

To all UGAS students enrolled after April 2021

Regarding "Research Ability Improvement Seminars" and Seminar Proposals from Students

Iwate UGAS has established the "Research Ability Improvement Seminars" (elective course, 1 credit) as a lecture subject from 2022 fiscal year. Students who have enrolled after April 2021 will be able to earn the credit of this course.

Outline of the lecture: This lecture aims to improve the research ability of doctoral students by providing seminars on statistical methods, how to write dissertations, etc. as subjects that can be selected and taken under the independence of students. One credit will be awarded by attending seminars 7 times or more (equivalent to 100 minutes each time) held at the constituent university, etc. and submitting a report for each seminar. Those who do not wish to earn credits may also attend the seminars.

There are four categories of research ability improvement seminars which are as follows:

(1) Seminar planned by the Faculty (Online)

Educational seminars are provided online, such as "Thesis Writing Seminars" and "Career Support Seminars" planned by the university, as well as seminars organized by the university faculty members by research field and subject. To earn credits, you need to attend at least **3 seminars (300 minutes)** from this category.

(2) Seminar planned by University (Face-To-Face, Online, Hybrid)

Seminar planned by University are those that are recognized as seminars that contribute to the improvement of students' research ability as a university among the academic seminars planned by each constituent university. Please contact the UGAS Office for applicable seminars.

(3) Student Proposal Seminar (Online)

Seminar Proposed by the Student is an online seminar that are planned and proposed by the students that they want to hold. The seminar must have the permission and approval of the Dean of the UGAS. Students who wish to attend this seminar must submit a **seminar proposal**. Please see the open call for participants guide for **the implementation procedure**.

(4) Research Exchange Seminar (face-to-face or online)

This type of seminar is a face-to-face or an online seminar that brings together students from the UGAS member universities who are engaged in research activities in similar fields of specialization but have few opportunities to interact with each other and exchange their research topics. In principle, the seminar should be planned as a gathering of the UGAS students from each constituent university in their majors/specialties, but participation by students from other majors/specialties is also permitted. If conducted online, participation by students from three or

more universities is required; if conducted in person, participation by students from at least one university is required. All participating students are required to make a presentation. There is no limit to the number of participating students, but the seminar must be planned to last at least 100 minutes. Any field of specialization and any language (Japanese, English, or both Japanese and English) are acceptable. Students who wish to have a research exchange seminar must ask one UGAS-qualified faculty member to serve as a faculty cooperator and obtain approval from him/her before conducting the seminar. The seminar will be moderated and facilitated by the UGAS students.

Points to note regarding taking courses and evaluation methods

- All or part of the courses offered by UGAS, such as "Special Lectures in Agricultural Science", "Advanced Seminars in Each Major Course", and "Communication for International Conferences", cannot be taken as part of the "Research Exchange Seminar".
- The course period is one year. If it is unavoidable, we may allow you to take courses for up to two years.

Report submission and evaluation

- Please submit the **report** by the recommended method within 2 weeks after attending each seminar.
- After submitting the report for 7 times (700 minutes in total), please submit the **attendance list**.
- Grade evaluation will be judged comprehensively based on the content of the submitted report, the number of attendances, the number of hours, etc.

For Inquiries: The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Iwate University Office;

rendai2@iwate-u.ac.jp

Announcement and Implementation Procedure for Research Ability Improvement Seminars (Student Proposal Seminar)

Seminar Proposed by the Student is an online seminar that are planned and proposed by the students that they want to hold. The seminar must have the permission and approval of the Dean of the UGAS. The number and hours of attending this seminar will be counted as part of the "Research Ability Improvement Seminar" (elective course, 1 credit) (only for students enrolled after April 2021).

Conditions for seminars that can be proposed

1. The proposal (attached sheet) must be submitted one month (30 days) prior to the scheduled seminar date.
2. It is assumed that the research ability of the student is improved, and the content is concrete, including candidates for lecturers.
3. It must be a joint proposal by two or more Iwate UGAS students.
4. At least 10 students or more, including faculty members and master's students are expected to attend the seminar.
5. It will be an online seminar and can be attended by all university students.
6. The time should be planned for 100 minutes or more, including Q & A time.
7. Seminars should be moderated and conducted by university students.

Support from the university

The University will financially support the seminar instructors according to the number of hours, according to the regulations of Iwate University.

* The Travel expenses for the invited Lecturer to the university will not be paid.

Seminar proposal / implementation procedure

Students submit the proposal to the UGAS office as an attachment at least **one months before** the scheduled implementation date.



Confirmation by the university (teachers in specialized fields, etc.), confirmation of the content of the project after consultation with the proposing student, notification



UGAS notifies all UGAS students about the seminar by e-mail etc. and register students



The university will be in charge of the online organization on the day of the seminar. The student proposed for the seminar will proceed with the seminar.



UGAS students who want to get credits submit a report within two weeks of the seminar

* We will separately instruct about the report submission.

For Inquiries: The United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Iwate University Office; rendai2@iwate-u.ac.jp

Research ability improvement seminar (student proposal seminar) plan

Item	Entry column
Date of submission	June 5 (Fri), 2026
Name of the proposing student (Student ID) / Specialty /University /Email	(name here)★★★★ (U1234567) Plant production /Iwate University /○○@iwate-u.ac.jp
Co-proposing students (University) Number of students	(name here)○○○○ (Iwate Univ.) 、 ◇◇◇◇ (Hirosaki Univ.) ▲▲▲▲ (Yamagata Univ.) 、 ▼▼▼▼ (Fukushima Univ.) Total 5 students (including representative proposer)
Faculty cooperater (position, affiliation)*	□□□□ (Professor, Faculty of Agriculture, ○○ University)
Title of the seminar	Practical methods of data collection and analysis in the field of ○ studies (tentative)
What you want to learn at the seminar	- How to choose a data collection method and what to look out for. - Types and selection of statistical methods used in data analysis - How specific should I be about my research methods in my submitted paper?
Information on desired lecturer Name/Affiliation/position/ Need for advice, etc.	TOHOKU Manabu, PhD (Professor, Tohoku University) △△@tohoku-u.ac.jp or TOKYO Goro, PhD (Associate Professor, The University of Tokyo) ▲▲@tokyo-u.ac.jp * I need advice on other suitable person.
Preferred schedule of the lecture (number of hours)	* As a rule, weekdays 9:00–17:00. *After 1 month from proposal submission 15:00-17:00, July 27 (Mon), 2026 (2 hours) * Planned during June due to lecturer availability.
Number of students expected to attend (At least 10 students are required)	Iwate: At least 6 persons, Hirosaki: At least 5 persons, Yamagata: At least 3 persons, Fukushima: At least 3 persons. Total: At least 17 people, including master's students and faculty.
Others (Contact, consultation, etc.to the UGAS)	I need advice on how to conduct a seminar online.

Please schedule your seminar on a day that does not overlap with any UGAS lectures already scheduled.

* In addition to above lectures, we may ask you to set the schedule so that it does not overlap with the schedule of major events of the university.