

April 3, 2020

Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Tohoku University
Attn: Faculty and Students

From: Dean of the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture,

Subject: Measures put forth by the academic administration to prevent further infectious spread of the novel coronavirus (Covid19)

The current state of affairs, put forth as of April 3, 2020 is outlined below.

In the event of additional changes to the current state of affairs, updated information will be provided at that time. Please consult the homepages for Tohoku University and/or Tohoku University Graduate School of Agricultural Science regularly for the most recent information.

1. New student orientation

General orientation for new students and graduate students entering the Faculty of Agriculture in 2020, originally scheduled in-person on April 15 (Wednesday), has been canceled by Tohoku University and will now take place online.

All new students will be sent pertinent information (such as University ID and relevant paperwork) in the post, in order to participate online in orientation and lectures via ISTU (Internet School of Tohoku University). Information regarding the format of online lectures for the spring semester will also be enclosed.

2. Current student orientation

Course orientation for 2nd year students and general orientation for 3rd year students in the Faculty of Agriculture in 2020, originally scheduled in-person on April 17 (Friday), has been canceled by Tohoku University and will now take place online. Students will participate online in orientation and lectures via ISTU (Internet School of Tohoku University).

3. Mandatory Special Lecture in Safety Education

Mandatory Special Lecture in Safety Education for 4th year undergraduate and graduate students in the Faculty of Agriculture in 2020, originally scheduled in-person on April 15 (Wednesday) and April 17 (Friday) respectively, has been canceled by Tohoku University and will now be assigned according to each student's respective course.

Please read the information and materials pertinent to the Mandatory Special Lecture in Safety Education that will be posted on the homepage of Tohoku University's Graduate School of Agricultural Science.

4. Proposed class start date

At present, preparations are underway to meet the goal of starting the first term of spring semester courses in the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture online (via ISTU) on April 20, 2020.

Course registration will be open from April 20 – May 7, 2020 online (via the school information system), all courses are scheduled to be available for registration at that time, such that students can begin attending lectures on April 20.

(Related to the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture)

- Presently, classes offered in the first term of spring semester for which in-person attendance is deemed nonessential, will be available online via ISTU.
- When carrying out meetings and conferences deemed essential, the number of participants must be reduced to a handful of people, sitting with chairs spaced far apart (2 meters or more), in a well-ventilated room; as best as possible, any meetings held in close quarters should be avoided.
- A “Cooperative Meeting” will be held on Monday, April 6, 2020 to permit TU teaching staff to become familiar with the array of online teaching tools and resources, such as methods of recording lectures. The resulting information will be shared at a later date.
- Student practical labs will be cancelled for the first semester (spring semester), consolidated and taught in the second semester.
- Field work (Kawatabi, Onagawa) will be cancelled for the first semester (spring semester), consolidated and taught in the second semester.

5. Preparations prior to class start date

A program is being implemented through ISTU for the prevention of further infectious spread of the novel coronavirus.

New students receiving their Tohoku University ID should immediately make the following arrangements. Current students should make arrangements to use campus WIFI or SRP (secure proxy) to participate in online lectures.

- (1) Establish a student mail address
<https://www.dc.tohoku.ac.jp/guide/dcmail/newdcmail.html>
- (2) Connect to campus WiFi service (eduroam)
<https://www.dc.tohoku.ac.jp/guide/wifi/wifi.html>
- (3) Consult the online guide to Tohoku University web services
<https://sites.google.com/view/teleclass-tohoku/>

6. Computer and internet quality check

In order to ensure a good experience during online lectures be sure that your computer is in good condition and that the internet connection used is secure and reliable.

Establish an environment with reliable wired or wireless LAN (WIFI) internet.

For example, using Google Chat Meet for a 90-minute online lecture could require about 300 MB. Therefore, if using only a Smartphone LTE (4G) circuit to participate in the lecture, depending on your data provider, you could easily surpass the upper limits. To avoid this predicament, we recommend using fiber optic wired or wireless LAN (WIFI) to create a suitable environment for proper communication. TU provides the option of using International Wireless LAN Roaming (eduroam). By setting up a Smartphone, PC, or other device to connect to eduroam, this setting can be used to automatically connect to WIFI at TU and also at other universities using a wireless LAN circuit. So please use this option to avoid going over your personal data plan. Currently the library is open as usual. Some lecture rooms are also open. Anytime you use common space or a Café to connect to internet, be sure to wear a mask, sit separately from other people (2 meters distance) and try to avoid becoming infected with Covid-19.

