

Kobe University Graduate School of Humanities Rules

(Established on March 20, 2007)

Revised on	March 31, 2008	February 16, 2009
	March 31, 2009	March 1, 2010
	March 29, 2011	March 21, 2012
	March 27, 2013	March 26, 2014
	June 26, 2014	

(Purpose)

Article 1 These rules stipulate necessary matters pertaining to the Kobe University Graduate School of Humanities (hereinafter referred to as "the Graduate School") in accordance with the National University Corporation Kobe University General Provisions (established on April 1, 2004) and the Kobe University General Rules for Students (established on April 1, 2004; hereinafter referred to as "General Rules").

(Educational and Research Purposes of the Graduate School)

Article 2 The Graduate School engages in education and research that will contribute to the formation of new social norms and culture by way of theoretical research into humankind's accumulated classical literature on peoples and their societies and fieldwork-oriented dynamic analysis of society and culture.

(Program)

Article 3 The program offered by the Graduate School shall be a graduate program.

2 The graduate program shall be divided into a two-year first stage program (hereinafter referred to as "first division" or "Master's Program") and a subsequent three-year program (hereinafter referred to as "Doctoral Program"), and the first division shall be treated as a master's program.

(Departments, Courses and Educational Fields)

Article 4 The departments, courses and educational fields established in the Graduate School are as listed in Appended Table 1.

(Education and Research Goals of the Departments)

Article 5 The human resources development goals and other education and research goals of each department are respectively as follows:

(1) Department of Human Cultural Studies

The Department engages in education and research that will contribute to the formation of new social norms and culture by way of theoretical research into humankind's accumulated classical literature on peoples and their societies. The aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who are equipped with the fundamental ability to question the contemporary meaning of individual cultural phenomena while employing the basic methodologies of the humanities, and who can apply the humanities to our knowledge-based society. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate human resources who, while

utilizing advanced research methodologies, possess the ability to contribute to the formation of new social norms and culture as well as the skills to plan and organize joint research projects.

(2) Department of Human Social Dynamics

The Department engages in education and research that will contribute to the formation of new social norms and culture by way of fieldwork-oriented dynamic analysis of society and culture. The aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who are equipped with the fundamental ability to actively analyze societies and cultures and who can apply the humanities to our knowledge-based society. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate graduates who are equipped with the advanced ability to actively analyze societies and cultures and who possess the ability to contribute to the formation of new social norms and culture as well as the skills to plan and organize joint research projects.

(Dean of the Graduate School)

Article 6 The Graduate School shall have a dean.

2 The dean shall oversee matters pertaining to the Graduate School.

(Associate Deans)

Article 7 The Graduate School shall have two associate deans.

2 The associate deans shall assist the dean with his or her duties.

3 The necessary matters concerning the selection of associate deans shall be stipulated separately.

(Admission Eligibility)

Article 8 Persons who fall under any of the following items can enroll in the Master's Program:

(1) Persons who have graduated a Japanese university;

(2) Persons who have received a bachelor's degree pursuant to the provisions of Article 104, Paragraph 4 of the School Education Act (Act. No. 26 of 1947; hereinafter referred to as "the Act");

(3) Persons who have completed 16 years of school education abroad;

(4) Persons who have completed 16 years of school education of a school in a foreign country by taking correspondence courses provided by such foreign school in Japan;

(5) Persons who have completed a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of a foreign country and has university programs of that foreign country, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to persons who have completed 16 years of school education of the foreign country);

(6) Persons who have completed a specialized program at a special training college in Japan separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology after the date determined by the Minister (limited to programs of at least four years that satisfy other standards determined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology);

(7) Persons designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (in accordance with Ministry of Education Notification No. 5 of 1953);

(8) Persons who were admitted to the Kobe University Graduate School pursuant to the provisions of Article 102, Paragraph 2 of the Act and have been recognized as having sufficient scholastic ability to undertake postgraduate studies at the Graduate School;

(9) Persons who are 22 years or older and are deemed to have scholastic ability that is at least equivalent to a university graduate, based on the results of an individual entrance qualification examination administered by the Graduate School.

2 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the Graduate School may decide to allow admission to the Master's Program to a person who falls under any of the following categories and who, after deliberation by the Graduate School of Humanities Faculty Council (hereinafter referred to as "Faculty Council"), is recognized as having earned the credits stipulated by the Graduate School and achieved excellent grades:

(1) Persons who have been enrolled in a university for at least three years;

(2) Persons who have completed 15 years of school education abroad;

(3) Persons who have completed 15 years of school education of a school in a foreign country by taking correspondence courses provided by such foreign school in Japan;

(4) Persons who have completed a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of a foreign country and has university programs of that foreign country, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to persons who have completed 15 years of school education of that foreign country);

3 Persons who fall under any of the following items can enroll in the Doctoral Program:

(1) Persons who have obtained a master's degree or professional degree;

(2) Persons on whom a degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree has been conferred in a foreign country;

(3) Persons who have completed correspondence courses provided in Japan by a foreign school and on whom a degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree was conferred;

