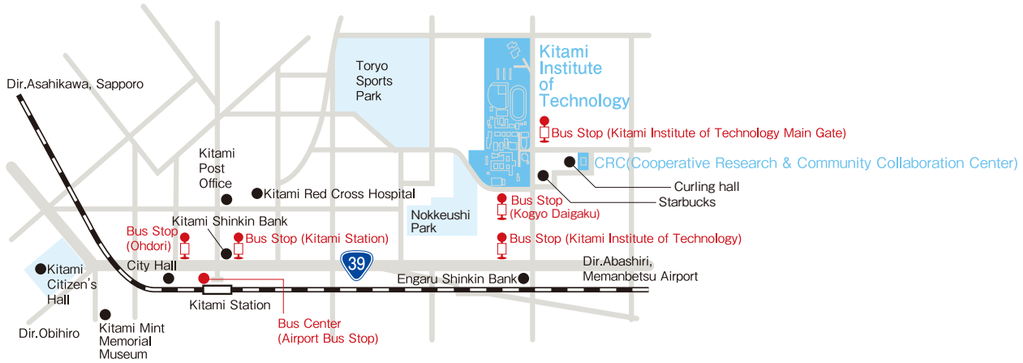
Hokkaido Higher Education and Research System

Access Information

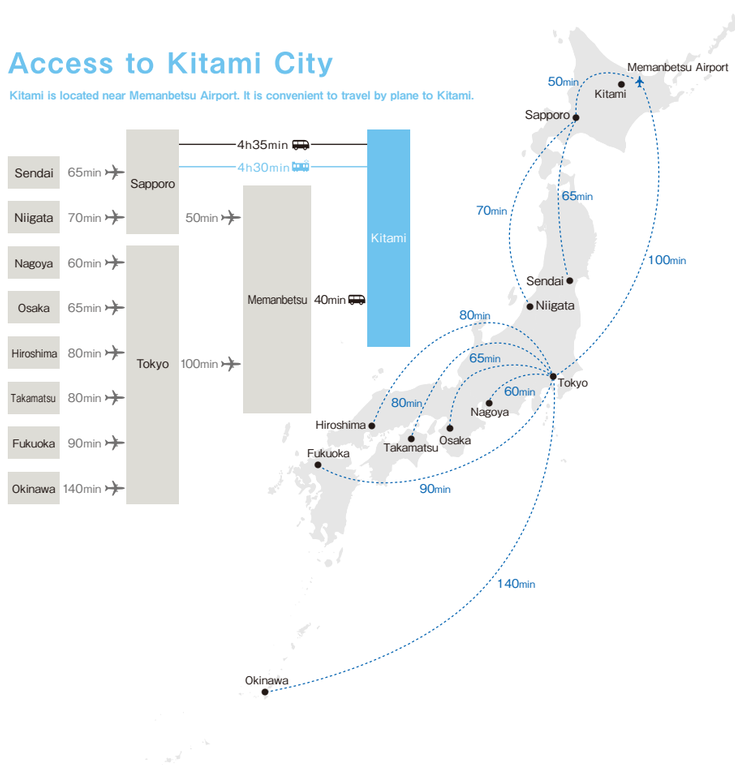
Access to Kitami Institute of Technology

◎From Memanbetsu Airport : 40 minutes by airport bus or 40 minutes by car
◎From Kitami Station : 8 minutes by car or 10 minutes by bus



Access to Kitami City

Kitami is located near Memanbetsu Airport. It is convenient to travel by plane to Kitami.



Kitami Institute of Technology

International Center
165 Koen-cho, Kitami-shi, Hokkaido 090-8507 Japan
Tel +81-157-26-9370
Fax +81-157-26-9373
E-mail kenkyu05@desk.kitami-it.ac.jp

www.kitami-it.ac.jp/

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KITAMI
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

University Guide

Data Science
Computer Science and Astronomy
Mechanical Systems Engineering
Energy Engineering
Disaster Prevention and Infrastructure Engineering
Cryospheric Science and Engineering
Materials and Semiconductor Engineering
Biochemistry and Food Science
Management Engineering

Hokkaido Higher Education and Research System

Kitami Institute of Technology

Message

from the President

Kitami Institute of Technology (KIT) is Japan's northernmost national university, located in a nature-rich region known for its primary industries. Our institution is committed to providing education and conducting research for sustainable social development. Engineering is the art of conceptualizing and creating, akin to art itself, and it serves as an academic realm that crafts a new world, one not merely envisioned by divinity.

We are nurturing highly specialized engineers through practical educational courses, including management, enabling them to tackle various social challenges by applying knowledge in key areas of mechanical, civil, electrical, information, and chemical engineering. Our undergraduate courses have been certified by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology's Program for Mathematics, Data Science, and AI Education. These courses are designed to foster the abilities needed to create new value by using data to address social issues with specialized engineering knowledge.

We operate four research centers: the Environmental and Energy Resource Research Center; the Research Center for Winter Sports Science; the Research Center for Okhotsk Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Engineering Collaboration; and the Research Center for Strategic Assistance in the Prevention of Floods, Earthquakes, and Regional Hazards. Additionally, we have established the AI Commons to support these research activities cross-sectionally and enhance our educational initiatives.

Education and research are intertwined aspects of the same basic quest for knowledge. Our expectation is to enable students to engage in research activities and to channel the outcomes of their research helping to improve the next educational curriculum. Additionally, KIT is a member of the Hokkaido Higher Education and Research System, which has integrated the management of KIT, Otaru University of Commerce, and Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine since April 2022. Together with these two universities, KIT is planning innovative education and research methodologies that transcend the boundaries between the humanities and the sciences.

Although KIT is small in scale, it provides a warm and welcoming environment where everyone can interact face to face. With a ratio of approximately one instructor for every five students, our instructors not only facilitate learning but also serve as guides, supporting students in their daily lives and as they contemplate their futures. A university is not an isolated or lonely place; rather, it is deeply rooted in community, connected to the world, and evolves alongside society, from which it draws expectations and empathy. Together with the Hokkaido Higher Education and Research System, which encompasses primary, secondary, and tertiary industries, KIT is poised to embark on a new journey in this age of unpredictability, and we invite you to join us.

