

○ Kobe University Graduate School of Science Rules

	(Established on March 20, 2007)	
Revised on	March 28, 2008	February 13, 2009
	February 15, 2010	March 29, 2011
	August 5, 2011	March 21, 2012
	March 27, 2013	March 26, 2014

(Purpose)

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

(Educational and Research Purposes of the Graduate School)

Article 2 In an effort to deepen knowledge of nature by exploring the various fields of sciences that constitute the basis of the natural sciences, the Graduate School provides education and research that contributes to forming the intellectual foundation of society.

(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 and Courses)

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 Mathematics

In addition to providing education and research with the aim of elucidating a wide range of mathematical phenomena by exploring mathematics in natural and social phenomena, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who possess the fundamental ability to deeply explore mathematics, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake professional occupations related thereto. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate outstanding graduates who possess the ability to conduct independent research in their respective specialized fields of mathematics and the fundamental academic ability underlying those skills, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake related professional occupations requiring advanced expertise.

(2) Department of Physics

In addition to providing education and research with the aim of providing an understanding of the basic principles of the structures and functions of materials, from outer space to molecules, atoms and elementary particles, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who possess the fundamental ability to deeply explore physics, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake professional occupations related thereto. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate outstanding graduates who possess the ability to conduct independent research in their respective specialized fields of physics and the fundamental academic ability underlying those skills, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake related professional occupations requiring advanced expertise.

(3) Department of Chemistry

In addition to providing education and research with the aim of creating new materials and exploring new chemical phenomena and principles, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who possess the fundamental ability to deeply explore chemistry, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake professional occupations related thereto. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate outstanding graduates who possess the ability to conduct independent research in their respective specialized fields of chemistry and the fundamental academic ability underlying those skills, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake related professional occupations requiring advanced expertise.

(4) Department of Biology

In addition to providing education and research with the aim of elucidating the mechanisms of life that are common to all biological organisms and the origins of biodiversity, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who possess the fundamental ability to deeply explore biology, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake professional occupations related thereto. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate outstanding graduates who possess the ability to conduct independent research in their respective specialized fields of biology and the fundamental academic ability underlying those skills, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake related professional occupations requiring advanced expertise.

(5) Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences

In addition to providing education and research with the aim of elucidating the structure, origin and evolution of the earth, the solar system and outer space as well as the phenomena originating therefrom, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who possess the fundamental ability to deeply explore earth and planetary sciences, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake professional occupations related thereto. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate outstanding graduates who possess the ability to conduct independent research in their respective specialized fields of earth and planetary sciences and the fundamental academic ability underlying those skills, and additionally develop the capacity to undertake related professional occupations requiring advanced expertise.

(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 by the Kobe University Graduate School of Science Faculty Council (hereinafter referred to as "Faculty Council").

(Heads of Departments)

Article 8 Each department in the Graduate School shall have a head of department.

2 Heads of departments shall oversee matters pertaining to their respective departments.

3 Heads of departments are to be elected from among the professors working in the respective departments of the Graduate School.

4 Heads of departments shall be appointed for a duration of one year.

5 The necessary matters concerning the selection of heads of departments shall be stipulated by the Faculty Council.

(Assistant Heads of Departments)

Article 9 Each department in the Graduate School shall have an assistant head of department.

2 Assistant heads of departments shall assist the heads of department with his or her duties.

3 Assistant heads of departments will be elected from among the professors working in the respective departments of the Graduate School.

4 Assistant heads of departments shall be appointed for a duration of one year.

5 The necessary matters concerning the selection of assistant heads of departments shall be stipulated by the Faculty Council.

(Master's Department Admission Eligibility)

Article 10 Persons who fall under any of the following items can enroll in the Master's Program of the Graduate School:

(1) Persons who have graduated from 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, Culture, 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 (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.

(Master's Program Early Admission)

Article 10-2 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the Graduate School may decide to allow admission to a person who falls under any of the following categories and who, after deliberation by the 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, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to persons who have completed 15 years of school education of that foreign country);

(Advancement)

Article 11 Persons who wish to advance to the Doctoral Program after having completed a master's program, the first division of the Graduate Program, or a professional degree program at the graduate schools of Kobe University (hereinafter referred to as "the University") may be permitted to do so if found to be eligible following screening.

(Doctoral Program Admission Eligibility)

Article 12 Persons who fall under any of the following items can enroll in the Doctoral Program of the Graduate School:

- (1) Persons who have obtained a master's 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, Culture, 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 Notification 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.

#### (Screening Methods)

Article 13 Applicants will be screened by means of academic achievement tests, oral examinations and the like.

#### (Departmental Transfers)

Article 14 Only students who have received permission from both the head of their department and the head of the department to which they wish to transfer may request a departmental transfer.

2 When a student submits a request for a departmental transfer as described in the preceding paragraph, it may be approved by the dean after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

3 The timing of departmental transfers and other related matters shall be stipulated separately.

#### (Transfer from Other Graduate Schools)

Article 15 When a student from another Graduate School outside of the University submits a transfer request to the dean, it may be approved by the dean after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning transfers shall be stipulated separately.

#### (Readmission)

Article 16 When a student who withdrew or was removed from the register of 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.

#### (Methods of Instruction)

Article 17 Education in the Graduate School shall consist of lectures by subject and supervised research for a dissertation (hereinafter referred to as "research supervision").

(Subjects etc.)

Article The subjects offered by the Graduate School and the number of credits awarded for each subject are as listed in Appended Tables 2 and 3.

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 19 Credits for each subject shall be calculated according to the following standards:

- (1) For lectures, one credit shall be granted for 15 hours of class;
- (2) For seminars, one credit shall be granted for 15 or 30 hours of class; and
- (3) For laboratory experiments and practical training, one credit shall be granted for 30 or 45 hours of class.