(4) Persons who have completed a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of a foreign country and has graduate school courses of that foreign country, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Sports, Science and Technology, and on whom a degree equivalent to a master's or a professional degree was conferred;

(5) Persons who have completed a graduate program at United Nations University, which is the university founded based on a United Nations General Assembly resolution dated December 11, 1972, as stipulated in Article 1, Paragraph 2 of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University (Act No. 72 of 1976), resulting in the conferral of a degree equivalent to a master's degree;

(6) Persons who, having completed an educational program at a foreign school, a designated academic institution as described in Item 4 above or United Nations University, have passed an examination or screening equivalent to those set forth in Article 16-2 of the Standards for the Establishment of Graduate Schools (Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28 of 1974) and have been recognized as having scholastic ability that is at least equivalent to that of someone with a master's degree;

(7) Persons designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (in accordance with Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 118 (1989));

(8) Persons who are 24 years old and are deemed to have scholastic ability that is at least equivalent to someone with a master's degree or professional degree based on the results of an individual entrance qualification examination administered by the Graduate School.

(Advancement)

Article 9 Persons who wish to advance to the Doctoral Program after having completed a master's program, the Master's Program or a professional degree program at the graduates schools of Kobe University (hereinafter referred to as "the University") may be permitted to do so if found to be eligible following screening.

(Readmission)

Article 10 When a student who withdrew or was removed from the Graduate School submits a request for readmission, he or she may be permitted by the Dean to reenter the Graduate School after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning readmission shall be stipulated separately.

(Screening Methods)

Article 11 Applicants will be screened by means of academic achievement tests, oral examinations and the like.

(Methods of Instruction)

Article 12 Education in the Graduate School shall consist of lecture by subject and supervised research for a dissertation (hereinafter referred to as "research supervision").

(Subjects and Credit Numbers)

Article 13 The subjects offered by the Graduate School and the number of credits awarded for each subject are as listed in Appended Table 2.

2 In addition to the subjects stipulated in the preceding paragraph, subjects may be established on a temporary basis; however, such temporary subjects and the number of credits awarded to them will be stipulated at the time of their establishment.

(Credit Standards)

Article 14 Credits for each subject shall be calculated in a way that one credit shall be granted for 15 hours of class.

(Supervisors)

Article 15 Faculty members in charge of research supervision (hereinafter referred to as "supervisors") shall be professors employed by the Graduate School or visiting professors; however, when deemed necessary, associate professors or assistant professors employed by the Graduate School or visiting associate professors may serve as supervisors when approved by the Faculty Council.

(Enrollment in Subjects)

Article 16 To enroll in subjects, students must receive the approval of their supervisor and submit the prescribed registration form to the dean at the beginning of the semester.

2 When students wish to take subjects offered by another graduate school within the University, they must receive permission from the dean of said graduate school after receiving approval from their supervisors and the dean of the Graduate School.

3 When students enrolled in the Master's Program wish to take subjects offered by an undergraduate faculty within the University, they must receive permission from the dean of said faculty after receiving approval from their supervisors and the dean of the Graduate School.

4 When students enrolled in the Doctoral Program wish to take Master's Program subjects, they must receive permission from the dean after receiving approval from their supervisors.

5 Credits earned for subjects taken at another graduate school pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 2 may be approved as credits stipulated in Article 24 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

(Enrollment in Subjects at Another Graduate School Outside the University)

Article 17 Students may take subjects at a graduate school of another university (including foreign universities. Hereinafter the same shall apply.) with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement after receiving the approval of the Faculty Council.

2 Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, when unavoidable circumstances arise, students may take subjects at a graduate school of a foreign university with whom the Graduate School has not signed any cooperative agreement after receiving the approval of the Faculty Council.

3 Regarding credits earned for subjects pursuant to the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, up to 10 credits may be treated as credits earned at the Graduate School and approved for Master's Program students as credits stipulated in Article 24 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

(Handling of Credits Earned for Subjects Taken at Foreign Graduate Schools while on Leave of Absence)

Article 17-2 Credits earned by a student for subjects taken at a graduate school of a foreign university with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement while on leave of absence under the approval of the Faculty Council may be treated as credits earned at the Graduate School.

2 Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, when unavoidable circumstances arise, credits earned by a student for subjects taken at a graduate school of a foreign university with whom the Graduate School has not signed any cooperative agreement while on leave of absence may be treated as credits earned at the Graduate School after receiving the approval of the Faculty Council.

3 Out of those credits that can be treated as earned at the Graduate School pursuant to the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, up to 10 credits in total with those credits approved as earned at the Graduate School pursuant to Paragraph 3 of the preceding Article may be approved for Master's Program students as credits as stipulated in Article 24 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

(Authorization of Credits Acquired Prior to Admission)

Article 18 In accordance with the stipulations in Article 75 of the General Rules for Students, the approval of credits earned prior to admission shall be determined after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Persons who wish to have previously earned credits approved must submit the necessary documents to the dean by the designated date.

3 Regarding the approval of credits pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1, out of those credits earned outside of the University, excluding cases of transfer and readmission, no more than 10 credits may be approved for Master's Program students as credits as stipulated in Article 24 .