Explore, discover and choose at KIT

A story for your four years

1st year

1 Enrolled in the Department of Integrated Engineering

It offers introductory subjects before transitioning to basic subjects in natural sciences, mathematical and data sciences, and specialized fields. Additionally, it provides liberal arts subjects, including foreign languages and engineering ethics, designed to train decent engineers as common basic subjects for all specialized fields.

2nd year

2 Selecting from 4 specialized fields

Core subjects are learned in the chosen field

Informatics and Electronics

Students acquire basic academic skills, a wide range of applied knowledge, and problem-solving abilities related to computers, software and hardware, digital information and communication, data science, and other fields within informatics and electronics, all of which support a society based on sophisticated information and communication.

Mechanical and Energy Engineering

Students acquire basic academic abilities, a wide range of applied knowledge, and problem-solving skills in fields related to machinery and energy to prepare them for addressing complex energy issues. This is accomplished by deepening and integrating knowledge in areas such as “design and manufacturing systems,” “computational intelligence and biomechanical systems,” and “thermal and fluid energy” to enhance machinery systems. Additionally, they integrate knowledge in fields aimed at achieving carbon neutrality, such as “renewable energy and electric systems,” “hydrogen energy and energy storage materials,” and “energy saving and semiconductors.”

Civil and Environmental Engineering

Students acquire basic knowledge, a wide range of applied knowledge, and problem-solving abilities related to social infrastructure and the environment to address social challenges. These challenges include building and improving social infrastructure and enhancing disaster prevention and mitigation to help people lead safe and comfortable lives with peace of mind. Additionally, they focus on protecting the natural environment and combating climate change to achieve a sustainable society.

Applied Chemistry and Bioscience

Students acquire basic and broad applied knowledge, along with problem-solving abilities, in the fields of materials chemistry, materials engineering, biochemistry, and food science to address societal challenges. These challenges include developing new materials related to energy saving and medical care, advancing nanotechnology and materials technology to support a digitalized society, applying technologies to bolster primary industries and bioengineering tailored to local conditions, and engaging in food engineering and food sciences adapted to local situations.

3rd year

3 Selecting from 9 units

Advanced subjects are primarily studied in the chosen unit

Informatics and Electronics

- Computer Science and Astronomy

Civil and Environmental Engineering

- Disaster Prevention and Infrastructure Engineering
- Cryospheric Science and Engineering

Mechanical and Energy Engineering

- Mechanical Systems Engineering
- Energy Engineering

Applied Chemistry and Bioscience

- Materials and Semiconductor Engineering
- Biochemistry and Food Science

Students can enroll in one of these units regardless of their field

- Data Science
- Management Engineering

4th year

4 Graduation research in the fourth year

Students conduct graduation research that involves investigating, analyzing, experimenting, exploring, and presenting a subject of their choice. Through this process, they develop the ability to identify and solve problems based on logical and critical thinking.

Introduction to the 9 units

Data Science

Computer Science and Astronomy

Mechanical Systems Engineering

Energy Engineering

Disaster Prevention and Infrastructure Engineering

Cryospheric Science and Engineering

Materials and Semiconductor Engineering

Biochemistry and Food Science

Management Engineering

Data Science

Unit Introduction Video

Students can contribute to solving problems not only in information and communication systems but also in fundamental fields such as electric and electronic engineering, mechanical engineering, civil and environmental engineering, biotechnology and food science, chemistry, and materials. At the same time, they comprehensively learn basic skills related to data-driven problem-solving methods.

Research Lab Spotlight

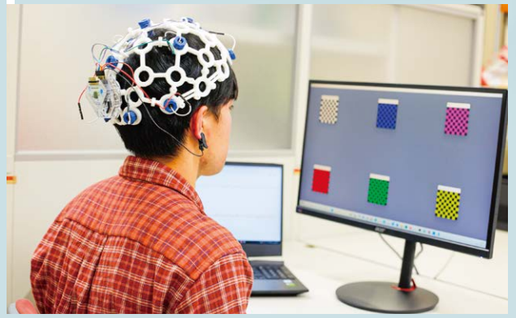
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Laboratory

Proteins are sophisticated molecular machines, and understanding their functional mechanisms is a central challenge in protein science. Our laboratory seeks to elucidate structure–function relationships in proteins through two complementary approaches: data science methods, including deep learning, and computational simulations.

Text Information Processing and Informatics Laboratory

The lab aims to harness big data to develop technologies that solve problems and provide essential support. In particular, its research focuses on natural language processing, tourism informatics, and curling informatics (utilizing the Argo Graphics Kitami Curling Hall).

Complex Systems Informatics Laboratory



The lab utilizes multi-agent systems to simulate individuals' behavioral decisions for creating comfortable social systems. It is also engaged in research on controlling robots using biometric data, such as brainwaves.

Mathematics Laboratory

This lab is composed of researchers specializing in various fields of mathematics, including mathematical analysis, geometry, algebra, and a wide range of other specialized domains. In addition to these areas, students can conduct research in mathematics, which serves as the foundation for data analysis, and theories related to statistical approaches.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

Computer Science and Astronomy

Unit Introduction Video

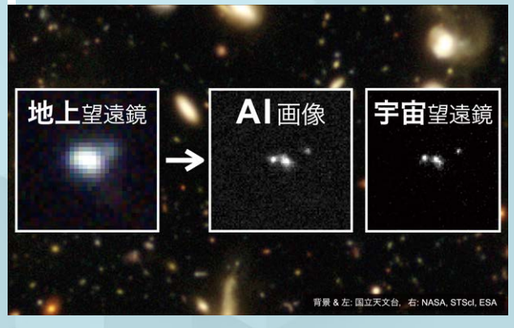
Under the two major themes of information and space, students engage in practical and advanced engineering and sciences that transcend traditional academic boundaries. This includes areas such as big data, AI, VR, holography, image engineering, voice processing, underwater telecommunications, electromagnetic simulations, astrophysics, and galactic astronomy.

Research Lab Spotlight

Optical Information Processing Laboratory

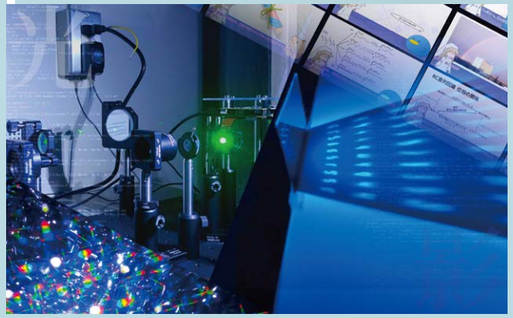
The lab conducts research on 3D display technology, VR technology, and other areas related to human visual perception. It explores a diverse range of fields, from transparent materials to brain-machine interfaces (BMIs) and VR applications.

