Human Sciences

Human Sciences consists of five research areas and explores human nature in order to deepen our understanding

how human beings relate to civilization and the environment.

Faculty members research the fundamental inquiry of "what are human beings?" with different perspectives including natural science and humanities such as life science, neuroscience, psychology, sports science, linguistics, philosophy, ethics, aesthetics, and the arts.

Life Sciences

This field consists of two areas. In the area of Life Sciences, research is conducted on molecular interaction, signal transduction, and genetic control that are involved in metabolic and cellular functions, by using cells, tissues, and individual animals. In addition, their relationship with environmental factors is analyzed.

In the area of brain science, studies are undertaken on the neural networks that are associated with instinctive behavior and memory or learning of animals, with the aim of identifying the molecules involved in neural connections and of clarifying related mechanisms of action. In addition, we are inquiring into how neural networks and their functions undergo changes in the brain in connection with development and learning.



Electrophoresis of Proteins



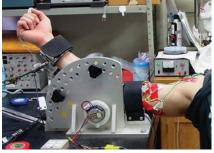
Practical Training in EEG Analysis

Studies of Human Behavior

The Studies of Human Behaviors address the questions of human behavior at many levels ranging from physiological to social level. The area offers various courses, in which students will be able to have deep knowledge of psychological and behavioral sciences, acquire the skills to analyze human behavior based on experimental data, and understand how to apply psychological and behavioral principles to resolve individual, organizational, and social issues. Students will be able to learn how to understand: physiological and cognitive processes at the micro level; personalities and interpersonal relationships at the individual level; and groups, society and culture at the macro level.

Human Movement Sciences

Human movement is observed in all circumstances including daily lives, labor, medical care, arts, and sports. It relates to many problems we are facing in a society such as aging, decline in athletic ability, obesity, and stress. In this field, we aim at exploring "how does movement improve our life for the better" and "what are human beings?" from interdisciplinary perspectives. We approach these issues by considering the value of health, competition, education, and entertainment of physical movement as well as analyzing them independently and in a cultural context.



A Scene from a Muscle Fatigue Experiment



Language Studies

Human languages should be studied from diachronic, synchronic, and contrastive perspectives in order to deepen our understanding of their structures and functions. Given this, the area offers various linguistic courses, while studying natural languages such as Japanese, Chinese, English, German, and French. Students will be trained to obtain multilateral and comprehensive knowledge and skills necessary to examine language-related issues (e.g., lexical structure and meaning, interface of phonology and semantics) realized in language activities.

Humanities and Science of Art

Professors specialize in disciplines such as philosophy, ethics, religious studies, aesthetics, and the science of art. They deal with fundamental questions relating to human existence and culture by their creative and interdisciplinary methods. Current issues in the approach to frictions and strains are under study. They consider what and how humans should be and do. It is a harmony between reason and sensitivity that will be the key to open a prosperous future in society.



Raphael, "Academy in Athens"