

A photograph of three students in a garden. They are wearing blue jackets and masks, working with orange flowers and tall grasses. The background shows a blue sky with clouds and a green hill.

Gifu International Academy of Horticulture

School Guidance

To those who aspire to become professional horticulturists... sharing the joy of working with flowers and greenery...



The Gifu International Academy of Horticulture was established with the purpose of creating highly skilled professionals in the fields of flowers and greenery. We offer students a specialized curriculum focused around practical training, and many of our graduates are playing an active role in related fields, such as cultivating, selling and distributing flowers, landscape gardening, and the maintenance of parks and gardens. As a school that can provide "education directly related to the field," which is demanded by the industry, we also aim to offer students an opportunity to acquire practical skills, as well as to deepen their knowledge in various fields such as the cultivation and decoration of flowers, landscape gardening and greening.

By creating spaces for flowers and greenery, people can cultivate healthy and spiritually rich lives. In the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, people are reminded that it is in times of anxiety that the heart seeks flowers, pleasant green spaces, human kindness, connections, and gratitude. We must recognize that the battle against the invisible opponent COVID-19 is demanding historical change from human beings. We assume that flowers and greenery are inexhaustible resources that people can use at will, but they must be kept in good condition as an indispensable infrastructure (base) for human life.

Our mission is to foster within our students a rich sensibility demanded by the times and a flexible way of thinking. Our door is open for anyone who has a great deal of passion and interest in flowers and greenery

Basic Principle: "To promote the development of flowers, industry and culture, and to create healthy and spiritually rich lives by fostering human resources with specialized and comprehensive knowledge and skills related to flowers and greenery."

Basic Policy: "A school that contributes to the flower and greenery industry in Gifu Prefecture."

- A school that fosters professionals who have mastered the practical skills in flowers and greenery.
- A school that focuses on practice in cooperation with the flower and greenery industry.

Educational Objective: "To foster professionals (meisters) who have advanced knowledge and skills in flowers and greenery and will play an active role in supporting the industry in the field.

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The world has been changing where people tend to set a higher value on the human and the inner self rather than the material. Today, the planet is suffering from a crisis, and we have to face up to environmental problems. Given the critical situation, the element of “flowers and greenery” in daily life has become more important than ever before. Flowers are often called the “food for our hearts”, as flowers and greenery can enrich our lives and bring us joy and happiness. Our mission is to foster in our students a productive sensitivity and a flexible way of thinking. Our door is open for anyone who has a great deal of passion and interest in flowers and greenery.

A practical and training oriented curriculum

Students deepen their theory based knowledge in classroom lectures, while they enhance their hands-on knowledge and skills with practical training.

Moreover, our internship program enables students to obtain social skills and a sense of professionalism by experiencing problems that arise on the ground.

Personalized Small Group Tuition

We have many experienced full time teachers and supervisors working with small groups. There are also special and advanced classes run by guest speakers who are active and influential in the field of horticulture.

Class teachers take care of students in various ways. Teachers support students in order to give them a healthy and fruitful life at the academy.

Course system

We offer a wide variety of flexible programs according to the needs of our changing society, such as accepting people in their twenties or even older who would like to return to education.

Meister Course

■ Course: Flower Cultivation

Floral Design

Landscape Gardening and Greening

■ Applicant eligibility: Applicants should have graduated from high school, or should have an equivalent academic attainment.

■ Period: 2 years

■ Degree: Diploma

■ Enrollment limit: 40 students (20 per year)

Students gain a comprehensive education through classes taken from 3 different courses, Flower Cultivation, Floral Design and Landscape Gardening and Greening, in order to play an active role in the flowers and greenery field with the knowledge and skills which they learned at our academy.

*The first semester of Year 1: Students learn about basic knowledge and skills related to flowers and greenery in a comprehensive and cross-sectional way by taking various classes from each course.

*The second semester of Year 1: Students enhance and deepen their knowledge and skills by taking classes from their major field. Then, in their second year, they work on their graduation research/projects.

10 Areas of Study at the Gifu International Academy of Horticulture

1. Plant Management

◇Basic Plant Management Practicum

Students learn the knowledge and skills essential for facility maintenance and management through morning and evening observation and irrigation of plants on campus.