Big Data Analysis Laboratory



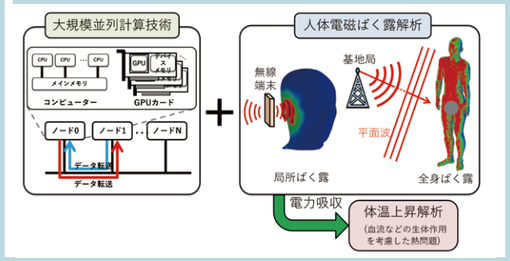
The lab conducts research on the distant universe, specifically focusing on the formation and evolution of galaxies that are approximately 10 billion to 13.5 billion light-years away. This research combines information science technologies, such as AI and image engineering, with astronomical big data obtained from state-of-the-art large telescopes.

Computational Wave System Laboratory



The lab conducts research on a high-performance computer that uses light and shadow for energy, instead of electricity. This computer operates with minimal electricity while simultaneously processing large sets of data. Additionally, the lab is engaged in research on new programming languages and the development of a system to automatically generate text for announcements and teaching materials.

Computational Electromagnetics Laboratory



The lab conducts research on the effects of electromagnetic waves in the sub-millimeter and millimeter wave bands (up to 300 GHz) on the human body, utilizing technologies such as large-scale parallel computing and combined analysis of electromagnetic waves and heat. Additionally, it focuses on developing guidelines to protect humans from radio waves. These research topics aim to advance next-generation wireless telecommunications technologies.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

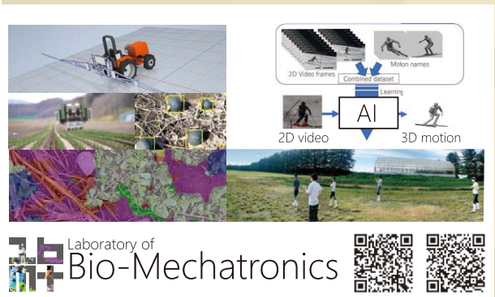
Mechanical Systems Engineering

Unit Introduction Video

In this unit, students acquire and apply fundamental knowledge of mechanics, design, control, manufacturing, measurement, and mechatronics to the systematic design and fabrication of mechanical systems that address regional needs and contribute to society at large.

Research Lab Spotlight

Laboratory of Bio-Mechatronics

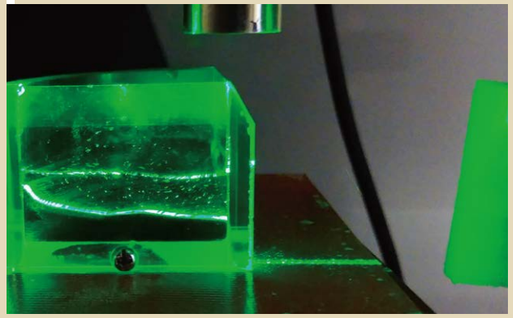


The lab conducts research thema for supporting Japanese agriculture which is facing the decline and aging of the farming population based on mechanical engineering, artificial intelligence, control engineering, and robotics. Its research areas also include the analysis of the dynamics of the human body and tools in sports, as well as the theoretical interpretation of skills in sports.

Cybernetics in Extreme Environment Laboratory

Animals and artificial agents must exhibit extreme behaviors in unpredictable and dynamic environments. Animals on this planet have evolved and survived in such conditions. The lab conducts research in biomimetics, learning from the survival skills of animals and applying those insights to human technologies.

Heat Transfer System Laboratory



Latent heat storage is one of the key research topics in our laboratory, alongside heat transfer and energy conversion, with a focus on developing heat and energy storage systems, energy-efficient technologies, and cryogenic refrigeration that contribute to a sustainable and energy-efficient society. The photograph above shows an experiment examining heat flow during the melting of a thermal storage material, where the heat flow is visualized using high-intensity laser light.

Laboratory of Fluid Mechanics

The lab conducts research on fluid dynamics, including fluid-induced vibration, jet streams, and windmills. It performs model experiments using wind tunnels and water canals, measuring data through various sensors while elucidating and controlling flows by combining observation with visualization, analysis, and exploration.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

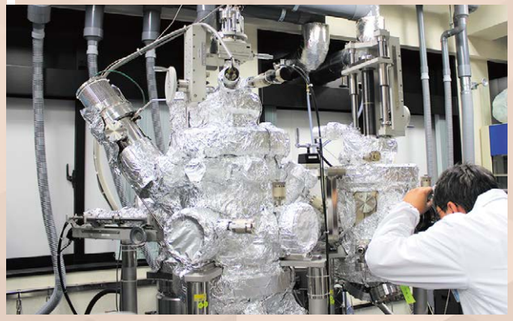
Energy Engineering

Unit Introduction Video

Students acquire fundamental knowledge and a broad range of applied knowledge related to energy engineering, designed to address energy issues by integrating knowledge in areas such as renewable energy and power systems, hydrogen energy and electricity storage materials, as well as energy-saving technologies and semiconductors.

Research Lab Spotlight

Integrated Electronics Laboratory



The lab provides students with opportunities to acquire skills in a hands-on research environment, offering diverse experiences through research aimed at enhancing the performance of semiconductors that are essential in our daily lives, as well as through technological innovation and collaborative research projects with companies. Additionally, it enables students to conduct advanced research related to “tastefulness” using sensing technology.

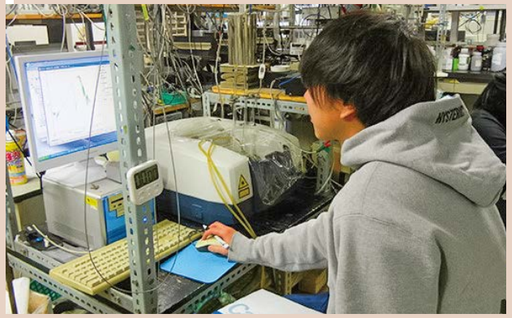
Laboratory of Power System and Electric Machinery

The lab conducts research in renewable energy-related fields, such as hydrogen and ammonia power generation, grid analysis, microgrids, and next-generation electricity systems that support transportation for vehicles and other modes of mobility. Its research on energy storage systems utilizing gas hydrates and innovative inverter regulation is particularly distinctive and aims to contribute to the creation of a sustainable future.

