

Economics



Associate Professor | Division of Economics

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Kobe University is the largest center of economic research in this country. While many other major economics departments in Japan are really a mixture of economics and management departments, our department is pure: all of our nearly 60 faculty members are economists. There is a separate department for management, which has its own team of economists. We are also

complemented by two organizations in our neighborhood. One is the Research Institute for Economics & Business Administration, which has a separate set of faculty members, including several economists, who are working full-time on research. The second is the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies, where several economists are working on economic development. All these organizations are concentrated in a small area, making this beautiful campus a rich environment for studying economics.



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Studying at Kobe University is a wonderful opportunity to help me achieve my goals. By continuing to invest in excellent research, by creating a peaceful atmosphere and by providing an outstanding learning environment for talented students, Kobe University offers everyone, especially international students, an opportunity to open their horizons. The Graduate School of Economics is committed to an

excellent method of teaching, enabling me to deepen my knowledge and better understand the welfare of human-beings in the societies and the challenges of my career as Economist. For those reasons, I am proud to be here, and I intend to take advantage of all those opportunities that the Graduate School of Economics and the entire Kobe University are offering me. By preparing my Ph.D. at the Graduate School of Economics, I am convinced that I will be equipped to face the expectations of my community and the requirements of the 21st century.

The Faculty of Economics has its origin in the Kobe Higher Institute of Commerce, established in 1902. It is one of Japan's oldest and the most prestigious educational institutes in economics. There are more than fifty faculty members who together provide a systematic and comprehensive education in eight relevant areas of economics.

The curriculum of the undergraduate program consists of liberal arts, foreign languages, and basic and specialized subjects in economics. In addition, several advanced courses are offered for students who want to study economics at the graduate school level after the four-year undergraduate program. Many graduates of our Faculty are working as business leaders and prominent professionals in various fields.

The Graduate School of Economics, founded in 1953, is one of the oldest graduate schools at Kobe University. The School offers three courses: a five-year doctoral course to train future researchers,

a master's course to train future business professionals with expertise in economics, and master's and doctoral courses for working persons.

Doctoral Course
 The doctoral course is a five-year program to obtain a doctoral degree. It aims to train future researchers who will work at universities and research institutes. In the first two years, students are required to take at least 30 credits by attending lectures and research seminars to obtain a master's degree. In the following three years, they receive advice from supervisors as doctoral candidates in order to complete their dissertations. Students are expected to contribute to academic societies and professional journals in economics. The doctoral degree is awarded to those who can act as independent researchers with excellent research ability and extensive knowledge.

Master's Course
 The master's course consists of three programs: a general research program, a skill-up program, and a recurrent education program. In the general research program, students are awarded a master's degree in economics after taking the required 30 credits and

submitting a master's thesis. The skill-up program, which started in 2005, aims to train students who want to obtain the advanced econometric skills used widely in economics. After completing the required lectures and collaborating with other students to write a joint thesis, students are awarded a certificate of completion as well as a master's degree. The recurrent education program, which will be starting in 2008, is for working persons who wish to have a chance of lifelong learning and to obtain a master's degree. Currently there is a master's course for working persons, which started in 1999. This course, meant to train specialists in economics, is unique because students can obtain a master's degree by only attending lectures and seminars provided on Saturdays. The recurrent education program will hold classes on weeknights as well as on Saturdays. The aim is to give an educational opportunity to those who wish to acquire a specialized knowledge of economics and work with expertise in economics after graduation. Public officials, businesspersons and international students with a bachelor's degree are most welcome to join this course. Students who successfully complete the master's program may progress to the doctoral course for working professionals.

Undergraduate Program (Day and Evening Division)

Department	Areas
Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Economic Theory •Economic History •Econometrics and Related Studies •Technological and Environmental Analysis •Industrial and Social Policy •Monetary and Public Policy •International Economics: Theory and Policy •Comparative Economic Systems and Policy

Doctoral Program (five years) and Master's Program (two years)

Department	Areas
Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Theoretical Analysis •Historical Analysis •Statistics and Econometric Analysis •Technological and Environmental Analysis •Industrial and Social Policy •Monetary and Public policy •International Economic Policy •Comparative Economic Policy

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