2. Flower Cultivation and Distribution

◇Cultivation/Production Theory

◇Plant Physiology

◇Introduction to horticultural distribution

◇Practical training in flower production

Students learn the basic skills of plant production about seedlings, potted plants, and cut flowers through systematic training in sowing, planting, raising seeds, transplanting, fertilization, pest control, shipment adjustment, and pricing, etc.



◇Sales Practicum at Events

Students will sell products grown on the farm in conjunction with events at Gifu World Rose Garden. They will experience direct contacts with consumers and learn about product and sales management using a sales application software.

○Production Management Practicum

○Basic Breeding Science

○Exercise in Production Problem Solving

Students will engage in research directly related to issues in the field, such as product development and corporate collaboration, thereby increasing their problem-solving capabilities.

3. Flower Decoration

◇Flower Design Practicum

After learning the basics using fresh flowers and art flowers, students will learn a wide range of practical skills through repeated production of seasonal products and flower arrangements for weddings, funerals, etc.



◇Horticulture Decoration Practicum

Through the production and management of group planting, hanging baskets,

and moss balls, etc., students will learn how to maintain and manage plants while acquiring the skills to create spatial displays.

○Practicum for preparation for the Level 3 Horticultural Decorating Skills Test

○Practicum for preparation for the Level 3 Flower Decorating Skills Test

○Wedding Decoration Practicum

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills to be able to coordinate wedding bouquets, table decorations, and other wedding-related flowers in accordance with the client's requests and budget.

○Funeral Decoration Practicum

Students will learn funeral decoration skills in the new funeral business in response to various requests to reflect the lifestyles of the deceased, while inheriting Japanese funeral decoration skills.

○Decorating Skills Practicum

○Flower Decoration Practicum

4. Landscaping and Greenery

◇Practicum for Landscaping Arrangement with Flowers

Students will learn about shukei (landscape arranging) with flowers. The potted seedlings of annuals used here are grown on campus.



◇Landscaping Construction and Management Practicum

Students will learn how to construct landscaping spaces such as masonry, and how to prune and manage plants according to their growth characteristics.

◇Introduction to Landscaping

○Practicum for the Level 3 Landscaping Skills Test

○Surveying Practicum

○Drafting Practicum

○CAD Drafting Practicum

○Comprehensive Landscaping Practicum

○Landscaping Engineering/Construction Theory

5. Work Experience

◇Internships

• Students will engage in practical training for 10 days at a company, etc., and use the experience gained to



enhance their motivation to find a job and work.

- Students will engage in practical training for 7 or more days during spring, summer, and other holidays.

6. Internaitonality

◇Global Communication in Horticulture

By learning English conversation and expression skills in English, students will develop the ability to disseminate information in English and collect information through overseas study tours.



◇Overseas Study Tours

Students will visit the famous traditional gardens in the U.K., a horticultural powerhouse. They will also visit the world's largest flower show, botanical gardens, horticultural stores, and flower stores to deepen their understanding of horticulture and acquire an international mindset.

7. Management

◇Career Design

- In this course, students will learn the theory of career design, manners, and etiquette, as well as specific job hunting schedules and interview strategies, thereby enabling them to consider their own careers in life and to apply acquired knowledge to job hunting.



- Participants will learn labor laws and knowledge about money and finance, which are very important for workers, as well as experience the "collaborative activities" required in a diversifying society through discussions.

◇Simulation of Business Start-Up and Management

Students will learn the basics of management, which is "devising ways to improve activities in which people cooperate with each other."

8. Marketing

◇Product Trend Research

A list of the top 150 plants in the Aichi Toyoake Flower Wholesale Market in terms of transaction value will be given to the students.



They will search for and photograph the plants in the garden center and examine

their official names, aliases, and management methods using picture books and the Internet to create an original database.

○Product Development Exercise

◇Promotion through SNS

In this class, students will learn how to use SNS to disseminate information about what they have learned at school, product PR, explanatory videos, etc. They will also learn how to shoot, edit, upload to YouTube, and analyze the video's access data.

9. Culture and Utilization

○Horticultural Color Science

○Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement)

○Horticultural Welfare Theory and Practicum

○Bonsai (Miniature Potted Tree) Practicum

○Training in Horticultural Culture



10. Problem Solving

◇Research and Production for Graduation

As a culmination of what students have learned during the two years of each course, they will systematically work on assignments based on individual or group themes.