Inorganic Materials Chemistry Laboratory

The lab develops next-generation electricity storage devices, including all-solid-state lithium-ion secondary batteries and air-lithium secondary batteries. It actively engages in collaborative research with other universities and companies, covering a wide range of topics, from material design to device development.

Chemical Reaction and Energy Resources Laboratory



The lab conducts research on producing hydrogen, a clean energy source, from methane, a primary component of natural gas found in gases emitted from hot springs, as well as from biomethane and methane hydrate sourced from seabeds and lakebeds, all while avoiding carbon dioxide emissions, a greenhouse gas contributing to global warming. Additionally, the lab is developing catalysts for hydrogen production.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

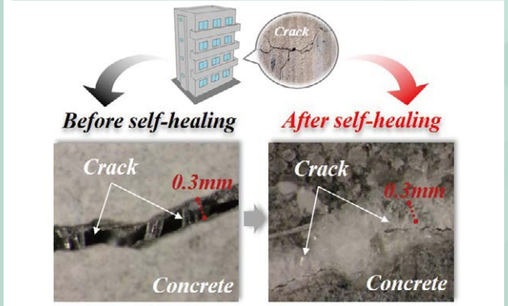
Disaster Prevention and Infrastructure Engineering

Unit Introduction Video

The unit fosters engineers who will engage in the design, construction, maintenance, and management of the infrastructure that will shape the future of society. Students acquire both basic and applied knowledge related to infrastructure development, disaster prevention, and environmental preservation. This knowledge will enable people to lead safe and comfortable lives with peace of mind, contributing to a sustainable society.

Research Lab Spotlight

Infrastructure Materials Laboratory



Concrete in cold regions cracks due to deterioration from multiple sources, including frost and salt, which compromises the durability of structures. The lab aims to develop new repair and reinforcement materials with self-repairing functions that surpass conventional methods.

Geosphere Environment and Prevention Laboratory

The lab conducts research by harnessing remote sensing technology and physical exploration methods, in addition to topographical and geological techniques, to understand climate change-induced changes in slope movement and permafrost environments in cold regions of Japan and abroad.

Coastal and Estuarine Engineering Laboratory

The lab conducts research to elucidate a wide range of hydraulic phenomena observed in environments ranging from rivers to coastal areas, including river flow, tidal currents, coastal waves, and tsunamis, from both environmental and disaster prevention perspectives. Additionally, it aims to address practical challenges associated with these phenomena.

Transportation Engineering Laboratory

Transportation infrastructure is developed to be reflected in the age and culture of local regions. Our goal is to enable eco-friendly and sustainable transportation infrastructure for a dramatically changing mobility era. For this purpose, we're approaching transportation issues, especially in pavements, in terms not only of engineering frameworks but also of human physiopsychology and nature-positive viewpoints.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

Cryospheric Science and Engineering

Unit Introduction Video

Students acquire basic scientific knowledge mainly in the fields of physics and chemistry related to snow, ice, and gas hydrates, which are universally found in the cryosphere. They also learn engineering applications that are closely related to civil engineering, environmental systems, and disaster prevention systems.

Research Lab Spotlight

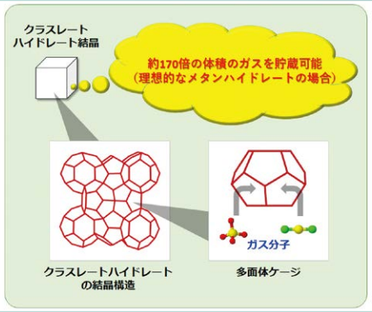
Ice-Covered Sea Laboratory

The lab conducts research on topics related to monitoring the Earth's environment, specifically focusing on sea ice resources and sea route usage. This is achieved by investigating changes in the amount of sea ice primarily through on-site and satellite observations. The lab develops equipment such as smart cameras while engaging in interdisciplinary research on ecosystem monitoring and data-driven tourism.

Snow and Ice Environment Laboratory

The lab deepens the understanding of the natural environment through investigation and research into cryospheric phenomena. Its activities not only target the distinctive cryospheric environment in eastern Hokkaido, including drift ice in the Sea of Okhotsk and permafrost on the Shiretoko Peninsula, but also extend to the world's cryosphere, such as the inland Antarctic ice sheet.

Environmental Assessment and Measurement Laboratory



The lab conducts research on the effective use of low-carbon resources that utilize the crystal properties of gas hydrates and their application to energy - saving and low-environmental-impact technologies. Focusing on clathrate hydrates, we elucidate gas uptake (e.g., methane, carbon dioxide) and crystal formation/decomposition behaviors to enable low-carbon, energy-saving technologies, including gas storage and separation and the use of hydrates as cold thermal storage media.

Gas Hydrates Laboratory

The lab conducts research on the physical and chemical properties of crystals by collecting natural gas hydrates during oceanic surveys off Hokkaido and artificially generating gas hydrate crystals from various types of gas in an experimental facility.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

Materials and Semiconductor Engineering

Unit Introduction Video

The unit develops professionals who aim to create innovative materials supporting energy-saving technologies, medical applications, and digital society. It provides education covering a wide range of fields, from basic physics, chemistry, and biology to thin-film fabrication and nanotechnology. Through this integrated curriculum, the unit fosters experts capable of addressing social challenges in advanced materials and semiconductor engineering.

Research Lab Spotlight

Electronic Functional Materials Laboratory

The lab conducts research on enhancing the performance of light-emitting devices, such as organic electroluminescent (EL) devices, through the utilization of nanostructures and nanoscale multilayers.
It also develops metal thin films for energy-saving applications, including low-emissivity (low-E) coatings, as well as porous metal films for gas sensor devices.

Nano Material Functions Laboratory

The lab focuses on developing novel thin-film and nanostructured materials for energy-efficient devices, including smart windows with advanced light and color modulation functions and pseudocapacitor-type energy storage systems.