7. Health Monitoring and details of the measures taken by Tohoku University to prevent the infectious spread of the novel coronavirus (Visit Tohoku University Homepage)

<http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/2020/03/news20200327-01-oshirase.html>

Contact the Miyagi Call Center

TEL : 022-211-3883 24hrs (Japanese only)

If you need multilingual assistance, contact SENTIA for interpretation in advance at 022-275-9990

e-mail address: Health Management Center

infection2020*grp.tohoku.ac.jp (please replace * with @)

According to the website, travel within Japan is not, in principal, restricted. However, upon joining their respective lab, students will be instructed to take into consideration the severity of the current circumstances and adapt to a period of reduced mobility for the time being.

8. Current measures related to extracurricular activities (Visit Tohoku University Homepage)

Since March 30, 2020 all extracurricular activities have been cancelled (except those activities and meetings operated remotely via video teleconferencing), and will continue to be suspended until further notice. Likewise, the use of rooms in athletic facilities on campus is off limits until further notice.

<http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/2020/03/news20200331-01.html>

9. Regarding medical examinations

Annual medical examinations (physical check-ups) for all new students and graduate students have been postponed until May, 2020.

For current students, if you have submitted a "Medical examination form", **it will be considered a medical examination from a doctor**. Please verify the information updated on the Student Health Care Center website:

<http://www.health.ihe.tohoku.ac.jp/>

10. Related documents

(Attachments)

Materials for Faculty in the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture, related to correspondence regarding the measures surrounding implementation of classes → Information stemming from the "Cooperative Meeting for online teaching" for TU teaching staff, held on Monday, April 6, 2020 will be posted online at a later date.

- Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture (April 3, 2020)
- Information from Tohoku University related to the novel corona virus

<http://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/disaster/outbreak/01/outbreak0101/>

- Tohoku University guide to online lectures (for instructors and students)

<https://sites.google.com/view/teleclass-tohoku/>

- Sendai City call center for novel corona virus

<https://www.city.sendai.jp/kenkoanzenkansen/kurashi/kenkotofukushi/kenkoiryo/kansensho/shippebetsu/kansensho/cvsimin.html>

11. Inquiry and assistance counter

In the near future the information about holding courses online will be shared for each subject on the "School Affairs Information System"

Assistance related to inquiries by faculty members (such as those related to ISTU operation procedures) will be made available for each course by the student affairs committee representative for each respective department.

Assistance related to inquiries by students will be handled as follows:

(1) In the event of personal confirmation of infection or close proximity with a confirmed infected individual, students should immediately contact the student affairs committee representative for their respective department.

(2) In the event that a student's computer or internet conditions are unsatisfactory (for conducting online lectures), the student should contact the Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture, School Affairs.

E-mail: agr-kyom*grp.tohoku.ac.jp (please change * to @)

TEL: 022-757-4007

12. Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture, School Affairs

To avoid the risks associated with the infectious spread of the novel coronavirus, when visiting the counter, students and staff alike are asked to wear a protective mask, and use hand sanitizer to sanitizes their hands.

Additionally, visitors should make every effort to open the window glass only slightly when visiting the counter. Your understanding and cooperation are requested for this matter.

13. Future correspondence going forward

All new and current students should visit the Graduate School of Agricultural Science home page, and consult the information posted on the school information system.

<https://www.agri.tohoku.ac.jp/index-j.html>

2020/4/1 Edition
 (3/13)4/20 Revised class start date
 (4/1)Physical exam date changes, 1st semester student labs postponed

