

Student messages

Teaching and learning

“ An interactive classroom is the best place for learning ”

Ron Jefferson LOTINO (3rd year)

What I like most about GIS is that the students and professors are very communicative. The students here are eager to learn, and GIS gives us just the right place to pursue our goals. Our professors are passionate and very good at creating a classroom climate where students feel free to contribute and debate ideas. I have come to participate more in class because the classroom climate here is friendly rather than evaluative.

Teaching and learning

“ It's not the facts you learn, but the resources you employ in order to learn ”

Yurie HATORI (4th year)

Studying at GIS gave me useful skills for job hunting and internships. For instance, I learned how to retain everyone's attention in a presentation and make it persuasive in a limited time – just what's needed in a job interview. There are plenty of chances to converse with classmates from various backgrounds, and thus to see things from different perspectives. All this puts you in a good position for your career. Indeed, it's thanks to these skills that I got a job in the advertising agency where I desperately wanted to work.

People

“ Your college life will be shaped by the people you surround yourself with ”

Carla Kaory Nomura BATISTA (3rd year)

In GIS I've become friends with people with all kinds of experiences. Their strong opinions make discussions eye-opening. The professors are approachable and urge us to question and to challenge ourselves, so classes are exciting. They also strongly support my plans for graduate school, connecting me to former students in grad school and even advising me on funding. I've been shaped by the brilliant people in GIS: they've all made my experience here rewarding. Looking back to when I was in high school, I'm so glad I stumbled across that GIS pamphlet.

Disciplines

“ Focusing for specialization and career prospects ”

Taiki GOTO (3rd year)

Liberal arts doesn't mean a lack of focus: during four years in GIS we hone a range of skills, and come to specialize. At first I took a wide range of courses to see what most appealed. Later I took courses toward the business seminar I'm now in. It covers inter-cultural communication, brand management and more, and lets us explore our own academic subfields. Some students study abroad; some keep up a wide range of studies. The GIS curriculum permits all this and opens up our career prospects in an increasingly competitive market.

Disciplines

“ It's like a buffet where you can sample everything ”

Yurina KANO (4th year)

The courses I've taken in GIS have been in marketing, psychology, journalism, IT, and more. The variety makes GIS very unlike other faculties. It's like a buffet where you can sample everything; once you know what you like, you can explore it in a seminar. At first I disliked writing, but I came to enjoy it a lot and now I'm in a writing seminar. You never know what you're really capable of and GIS is where you can find out. I am so thankful for this environment and hope more students who like to experiment will enter GIS and enjoy it just as I did.

People

“ A solid preparation for genuine study abroad ”

Naoki IWATA (3rd year)

The low student-to-teacher ratio in GIS lets teachers match their teaching style with the ability of each student. So despite having been born and raised in Japan, I feel comfortable expressing myself in English. I went to San José State University for five months through OAS and even took an aeronautics course there. It was tough. However, I could keep up with my American and other classmates thanks to the English skills I had acquired in GIS. And my new understanding of cultural differences helped me build firm relationships.