Biomedical Materials Laboratory

In modern medical treatments, artificial materials such as metals are implanted in the human body to restore functions lost due to disease or injury. This lab aims to enhance the biocompatibility of these materials through nanotechnology, contributing to safer and more reliable medical treatments.

Molecular Transformation Laboratory

The lab focuses on developing advanced molecular transformation technologies for the synthesis of essential organic compounds used in pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, fragrances, fibers, and organic EL materials. Using transition-metal catalysts and organocatalysts, the group designs efficient synthetic pathways, chemical reactions, and catalytic systems.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

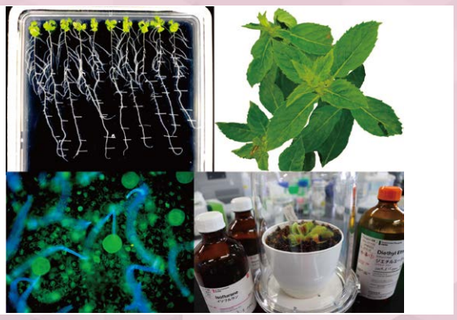
Biochemistry and Food Science

Unit Introduction Video

The unit develops exceptional engineers with a strong sense of humanity and social responsibility who are capable of finding ways to utilize materials unique to the Okhotsk region and addressing challenges faced by local industries by harnessing chemistry-based biotechnology and food engineering.

Research Lab Spotlight

Plant Molecular Engineering Laboratory



The lab researches the mechanisms that enable plants to adapt to the constantly changing environments in which they grow. Additionally, it conducts research to optimize the cultivation of plants for medicinal and fragrance purposes by drawing on the history and technology of Mentha cultivation in the Okhotsk region.

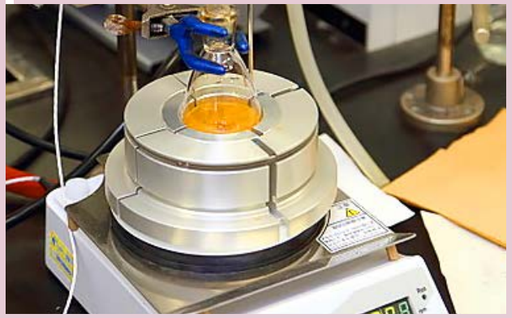
Bioprocess Engineering Laboratory

The specified research areas of Bioprocess Engineering Lab. are Microbiology, Biochemical Engineering, and Environmental Microbiology. Information Science assisted bioprocess development technologies are also investigated to improve the efficiency of bioprocesses. Graduate students will be active as scientists and engineers in the field of Biotechnology.

Food and Nutritional Chemistry Laboratory

The lab conducts basic research using cultivated cells with the aim of developing functional foods. By elucidating the anti-allergy and anti-inflammatory mechanisms of polyphenols and other bioactive components found in foodstuffs from the Okhotsk region, the lab seeks to contribute to the development of the food and medical sectors.

Polymer Chemistry and Biomolecular Chemistry Laboratory



Polymers include synthesized polymers used for plastics and rubber, as well as natural polymers such as proteins, nucleic acids, and polysaccharides. By altering the structure of monomers and the arrangement of molecular bonding, highly functional polymer materials can be produced. The lab conducts research on the synthesis of plastic optical materials and polysaccharides, with the latter using biomass, as well as their respective functions.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

Management Engineering

Unit Introduction Video

It requires not only engineering knowledge but also excellent skills in planning, proposing, organizing, and managing in order to become outstanding engineers and technicians. Students acquire both specialized academic knowledge and management skills.

Research Lab Spotlight

Industry/Academia/Government Collaborative Value-Creation Research Laboratory

Industry-academia-government collaboration refers to the cooperation between industry, academic institutions such as universities, and national and local government bodies to improve our society by integrating and leveraging their respective functions. The Industry/Academia/Government Collaborative Value-Creation Research Laboratory conducts research aimed at enhancing university functions and investigating the methodologies and effectiveness of industry-academia-government collaboration, with a view to creating new value through such collaboration.

Intellectual Property Laboratory

Intellectual properties will enrich our society and livelihoods for years to come, aiding the development of Japan's economy and industry. The lab conducts research on general knowledge related to the management of intellectual properties, such as patents and trademarks, as well as their regional roles.

Management Engineering Laboratory

The lab conducts research on methods to reduce the individual gaps in the workers' aptitudes related to human resource improvement initiatives, as well as in their knowledge, experience, and job satisfaction, among other factors. The aim is to enhance production efficiency in the workplace and secure productivity from the perspective of management engineering.

Industrial Support Engineering Laboratory

By leveraging expertise in civil and geotechnical engineering, our laboratory conducts research on mitigating ground disasters unique to cold regions and developing soil reinforcement technologies using materials such as geosynthetics. Furthermore, we focus on the maintenance of roads and incidental structures adapted to a declining population, as well as the optimization of road infrastructure for agriculture and forestry and the application of digital forest measurement technologies.

Use the QR code to access all research labs in the unit. ▶

Experiencing advanced research. Developing an international way of thinking.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

Today's globalization and increasing cross-border exchange of human resources or products make it necessary for people to have an open mind and multifaceted ideas and approaches. KIT has established study-abroad and other exchange programs with its numerous partner institutions to provide students with an adequate environment not only to learn how to think out of the box and experience advanced research, but also develop an international way of thinking as a world citizen.

International partner institutions

International Exchange

At present, KIT has concluded international academic exchange agreements with 43 universities in 21 countries / regions, and the International Center has established various types of exchange programs, such as study-abroad programs, language study tours during summer or winter vacations, and more. Currently, the total number of international students (undergraduate, graduate, exchange students) is around 100. There are a variety of international exchange events throughout the year, including cultural exchanges between international students, Japanese students, faculty and staff as well as citizens of Kitami City.

Study-Abroad Opportunities

Students enrolled at KIT have the opportunity to study abroad at one of our partner universities. Based on academic exchange agreements that KIT has with those partner institutions, students are exempt from paying tuition fees at the partner institution. In some cases, it is possible to transfer credits. There is much to gain from studying abroad, and we strongly encourage all students to give it a try and study at one of our partner institutions.

Language Study Tours

Many students at KIT have joined our language study tours organized at universities in North America, Asia and Europe. Financial support is provided by "KIT Genki-Kai," a sponsoring society established by companies and citizens of Kitami City, alumni and others.

