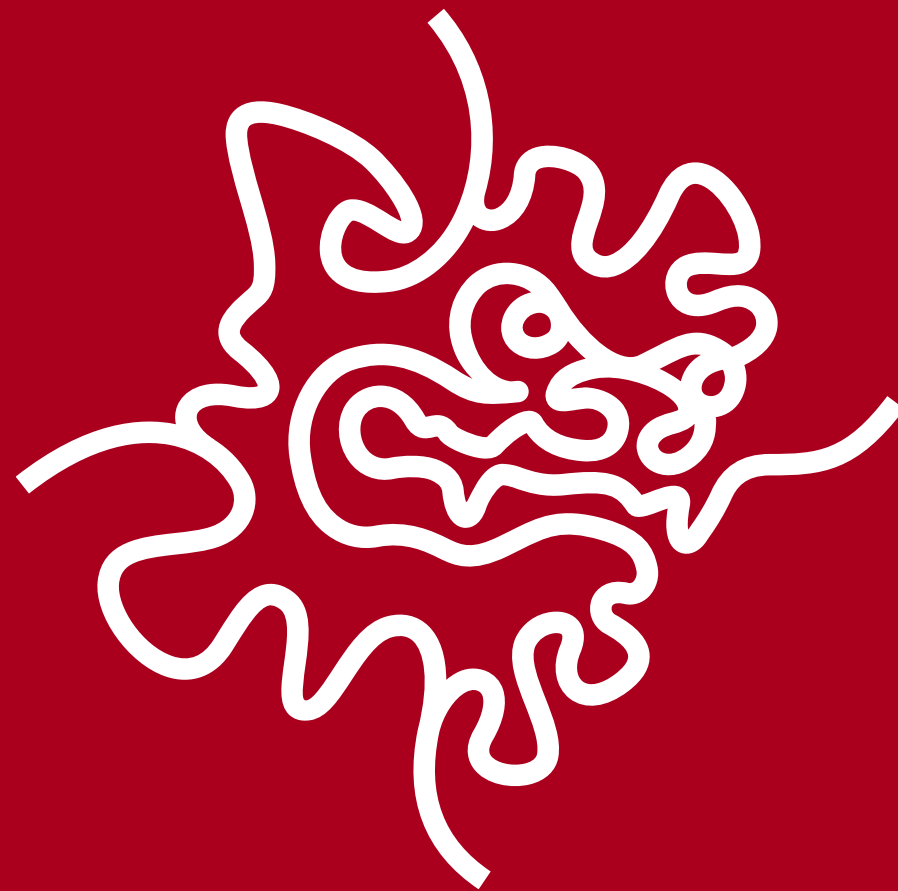
JUNE 25: Result announcement

JULY 1: Deadline to accept the offer and to submit pre-enrollment survey



Good Luck!





Thank you!