2020 School Year Educational Schedule Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture, Tohoku University

	M D (day)	Graduate School	Faculty	Notes	
1st Semester	April 9 (Th)	Research Committee • Faculty Meeting	Faculty Meeting		
	April 15 (W)	New, current, transfer student orientation 14:00~ Special Lecture in Safety Education(MC1/DC1) 16:30~17:45 students from outside the faculty	New student orientation 9:00~ New student Leaders orientation 13:30~ Special Lecture Safety Education(4th yr) 16:30~17:45		
	April 16 (Th)		AOEntrance Exam II Successful Applicants TOEFL ITP (14:00~16:00)		
	April 17 (F)		2nd year course orientation 10:00~ 3rd year orientation 13:00~ 3rd year course orientation 15:00~ Special Lecture in Safety Education(Course 3rd yr) 16:30~17:45		
	April 20 (M)	1st semester classes start (until Aug 12(W)including supplemental lectures) ※Student labs canceled 1st semester; condensed and postponed to 2nd semester			
	April 25 (S)		1st yr Aq Biol Env Sci Report (Onagawa FC)lecture) postpone	Tr1	
	May 2 (S)		1st yr Aq Biol Env Sci Report (Onagawa FC)lecture) postpone	Tr2	
	May 6 (W)	Holiday, but lecture will be held(TU - all majors)			
	May 7 (Th) ~ May 9 (S)		Plant Science, Resource Environmental Economics First Production Field Trip I (Kawatabi) postpone		
	May 8 (F)	14:15-14:45 New Graduate Students physical check-up(MC1/DC1), 3•4 periods cancelled(MC1/DC1)			
	May 8 (F) ~ May 26 (T)		New students course physical check-up(5/8-5/26 individual appt)		
	May 8 (F) ~ May 26 (T)	Physical check-up(Research & dormitory students)			
	until May 26 (T)	Current students physical check-up request deadline (submit in box in front of Faculty general office). Submission of 「physical check report」 counts as valid physical examination. Results reported from 6/22(M)			
	May 9 (S)		1st yr Aq Biol Env Sci Report (Onagawa FC)lecture) postpone	Tr3	
	May 15 (F)		Agr Reconstruction course postpone		
	May 16 (S)		1st yr Aq Biol Env Sci Report (Onagawa FC)lecture) postpone	Tr4	
	May 18 (M) ~ May 20 (W)		Biological Chemistry Agr Practicum C(Kawatabi) postpone		
	May 22 (F)		1st yr Aq Biol Env Sci Report (Onagawa FC)lecture) postpone	~4	
	May 22 (F)	Deadline for Masters Thesis & PhD Dissertation Title submission(Students wishing to graduate by Sept)			
	May 23 (S)		1st year TOEFL ITP (English proficiency test)		
	May 29 (F)	Deadline for Masters Thesis & PhD Dissertation (Sept graduation date)			
	June 1 (M) ~ June 3 (W)		Applied Animal Science 1st Field Trip I (Kawatabi) postpone		
	June 11 (Th)	Research Committee • Faculty Meeting	Faculty Meeting		
	June 12 (F) ~ Aug 19 (W)	Masters Thesis final review/exam (Sept grad date) PhD Dissertation final review/exam (Sept grad date)			
	June 13 (S)		Visit to disaster site(Fukushima Futaba Katsurao) postpone		
	June 22 (M)	Establishment Day, but lecture will be held(TU - all majors)			
	June 22 (M) ~ June 26 (F)		Applied Marine Biology 3rd yr Field Practicum II (OFC) postpone		
	June 27 (S)	Holiday, but M lecture will be held(TU - all majors)			
	July 1 (W) ~ July 6 (M)	Prior term course(Stage 1)New applications arrive			
	July 2 (Th)	International Synchrotron radiation innovation•Smart Research Center open & symposium (Aobayama Commons Main)			
	July 11 (S)		Agr Reconstruction Field practicum(Kawatabi) postpone		
	July 14 (T) ~ July 17 (F)	Combined Field Ecology Practical Course Postponed			
	July 18 (S) ~ July 19 (M)		Agr Reconstruction Field practicum(Fukushima) postpone		
	July 23 (Th)	Holiday, but Th lecture will be held(TU - all majors)			
	July 24 (F)	Holiday, but F lecture will be held(TU - all majors)			
	July 30 (Th)	Research Committee • Faculty Meeting	Faculty Meeting		
	July 31 (F) ※1~4 period	Science Ethics			
	Aug 3 (M) ~ Aug 7 (F)		Plant Science, Resources Environmental Economics Second Production Field Trip II (Kawatabi) postpone		
	Aug 12 (W)	First Semester class end date			
	Aug 13 (Th) ~ Sept 30 (W)	Summer Holidays			
	Aug 17 (M) ~ Aug 21 (F)		Applied Marine Biology 2nd year Field practicum I (OFC) postpone		
	Aug 18 (T) ~ Aug 19 (W)	Early period(Stage 1)Applicant Entrance Exam			
	Aug 21 (F)	First semester courses(except intensive course)grade submission period			
	Aug 22 (S) ~ Aug 23 (M)		IT Agriculture Practicum (Lecture, Site visit) postpone		
	Aug 24 (M) ~ Aug 28 (F)		Applied Animal Science 2nd field practicum(Kawatabi) postpone		
Aug 27 (Th)	Special Research Committee • Faculty Meeting Early period(Stage 1)Successful Applicants Announced	Special Faculty Meeting			
Aug 29 (S)		IT Agriculture Practicum(Discussion) postpone			
Aug 31 (M) ~ Sept 4 (F)		Biological Chemistry Agr Practicum B(Kawatabi) postpone			
Sept 7 (M) ~ Sept 9 (W)		Plant Science Forest Ecology Practicum(Kawatabi) postpone			
Sept 9 (W) ~ Sept 11 (F)		Field Environmental Studeis postpone			
Sept 15 (T) ~ Sept 25 (F)		Applied Animal Science Husbandry survey (3~4M) postpone			
Sept 16 (W) ~ Sept 18 (F)		1st year Coastal Practicum(Onagawa) postpone			
Sept 18 (F)	Open Campus set-up 14:40 start				
Sept 21 (M•holiday) ~ Sept 22 (T•holiday)	Open Campus				
Sept 25 (F)	Diploma Ceremony(Clover Bowl(plan)) 13:00~, Diplomas Awarded(Agr General Conference Room) 15:00~				
Sept 17 (M)		FU Agr Sci Center for Reconstruction Meister Cert postpone			
Sept 28 (M) ~ Oct 2 (F)		Plant Science,Resources Environmental Economics Farming Practicum A(Kawatabi) postpone			