Opportunities for Giving Presentations Abroad

Graduate students in particular are provided with opportunities to give research presentations abroad, for example, at international conferences. Part of the travel expenses is covered by the university.

Interview with an international student

Co-creative Engineering Course

Nick Overacker
(Admitted in the 2025 academic year ; from the United States)

I discovered Kitami Institute of Technology while exploring ways to connect my interest in the Ainu language with the information and communication technology I have acquired. At the university, I am studying computer science, primarily focusing on AI (machine learning). There are many stimulating courses available for someone like me, who has long wished to study group theory, and I aim to master discrete mathematics moving forward. With the insights I have gained from these studies, I am developing an open-source tool for minority languages. Many languages and dialects around the world are on the verge of extinction. Looking ahead, I hope to leverage the experience I gain at the university to contribute to efforts aimed at revitalizing endangered languages.

International Center & International Lounge

The International Center at Kitami Institute of Technology (KIT) was established in April 2004 with the aim of promoting the acceptance of international students and researchers as well as sending Japanese students abroad. It is committed to promoting exchange projects between KIT and universities abroad, gathering information as well as providing advice and support to international students in study, research and life in Japan. The International Lounge, which is located adjacent to the Center, is a place where students can come any time to meet friends, chat with other students or use the Internet to collect information or data.

https://ic.er.kitami-it.ac.jp/jp/index.html

Information for International Students

International students can enter KIT as regular full-time international students or short-term exchange students (limited to partner institutions).

1) Undergraduate entry requirements for international students

- The applicant is a non-Japanese citizen.
- The applicant has taken the examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU) in "Japanese as a foreign language", "Mathematics (Course 2)", "Science (Physics)" and "Science (Chemistry)".
- The applicant has completed a 12-year curriculum in an education institution based on a foreign country's education system.

2) Graduate entry requirements for international students

- The applicant is a non-Japanese citizen.
- The applicant has successfully obtained a degree equivalent to a Bachelor's degree for entering the Master's course or a degree equivalent to a Master's degree for entering the Doctoral program.

Persons who would like to apply for graduate school should first find a suitable laboratory and arrange for a KIT faculty member to serve as an academic advisor. Applicants are required to contact potential academic advisors directly to obtain information about application procedures.

3) Short-term student exchange program

The short-term student exchange program is a program through which international students enrolled at KIT's partner institutions are given the opportunity to study in Japan for six to twelve months. The exchange program runs from early April to March of the following year, and students are offered a choice of two admission periods: early October or early April. Application deadlines are as follows : late April for admission in early October, or late November for admission in early April.

Program Contents

1) Japanese Language Program (for full-time international students and short-term exchange students): The following classes are offered for international students to improve their Japanese language skills.

- Japanese
- Topics on Japan
- Japanese Media

2) Japan Intercultural Studies (in English and Japanese) (for full-time international students and short-term exchange students)

3) A wide range of courses in the student's major field of study (in Japanese, partly in English)

4) Short-term exchange students are free to design their own curriculum, balancing their interest in Japanese language and Japan intercultural studies with their desire to pursue their 'major' . They are eligible to register for any course offered to degree-seeking students at KIT.

Events

Throughout the year the International Center organizes various events such as field trips, seminars, and informal gatherings. One regular main event is the International "C" Hour, a monthly event providing a place for cultural exchange between international students, Japanese students, faculty and staff as well as citizens of Kitami city. The letter "C" of International "C" Hour stands for Conversation, Chatting, Culture, Cookies, Coffee and more. It aims to deepen understanding and promote friendship among the 30-50 participants. The event offers a variety of activities, such as introducing Japanese customs and traditions, students talking about their experiences studying abroad, or playing games together while enjoying drinks and snacks.

Tutors

In general each international student entering KIT will be assigned a tutor. The tutor will support new students in many ways to settle into their new environment, for example by helping with all sorts of necessary procedures and formalities as well as providing advice regarding studies and daily life.

Housing for international students and researchers

KIT provides two housing options on campus for international students and researchers: International Residence and Student Dormitory. Some students choose to live off-campus in private apartments or lodgings.

International Residence

- 1 couple room for married couples and 2 family rooms available
- Room rental rate (per room): ¥9,500 per month (couple), ¥14,200 per month (family)

Student Dormitory

- 20 single rooms available for short-term exchange students
  (Full-time international students and Japanese students are treated equally.)
- Room rental rate (per room) : Around ¥23,000 per month (including utility cost)

Financial Information

1. University Fees (for full-time international students)*

Fees are accurate at the time of printing, but subject to change without notice.

- Entrance fee:¥282,000
- Tuition fee: ¥535,800 (annual amount)

*The payment of tuition fees shall be waived for students enrolled in partner institutions with which KIT has concluded tuition waiver agreements.

2. University Fees (for research students)

Fees are accurate at the time of printing, but subject to change without notice.

- Examination fee: ¥9,800
- Entrance fee: ¥84,600
- Tuition fee: ¥29,700 per month

3. Living Expenses

Monthly Average Total Expenses: ¥80,000
The above is an estimation of the monthly expenditure of a reasonably thrifty student at KIT. Expenses will vary according to personal lifestyle.

Student Dormitory	Monthly rent (including utility cost) : Around ¥23,000
Apartment Off-Campus	Monthly rent: from ¥38,000 + utility cost from ¥10,000/month
Personal Expenses	Around ¥50,000/month

4. Contact information for further information and enquiries

International Center, Kitami Institute of Technology
165 Koen-cho, Kitami-shi, Hokkaido 090-8507 Japan
Tel :(+81)(0) 157-26-9370
Fax :(+81)(0) 157-26-9373
Email :kenkyu05@desk.kitami-it.ac.jp

CAMPUS LIFE

There are a variety of events and clubs at KIT. Let's enjoy campus life!

EVENT

University Festival

The university festival facilitates university-community exchanges. It offers students a good opportunity to brush up their creativity and communication abilities apart from their training in specialized fields. The festival also features participation by local merchants and booths set up by international students, attracting big crowds every year. Laboratories open to the public and introduce their research activities, which are usually unfamiliar to people outside the university, in an easy-to-understand manner. Members of our university festival executive committee participated in the festival at Obihiro University of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine to deepen exchanges among students from universities belonging to the Hokkaido Higher Education and Research System.

Let's join a club!