(Research Supervision at Other Graduate Schools Outside of the University)

Article 19 With approval of the Faculty Council, a student may be permitted to receive research supervision at a graduate school or research institution at another university (including foreign research institution) with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement. In such cases, the period for which they can receive said research supervision shall not exceed one year for Master's Program students or two years for Doctoral Program students.

(Study Abroad)

Article 20 In accordance with the stipulations in Articles 17 and 19, students must obtain permission from the dean when they wish to study abroad at a foreign graduate school or research institution.

2 The period of study abroad set forth in the preceding paragraph will be included in the standard period of enrollment.

(Leave of Absence)

Article 21 The period of leave of absence shall be set at no more than one year; however, the dean may allow an extension of the period of leave of absence of up to one year if special circumstances are deemed to exist. The same shall apply to students who would like another extension upon the conclusion of said period of extension.

2 The cumulative leave of absence period may not exceed two years for Master's Program students or three years for Doctoral Program students.

(Awarding of Credits)

Article 22 A prescribed number of credits shall be conferred on students who have completed a subject and passed the examinations.

2 Examinations may be written examinations, oral examinations or research reports.

(Dissertation Screenings and Final Examinations)

Article 23 Dissertation screenings and final examinations shall be governed by the Kobe University Degree Regulations (established on April 1, 2004) and the Graduate School of Humanities Bylaws to the Kobe University Degree Regulations (established on March 30, 2007).

(Criteria for Academic Evaluation)

Article 23-2 The criteria for evaluating academic performance set forth in Article 73-2 of the General Rules for Students shall be stipulated separately.

(Requirements for Completion of the Program)

Article 24 Students who have remained enrolled in the Master's Program for at least two years, who have earned at least 30 credits pursuant to the provisions of Appended Table 3, and who have passed the master's thesis screening or assessment of the results of research on a specified project and final examination having received the necessary research supervision shall be deemed to have completed the program.

However, a student who has demonstrated excellence in their academic work may be permitted to graduate after one year of study in the Master's Program.

2 Students who have remained enrolled in the Doctoral Program for at least three years, who have earned at least 10 credits pursuant to the provisions of Appended Table 3, and who have passed the doctoral dissertation screening and final examination having received the necessary research supervision shall be deemed to have completed the graduate program. However, a student who has achieved exemplary research results may be permitted to graduate after one year of study in the Doctoral Program (or a total of three years for a student who has completed a master's program, the Master's Program or professional degree program within two years).

3 Certification of program completion as described in the preceding two paragraphs shall be conducted by the Faculty Council.

(Conferral of Degrees)

Article 25 Master's degrees or doctoral degrees will be conferred on persons who have completed respective programs.

2. When conferring the degrees listed in the preceding paragraph, the title of the field of study will be indicated as listed below:

Master's program: Master of Literature

Doctoral program: Doctor of Literature or Doctor of Philosophy

(Special Auditors)

Article 26 Students from a graduate school at another university with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement who wish to apply to the Graduate School as special auditors shall submit their requests to the dean via their graduate schools as provided for separately.

2 The intake period for a special auditor shall be the beginning of the semester in which the subject he or she wishes to take is being offered, and the period of auditorship shall be the period for which said subject is offered.

(Special Research Students)

Article 27 Students from a graduate school at another university with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement who wish to apply to the Graduate School as special research students shall submit their requests to the dean via their graduate schools as provided for separately.

2. As a rule, the research period of special research students shall not exceed one year.

(Research Students)

Article 28 Persons who wish to research a specific topic in the Graduate School may be permitted to enroll as research students after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Research students shall conduct research under the supervision of a faculty member of the Graduate School.

3 Necessary matters concerning research students shall be stipulated separately.

(Acquisition of Qualifications for Obtaining a Teacher's License)

Article 29 Master's Program students who wish to acquire the qualifications for obtaining a teacher's license must earn the prescribed credits stipulated in the School Teacher's License Act (Act No. 147 of 1949) and the Ordinance for Enforcement of the School Teacher's License Act (Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 26 of 1954).

2 The types and subject areas of teacher's license for which qualifications can be obtained in the Master's Program are as listed in Appended Table 4.

(Miscellaneous Provisions)

Article 30 In addition to the stipulations in these rules, the Faculty Council shall stipulate any necessary matters concerning the implementation of these rules.

Supplementary Provisions

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2007.

Supplementary Provisions (March 31, 2008)

These rules come into effect on March 31, 2008, but the stipulations in the revised Article 8, Paragraph 1, Items 2 and 8 shall apply from December 26, 2007.

Supplementary Provisions (February 16, 2009)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2009.

Supplementary Provisions (March 31, 2009)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2009.

Supplementary Provisions (March 1, 2010)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2010.

Supplementary Provisions (March 29, 2011)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2011.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of Appended Table 2.

Supplementary Provisions (March 21, 2012)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2012.

Supplementary Provisions (March 27, 2013)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2013.

Supplementary Provisions (March 26, 2014)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2014.

Supplementary Provisions (June 26, 2014)

These rules come into effect on June 26, 2014, but the stipulations in the revised Kobe University Graduate School of Humanities Rules shall apply from April 1, 2014.