(Supervisors)

Article 20 Faculty members in charge of research supervision (hereinafter referred to as "supervisors") shall be full-time professors (excluding project professors) employed by the Graduate School and professors of cooperative courses. However, when deemed necessary, associate professors or assistant professors (excluding project faculty members) employed by the Graduate School or those associate professors in charge of cooperative courses may serve as supervisors when approved by the Faculty Council.

(Enrollment in Subjects)

Article 21 To enroll in subjects, students must submit the prescribed registration form to the dean at the beginning of the semester.

2 When students wish to take lecture 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 Credits earned for subjects taken at another graduate school pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 2 may be approved as credits stipulated in Article 32 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

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

Article 22 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 Regarding credits earned for subjects pursuant to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, up to 10 credits in the Master's Program and up to four credits in the Doctoral Program may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 32 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

3 The provisions of the preceding two paragraphs shall apply mutatis mutandis in cases where students take subjects in Japan offered by a foreign graduate school via correspondence education, and in cases where students take subjects offered by an educational institution in Japan which is part of the school education system of a foreign country that offers graduate school courses, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and in cases where students take subjects offered by the United Nations University that is part of an educational program of that university.

(Approval of Credits Acquired Prior to Admission)

Article 23 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 in the Master's Program and no more than four credits in the Doctoral Program may be approved as credits stipulated in Article 32 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

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

Article 24 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 a foreign research institution) with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement; however, 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.

2 Notwithstanding the stipulations of the proviso in the preceding paragraph, Doctoral Program students may be permitted to receive research supervision for more than two years where special circumstances are deemed to exist.

(Natural Science Program Education Course)

Article 25 A natural science program course shall be established in the Master's Program to cultivate graduates who possess a broad knowledge of the natural sciences and an interdisciplinary perspective.

2 Necessary matters concerning the natural science program course shall be stipulated separately.

(Mathematics and Economics Program Education Course)

Article 25-2 A mathematics and economics program course shall be established in the Master's Program to cultivate graduates who possess the comprehensive knowledge needed to undertake professional occupations requiring a high degree of competence.

2 Necessary matters concerning the mathematics and economics program course shall be stipulated separately.

(Study Abroad)

Article 26 In accordance with the stipulations in Articles 22 and 24, 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 27 The period of a 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 28 A prescribed number of credits shall be conferred on students who have completed a lecture subject and passed the examinations.

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

(Research Progress Presentations in the Master's Program)

Article 29 Each department shall hold research progress presentations with Master's Program students who have completed the separately stipulated number of credits as presenters.

2 Master's Program students cannot submit their master's theses until they receive approval for giving a research progress presentation.

(Research Progress Presentations and Research Results Presentations in the Doctoral Program)

Article 30 Each department shall hold research progress presentations with Doctoral Program students as presenters.

2 Each department shall hold research results presentations with Doctoral Program students who have completed the separately stipulated number of credits as presenters.

3 Doctoral Program students cannot submit their doctoral dissertations until they receive approval for giving a research results presentation.

(Dissertation Screenings and Final Examinations)

Article 31 Dissertation screenings and final examinations shall be governed by the Kobe University Degree Regulations (established on April 1, 2004).

(Criteria for Academic Evaluation)

Article 31-2 The criteria for evaluating academic performance set forth in Article 73-2 of the General Rules for Students shall be stipulated separately.

(Completion of the Program)



Article 32 Students who have remained enrolled in the Master's Program for at least two years, who have earned at least 30 credits from the subjects as set forth in Appended Table 2, and who have passed the master's thesis screening 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 from the subjects set forth in 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 [doctoral] [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 33 Master's degrees will be conferred on persons who have completed the Master's Program.

2 Doctoral degrees will be conferred on persons who have completed the doctoral program.

3. When conferring the degrees listed in the preceding two paragraphs, the title of the field of study will be indicated as listed below:

Master's Program:           Master of Science

Doctoral program:         Doctor of Science or Doctor of Philosophy

(Special Auditors)

Article 34 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 35 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 The research period of special research students shall be no longer than one year; however, the period may be extended when deemed necessary by the Faculty Council.

(Non-Degree Students)

Article 36 Persons who wish to enroll in specific subjects in the Graduate School may be permitted to enroll as non-degree students after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning non-degree students shall be stipulated separately.

(Auditors)

Article 37 Persons who wish to audit specific subjects in the Graduate School may be permitted to enroll as auditors after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning auditors shall be stipulated separately.

(Research Students)

Article 38 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 working in the Graduate School.

3 Necessary matters concerning research students shall be stipulated separately.

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

Article 39 Persons in the Master's Program 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 40 In addition to the stipulations in these rules, the Faculty Council shall stipulate any other necessary matters.

Supplementary Provisions

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2007.

Supplementary Provisions (March 28, 2008)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2008, but the stipulations in the revised Article 10, Items 2 and 8 shall apply from December 26, 2007.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these revised rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2008, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the provisions of the Article 25-2 and the revised provisions of Appended Table 1.

Supplementary Provisions (February 13, 2009)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2009.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2009, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of the Kobe University Graduate School of Science Rules.

#### Supplementary Provisions (February 15, 2010)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2010.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2010, the previous rules shall remain applicable.

#### 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 (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2011, the previous rules shall remain applicable.

#### Supplementary Provisions (August 5, 2011)

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

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after October 1, 2011, the previous rules shall remain applicable.

#### Supplementary Provisions (March 21, 2012)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2012.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2012, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of Appended Tables 1 and 2.

#### Supplementary Provisions (March 27, 2013)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2013.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2013, the previous rules shall remain applicable.

Supplementary Provisions (March 26, 2014)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2014.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2014, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of Appended Tables 1 and 2.