Club activities

Featuring attention-grabbing clubs

Table Tennis Club

The Table Tennis Club is open to students of all skill levels, from beginners to those with extensive experience. Among the senior club members are many players who excelled during their high school years and are skilled at providing instruction to beginners. Our members get along well, often going to sushi shops after practice and participating in weight training together. We also plan a welcome party for new students around May. Let's enjoy table tennis and celebrate our youth!

Athletic clubs

Clubs: Ski, Judo, Trampolining, Table Tennis, Men's Basketball, Men's Volleyball, Kendo, Soccer, Kyudo, Badminton, Cycling, Track and Field, Softball Baseball, Lawn Tennis, Women's Basketball, Aviation, Baseball, Curling, Mountaineering

Associations: Softball Tennis, Snowboarding, Dancing, Men's and Women's Volleyball, Handball, Rugby, Nociws, Aikido, Yachting, Molkky, Softball, Women's Volleyball, Bicycling, Survival Game

As of April 2025

International Exchange Club "KIT Global Lab"

The International Exchange Club is a space for interactions with international students enrolled at Kitami Institute of Technology. Communicating with international students from around the world offers a valuable on-campus experience for Japanese students. It provides opportunities for members to not only acquire foreign language skills but also make friends globally. The club's activities are held once a month, making it easy for anyone to participate casually. Its events include game tournaments and barbecues.

Cultural clubs

Clubs: Light Music, Astronomy, Information Processing Technology Research, Wind Ensemble, Go and Shogi, Railway Research, Acapella Chorus Ensemble (ACE)
Associations: Models, DDI, Competitive Mahjong, Pokemon, Poker, Qualifications, Amateur Radio, Boardgames, Origami, KIT Global Lab, Young Evangelist project (YEP), Splatoon

As of April 2025

Space Development Club "Nociws"

The club is engaged in the development and experimentation of hybrid rockets and CanSat (simulated satellites). It provides students with valuable experiences in practical manufacturing, project management processes, and joint experiments with collaborating companies.

KITeco
(Kitami Institute of Technology Students Committee for Environmental Preservation)

The club is involved in environmental preservation activities, including the installation of flower beds and composts for converting food waste into fertilizers, shore clean-ups, and trash collection around the campus. It also actively participates in community exchange events and engages in dialogue with the Hokkaido Okhotsk General Promotion Bureau for the betterment of the local community.

Robocon Team "Samurai"

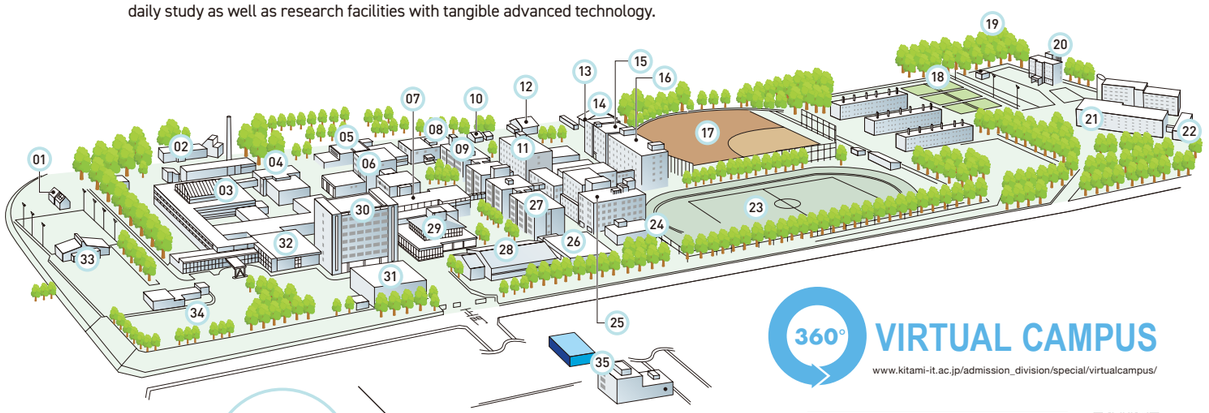
The team consists of students who enjoy creating things, regardless of their year or department, and has participated in the NHK college student robot contest (Robocon) on many occasions. They engage enthusiastically in daily activities, with their results showcased at the university festival.

Well-equipped facilities!

FACILITIES

A spacious campus with a variety of facilities supporting education and research

Buildings occupy about 65,000 ㎡ on a land area of about 185,000 ㎡, i.e. four times as large as the Tokyo Dome. A total of more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate engineering students study here. The campus includes educational facilities for daily study as well as research facilities with tangible advanced technology.



About four times the size of the Tokyo Dome

Site area about 185,000㎡

360° VIRTUAL CAMPUS
www.kitami-it.ac.jp/admission_division/special/virtualcampus/

Check out the KIT campus with "Panoramic view"!

01 Guest House Shirakaba
02 Natural Energy Laboratory
03 Building 1
04 Building 2
05 Cafeteria and Stores
06 Buildings 5–6
07 Building 4
08 Health Administration Center
09 Buildings 7–8
10 Facilities for Extracurricular Activities
11 Buildings 11–12
12 Kyudo Hall (archery training hall)
13 Building 17
14 Facilities for Study Camps
15 Building 16
16 Building 15
17 Baseball Field
18 Tennis Court
19 Hybrid Plant Experiment Ridge
20 Dormitory (Hokuou-ryo, for female only)
21 Dormitory (Hokuen-ryo)
22 International Residence
23 Athletic Field
24 Information Processing Center
25 Buildings 13–14
26 Second Gymnasium
27 Buildings 9–10
28 First Gymnasium
29 Library
30 Building 3
31 Lecture Hall
32 Administrative Office
33 Budo Hall (gymnasium for martial arts)
34 Security gatehouse (general information)
35 Center for Regional Community

Library

The library holds approximately 150,000 books, journals, periodicals, electronic book journals, newspapers, language learning materials as well as DVDs. PCs can be borrowed as well. It provides about 400 seats in a variety of rooms and areas, such as single study rooms, multi-purpose rooms and group study rooms for studying in groups while having discussions, or the PC area for self-study. The so-called Communication Hall of the Library where food and drinks are permitted provides a space not only for studying, but for taking breaks in between classes. The library is open seven days a week and on national holidays (except for year-end and New Year's holidays and during spring break).