◇Required subjects

* You can be approved for the number of hours you have taken for credits earned at universities or other institutions prior to enrollment.

○Elective subjects

Teaching Staff

< Usuda Hiromichi > *Professor

Graduated from the Department of Agricultural Economics, Faculty of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture. After joining the Gifu Prefectural Government, Professor Usuda has been involved with the promotion of flower production as a promotion adviser, a person in charge of training at the Flower General Instruction Center, a specialist supporting innovation in agriculture (in charge of flowers), as well as the head of the team in charge of flowers in the Agriculture and Horticulture Division. He then moved to his current position after working as the Manager of the Agricultural Knowledge Promotion Division at the Ena Region Agriculture & Forestry Office.



< Inoue Mamoru > *Associate Professor and Doctor of Agriculture

Graduated with a Doctorate from the School of Agricultural Sciences, Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, University of Nagoya. He moved to his current position after working as a board member for Fukukaen Flower Distribution Center Ltd., as well as his positions at Toyoake Kaki Co.,Ltd. as head of the Corporate Planning Division, and as company manager at Toyoake Butsuryu Co., ltd. He is also the chairman of the school council of Ena Agricultural High School and a part-time lecturer in agricultural economics at the Nagoya City Graduate School.



< Maeda Takahide > *Associate Professor and Doctor of Agriculture

Graduated with a Doctorate from the School of Agricultural Sciences, Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, University of Nagoya. He moved to his current position after researching the flower bud formation of the Japanese Morning Glory. He serves as a judge at the Tokai Potted Plant Fair sponsored by the Tokai Regional Council for the Promotion of Flowers and the Aichi Toyoake Potted Plant Distribution Improvement Council.



< Yoshida Kumiko > *Associate Professor

Graduated from the Keisen Junior College of Horticulture. She moved to her current position after working at U. Goto Florist Ltd., Hakuraku Kaen Co.,Ltd. as Manager, Tokoen Ltd. as Head of the Sales, (currently trading as



Green Wise Co., Ltd.) and finally acting as chairperson of the organic horticulture shop Taproot. She has qualifications such as a Certified Floral Decorator, etc.

< Hayashi Makoto > * Lecturer

Graduated from the Department of Design, Nagoya Zokei University of Art & Design. He worked at Aoyama Flower Market, where he was engaged with product creation, store operation, and event planning, as well as other management jobs. After working as a store manager, he was in charge of training store managers and providing guidance on store operations as a purchasing manager at the headquarters before assuming his current position.



< Imanishi Yoshitomo > * President

Graduated from the Department of Environmental Studies for Open Space, Faculty of Horticulture, Chiba University. He was involved in the operation and management of public parks and green spaces after joining Nagoya City Hall, and assumed his current position after resignation. He is a certified park management operator and a 1st class landscape architecture construction management engineer. He has served as a part-time lecturer at universities and as a member of national and local government councils.



< Aida Akira > *Professor and Doctor of Landscape Architecture

Graduated with a Doctorate from the Department of Agricultural Science, Graduate School of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture. Having worked as an assistant in the landscaping department of the same university, he came to work at the Academy. He is Chairman of the Kakamigahara City Green Council and member of the Landscape Council, Vice President of the Chubu Branch of the Japanese Society of Landscape Architecture, Vice President of the Tokai Branch of the Japan Landscape Architecture and Shukei Association, as well as the auditor secretary of the Japan Horticultural Wellbeing Promotion Association, which is a non-profit organization.



< Arai Toshihiro > *Associate Professor

Graduated from the Department of Landscaping, Faculty of Agriculture, Tokyo University of Agriculture. He joined the Gifu Prefectural Government after having worked at Ark Landscaping Design Office Co., Ltd. He then worked in divisions including the Urban Park Division as well



as the Flower Festival Commemorative Park, etc. before assuming his current position. His qualifications include First-class Landscape Gardening Work Operation and Management Engineer, First-class Construction Managing Engineer, 1st Class Landscaping Engineer, and Associate Professional Engineer (for Construction Department), etc.

< Sato Tomoshige > *Associate Professor and Master of Law

Graduated with a Master's degree from the Graduate School of Law, Meijo University. He moved to his current position after working at a certified public tax accounting firm. In his previous job, he was engaged in various tax filing and management support services for both corporations and individuals.



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