	M D (day)	Graduate School	Faculty	備考
2nd Semester	Oct 1 (Th)	2nd semester class start date (until Feb 3 (W)including supplemental lectures)		
	Oct 9 (F)	Special Research Committee ・ Faculty Meeting	Special Faculty Meeting	
	Oct 30 (F) ~ Nov 1 (M)	University Festival (Oct 30 (F) no lectures (TU all majors))		
	Nov 7 (S)	AO Entrance Exam II / International Baccalaureate Entrance Exam 1st stage screening		
	Nov 21 (S)	A O Entrance Exam II / International Baccalaureate Entrance Exam 2nd stage screening		
	Nov 25 (W) ~ Nov 27 (F)	Early period (Stage 2) Entrance applications arrive, Latter period entrance / transfer students application		
	Nov 26 (Th)	Monday make-up lecture (TU all majors)		
	Nov 30 (M)	Deadline for PhD Dissertation Title submission (Students wishing to graduate by March)		
	Dec 12 (Th)	Special Research Committee ・ Faculty Meeting	Special Faculty Meeting	
	Dec 26 (S) ~ Jan 3 (Sn)	Winter Holidays		
	Jan 5 (T)	Deadline for Master Thesis Title submission (Students wishing to graduate by March)		
	Jan 7 (Th)	Research Committee ・ Faculty Meeting	Faculty Meeting	
	Jan 8 (F) ~ Jan 15 (F)	PhD Dissertation final review/exam (March grad date)		
	Jan 12 (T) ~ Jan 13 (W)	Early period (Stage 2) Applicant entrance exam, Latter period / transfer students exam 1/12 (final), 1/13 (AM) Graduate School entrance, no lectures (TU all majors)	1/12 (Last day), 1/13 (AM) Graduate Student entrance exam, Holiday (TU all majors)	
	Jan 15 (F)	Common University Entrance Exam, and Holiday (TU・All majors)		
	Jan 16 (S) ~ Jan 17 (M)	Common University Entrance Exam		
	Jan 18 (M)	Deadline to submit Masters Thesis (March grad date)		
	Jan 18 (M) ~ Feb 3 (W)	Deadline to submit PhD Dissertation (March grad date)		
	Jan 21 (Th)	Special Research Committee Early period (Stage 2), Latter period / transfer students successful exam results announced		
	Jan 22 (F) ~ Jan 12 (F)	Masters Thesis final review/exam (March grad date)		
	Feb 3 (W)	Fr Make-up class (TU All majors), 2nd Semester Last day of classes		
	Feb 8 (M)	AO Entrance Exam III		
	Feb 12 (F)	Second semester courses (except intensive course) grade submission period		
	Feb 12 (F)	Research Committee ・ Faculty Meeting	Faculty Meeting	
	Feb 15 (M) ~ Feb 17 (W)		Applied Animal Science Husbandry Artificial Fertilization	practicum
	Feb 17 (W) ~ Feb 19 (F)		Applied Animal Science 3rd Field	practicum (Kawatabi)
	Feb 24 (W)	General selection Entrance Exam (Early period) set-up		
	Feb 25 (Th) ~ Feb 26 (F)	General selection Entrance Exam (Early period)		
	Mar 4 (Th)	Special Research Committee ・ Faculty Meeting Latter period (Stage 1) Successful Applicants Announced	Faculty Meeting	
	Mar 25 (Th)	Tohoku University Graduation Diploma Ceremony (Sendai City Gymnasium) 10:00 ~ Graduate School of Agricultural Science, Faculty of Agriculture Graduation Ceremony (Aoba Commons) 14:00 ~		

※(2021 School year) Entrance exam : Apr 2 (F)