Reading Room (1st floor)

Communication Hall

Communication Atrium

A free space for students to meet and interact.

University Co-op (Stores & Cafeteria)

The stores on campus offer stationery, clothing, food, books, computers, electronic goods, airplane tickets and more.

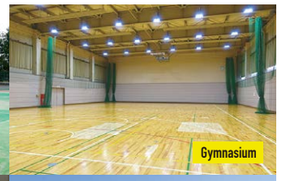
Stores

Students can enjoy a rich selection of dishes at affordable prices in the cafeteria

Cafeteria

Sports Facilities

Tennis Court



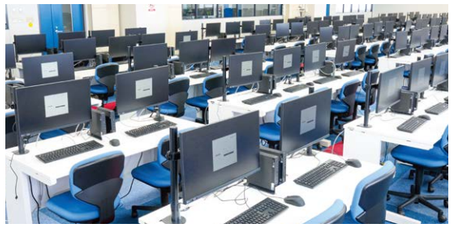
Gymnasium

Training Room

Track-and-field Arena

PC Room

This common facility on campus manages various services related to information and communication technologies necessary for education, research and contribution to the local community in an integrated manner for users. A total of 274 PCs are available at the facility. Many apps are installed on the terminals, which can be accessed from inside and outside of campus at times when students are not attending classes.



Handicraft Studio

A facility that provides place and tools for students to do simple handicraft. Technical staff is available to give advice at any time.

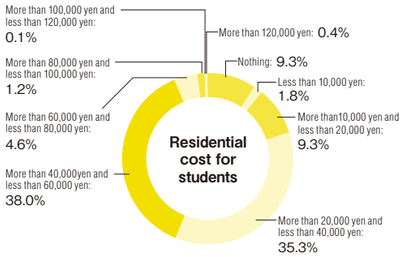
Inquire about matters of concern

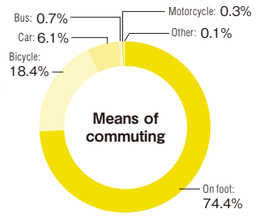
FAQ

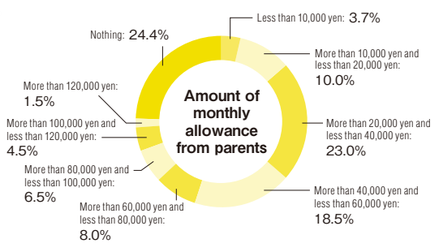
Introducing life in Kitami through FAQs

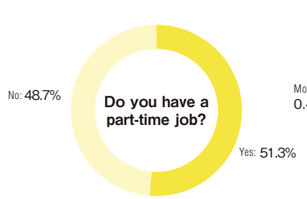
Q How much does it cost to live in Kitami alone?

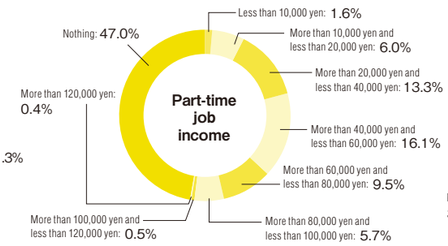
A The cost of living in Kitami varies depending on your type of residence (such as your own home, an apartment, a boarding house, or a student dormitory) and your lifestyle choices. According to a university survey, many students manage to live on a budget of 100,000 yen or less per month, with most spending between 60,000 and 100,000 yen. It's advisable to discuss your living expenses and the amount of financial support your guardians will provide after enrollment.

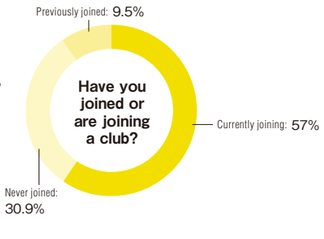












*Data from a survey on students' livelihoods in the 2023 academic year

Q What are common rents for apartments in the city?

A The rent for apartments located near the campus is approximately 38,000 yen per month, while boarding houses that provide meals cost about 45,000 yen. As a result, boarding houses are quite popular among students.

Q Kitami seems to be very cold during winter. What are the high temperatures like in summer?

A Kitami is located in a basin, and during many summers, it has recorded temperatures exceeding 30℃ for consecutive days. It is advisable to check whether the apartment you are considering renting is equipped with an air conditioner. However, summers in Kitami are dry, unlike the humid summer weather found in most regions of Japan, and nighttime temperatures typically drop below 25℃.

Q What transportation options are available in the city?

A Most people without cars rely on the bus service. In particular, you may want to frequently use the bus service along National Route 39, which runs between the east and west of the city at 15-minute intervals. It is convenient, with a flat fare of 210 yen for travel within the city.

Q Is it true that local residents do not use an umbrella during snowfalls?

A Yes, it's true. The snow that falls in cold areas like Kitami is typically dry and powdery, containing less moisture. This type of snow does not melt easily unless it falls directly onto your skin.

Q What preparations should I make for winter life?

A It depends on the individual residence you are renting, but most rooms are typically equipped with a stove or other forms of heating. If you plan to be away from home, it is important to consider the possibility of frozen water pipes.

Q What transportation options are available for visiting my parents' house and taking trips?

A Memanbetsu Airport is located about a 40-minute bus ride from central Kitami. Additionally, intercity bus and JR railway services are available.

Graduate School

There is no end to research in science and technology. In the highly networked information society, the latest technologies and systems can be distributed in moments. In such a situation, the necessary knowledge and skills accordingly change day to day. Graduate school is a place where students can gain the latest knowledge and deepen their thoughts. Students gradually formulate and consolidate their future visions through master's and doctoral course studies.

Graduate School of Engineering Master's Program

Engineering / Six specialized courses

Broad perspectives acquired based on the fusion of diverse fields and flexible thinking ability

KIT's education system is aimed at enabling students to acquire higher levels of specialized knowledge, based on abilities nurtured in undergraduate education. This will enable the university to develop engineering-related human resources who can play an active role in society.

In six specialized programs, students acquire knowledge of fundamental technologies common to all engineering fields, building on the foundational knowledge gained during their undergraduate studies.

The programs aim to foster practical, specialized engineers with the management skills necessary to apply these technologies to developmental applications, along with competencies in communication, problem identification, analysis, and solution. Additionally, these engineers should possess programming skills, ethical qualities, and an understanding of social norms.