



**The Research Center for Japanese Garden Art and Historical Heritage**

organizes the

**JAPANESE GARDEN - INTENSIVE SEMINAR IN KYOTO.**

For contents of the seminar Wybe Kuitert is in charge.



Yes it's great fun! This yearly English language intensive course in the history, design theory, and practice of the Japanese Garden.

Located in the ancient capital of Kyoto, which is included on the UNESCO list of World Heritage Cities, the Center is within easy access of hundreds of Japan's finest gardens. The program is a two week intensive seminar that affords serious students from abroad a unique opportunity to study the Japanese garden. Most days are divided between morning site visits and afternoon lectures on campus, although there are several all-day excursions as well. An outstanding feature of the course is the wide range of gardens that are visited-- spanning the historical range from ancient sacred spaces to contemporary Japanese gardens, including several gardens that are not usually open to the public. Through lectures, and on-site interpretation, the gardens are presented in the context of the natural and cultural forces that shaped their development. The seminar includes on-site sessions with professional gardeners to experience, first hand, the techniques and processes of Japanese garden design, construction, and maintenance.

Since the first one that we had in 1997 numerous successful editions of the Seminar have passed: the twentieth edition is coming in fall 2025.

Over the years we have been joined by more than 450 participants from all over the world – from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and the United States. The international character of the participants has increasingly stimulated the global character and contents of our teaching, making the Seminar a full and rewarding event for everyone involved, including the staff of the Center. The program is framed within the context of the Graduate School of the Kyoto University of the Arts: there is ample room for an individual learning experience for each participant, while contents are academic at the same time.

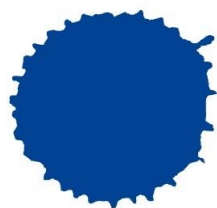
See also the web site of our Center: <https://jghh.jp/en/>

The aim of the Japanese Garden section of the Center is to integrate various research regarding the Japanese garden: history, design, aesthetics, archaeology, and traditional garden construction and maintenance. The Center actively supports contacts with garden construction firms and gives advice to authorities that maintain historic garden sites in and outside Japan. For the students of the Graduate School of the University, the Center acts as a place to practice, or gain experience in one of the many aspects of the field. For professors and professionals, the Center is a place where theory and practice meet.

Wybe Kuitert is Senior Research Fellow at The Research Center for Japanese Garden Art and Historical Heritage and responsible for the contents of the seminar.

Besides Wybe the core staff of the seminar includes teachers from the Kyoto University of Art and Design and researchers from the Center: Takahiro Naka, Hiromasa Amasaki, Makoto Nakamura, Ken Kawai, as well as many other professors and professionals who join us as lecturers and guides.

The Center is an On Campus Institution of the [Kyoto University of the Arts](#).



**KYOTO UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS**